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YOUTH SUNDAY

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

FEBRUARY 11, 2024

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

Transfiguration of the Lord

Youth Sunday

February 11, 2024

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

(As we prepare to worship, please silence all mobile devices.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Weicher

Minute for Stewardship

Jon Abels

PRELUDE

Amazing Grace

Traditional Melody

Rory Dillon, piano

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Will Creighton

Leader: If we take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
People: **O Lord, you know our path.**
Leader: If we ascend to heaven,
People: **O Lord, you are with us.**
Leader: If the darkness covers us, the darkness is as light,
People: **O Lord, you know us.**
Leader: Wonderful are your works – that we know very well.
People: **O Lord, we praise you.**
Leader: If we come to the end, we are still with you.
People: **O Lord, you will lead us.**
All: **Let us worship God.**

*HYMN NO. 20

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Royal Oak

*CONFESSION OF SIN

Ruby Gentithes

Call to Prayer
Prayer of Confession (in unison)
**We are created in your image, O God,
yet no one is perfect.
We all have flaws.
We ask that you forgive us
for being materialistic instead of being grateful,
for taking things for granted,
for not loving our neighbor,
for telling lies and speaking mean things that hurt other people,
for thinking that we are better than others,
for comparing ourselves to others and being jealous,
for not trusting you,
because we so often have trouble feeling your presence.**

(The prayer continues onto the next page.)

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

**Each day, help us to be the best versions of ourselves,
for we are created in your image.
We confess this in your name.**

Silent Confession

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Mary Ellis Merritt

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Mary Ellis Merritt

***RESPONSE** (Hymn No. 435, verse 2)

In Babilone

*For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.*

***PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Kirbey Blackwood

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **O God, you are Light, Creator and Provider.**

**You provide us with life,
as well as the requirements for life:
food, water, shelter, and care.**

You provide us with family so that we can know love.

**You give us Jesus to be a role model
for unconditional love and forgiveness.**

You know what we need.

**Help us to listen,
so that we might find the Kingdom of God
and live in righteousness. Amen.**

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 6:25-34

(Pew Bible, NT page 6)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Izzy Allison-Pleasants & Sam Brown

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

Lainey Blackwood

(Silent reflection)

INTERLUDE

Malagueña

Pablo de Sarasate

Seth Cowden, piano

PSALTER READING

Psalm 139:1-18

(Pew Bible, OT page 577)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

Izzy Allison-Pleasants & Sam Brown

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

Lawrence Mbugua

(Silent reflection)

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From *The Rockfish Confession of 2022*)

Thilo Fullenkamp

**Christianity is a complicated religion,
and we, as Protestants, strive to reflect on our mistakes to create a better future.
Our Christian life fosters a sense of community within the church.
We try to focus on using our Spiritual gifts, resources, and privileges,
to help others and the world,
following in the example of Jesus.
We believe that people who don't follow Jesus can do so as well.
We believe that God is Almighty, loving, and powerful.
God created everything with unique purposes.
God is beyond our comprehension,
so we don't always understand God's plans for us.
We believe that the Holy Spirit is mysteriously powerful.
The Spirit is the Word of the Lord in movement.
When we pray, the Lord hears us,
but it is the Spirit who goes into effect.
The Trinity is three-in-one,
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.
They are distinct but not separate.
We believe that Jesus cared for others, no matter who they were,
and taught them to spread that kindness, as well.
Jesus was a humble and caring Jewish, Middle Eastern man,
who let his toes shine.
His miraculous actions and life were told through stories,
which we know as the Bible.
Jesus died for our sins,
so we could have joy!**

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Maeve McClain-Huslage

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Invitation to Give

Ellie Everett

Offertory Voluntary

Gavotte in D (from *Cello Suite No. 6*)

J.S. Bach

Ruby Gentithes, violin

Prayer of Dedication

Noah Dillon

Leader: Everyday, we are reminded of God's gifts that we have been given.
Specifically, we are thankful for

People: Food, Grass, and the Hours of the day,

Leader: Imagination, Jump-roping, and your Kin-dom,

People: Lilies, Mothers and Nature,

Leader: Ovens, Pants and Quiche,

People: Righteousness, Shelter and Time,

(Prayer continues onto next page.)

Leader: the Universe, that which is Valuable, and What We Wear,
People: eXistence, Yelling and Zebras.
All: Amen.

*Doxology with Alleluias

Lasst uns erfreuen

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia; Alleluia;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Evelyn Walters

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Isa Cummings & Evelyn Walters

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*HYMN NO. 837

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

Showalter

*BENEDICTION

Lainey Blackwood & Lawrence Mbugua

(Please be seated.)

POSTLUDE

Canon in D
Leone Mbugua, Cello

Pachelbel



Welcome! Let us know you have joined us for worship by scanning the QR code to the left. For online giving, scan the QR code to the right. First Presbyterian Church welcomes all who worship with us. We honor and celebrate the human diversity and unity that God gives us in Christ. First Presbyterian welcomes individuals of every age, race, nationality,



gender identity, ability, sexual orientation, and economic circumstance to participate fully in the life of the church. So that you may know who is sitting nearby, please sign the ***Friendship Pad***, pass it along the pew, and **then return it to the starting point**, noting the names of those sitting near you.

Today's ***flowers*** are given to the glory of God and in memory of ***B.J. Seitzer*** by her family.

Hearing Assistance Receivers are available from the ushers. Before you leave the sanctuary, please turn off the receiver and place it in the specially marked receptacle by the door or return it to the audio/video console at the rear of the sanctuary. Receivers are sanitized after each use.

Childcare: A staffed nursery and children's playroom are available on the second floor of the education building during worship. ***Activity bags*** are available in the foyer for children. Please return bags to the foyer at the end of worship.

Restroom locations: to the left and right as you exit the rear of the sanctuary; on the second floor of the education building; and on the first and second floors of the church house. There is an infant changing table in the restroom area located to the left as you exit the rear of the sanctuary.

Youth-led worship: All of today's service was chosen, written, and created by our youth, with guidance from our adult advisor team and our Minister of Music, Kathy Parkins. Youth began with selecting the scripture passages in early January. After studying them, youth wrote all of today's liturgy, although the youth leading something today likely did not write what they spoke. The Youth Ministry Committee chose today's hymns. Our preachers wrote their sermons. The Rockfish Confession of 2022, today's Affirmation of Faith, was created by our 2022 confirmation class as their capstone experience. Many of our current seniors, juniors and sophomores were a part of that cohort.

~ *Worship Participants* ~

Bulletin Cover Artist – Mason Armstrong

Liturgists – Izzy Allison-Pleasants, Kirbey Blackwood, Sam Brown, Will Creighton, Isa Cummings, Noah Dillon, Ellie Everett, Thilo Fullenkamp, Ruby Gentithes, Maeve McClain-Huslage, Mary Ellis Merritt, Evelyn Walters

Musicians – Seth Cowden, Rory Dillon, Ruby Gentithes, Leone Mbugua

Preachers – Lainey Blackwood & Lawrence Mbugua

Ushers – Siby Admay, David Armstrong, Michael Baker, Addy Creighton, Doran Cummings, Rhys McClain-Huslage, Tate Weicher

From the bulletin cover artist: I enjoy the way kids look at life without worry. I think sometimes God wants us to feel carefree too, so everyone should remember to take time to enjoy life and all it has to offer!

~ **Concerns** ~

- **Maxie Honeycutt**, recovering from pneumonia.
- **Margaret & Mike Berton** and son, **Sam**. Margaret is the sister of Sarah Wright. The family is asking for prayers for a restoration of health and wholeness to Sam.
- **Paul Dunlap**, brother of Susan Dunlap, preparing this week for surgery.
- **John Keller**, son of Margaret & Tom Keller, home (Atlanta) following a hospital stay for chemotherapy complications.
- **Denisha Williams**, daughter of Sybil King, dealing with health issues.
- **Emily Wilson**, wife of Mike Wilson and daughter-in-law of Jean and Chuck Wilson, as she undergoes a second round of chemotherapy.

Paul Cornsweet	Brent Curtis	Susan Cyr	Barbara Gerwe	Kerry Holbrook
Lee House	Jenni James	Mitzi Lesher-Thomas	Franzi Rokoske	Alfred Tisdale

Care Communities

Croasdaile Pavilion: **Harvey Estes, Dub Gulley**

Durham Ridge Assisted Living: **Phillip Herndon**

Hillcrest Convalescent: **Julian Boswell, Maxie Honeycutt, Carol Wills, Jim Wolfe**

Family and Friends of the Congregation (List continues onto next page.)

Karla Brown family, friends of Deborah Momsen-Hudson

Kim Cummings, father of Drew Cummings

Andrew Holbrook, nephew of Kerry Holbrook

Troy Evans, nephew of Vernon Neece
Ford Holbrook, brother Kerry Holbrook

Brian Knowles, son of Sheila & Sam Miglarese
Robert Lewis, Jr., son of Robert (Bob) Lewis, Sr.
Doug Rimmer, brother of Steve Rimmer
Calvin Rogers, friend of Steve Rimmer
John C. Weicher, father of John Weicher

Gabe Lamazares, assoc. rector, St. Philip's EC
Alan Petersburg, brother-in-law of Jenni James
Joe Robinson, former member of FPC
Jim Vacca, father of Jamie Chambliss



Wednesday, February 14
Imposition of Ashes Services
12 Noon in the Memorial Garden
6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary
followed by a light supper in Watts-Hill Hall.

Cole Arthur Riley comes to Durham

Cole Arthur Riley is the author of the NYT bestseller, *This Here Flesh: Spirituality, Liberation, and the Stories that Make Us*. Her writing has been featured in *The Atlantic*, *Guernica*, and *The Washington Post*. Cole is also the creator and writer of Black Liturgies, a project that integrates spiritual practice with black emotion, black literature, and the black body. Events are free.

Friday, February 16, 2:00-3:30 p.m.


Miller Morgan Auditorium, NCCU Campus

Emily Wilkins will be in the FPC parking lot at 1:00 p.m. for anyone who would like to carpool.

Friday, February 16, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Mt. Level Missionary Baptist Church, Durham

A book signing will follow this presentation.



Save the Date
2024 McPherson Lecturer
Willie James Jennings, PhD

Dr. Jennings, Associate Professor of Systematic Theology and Africana Studies at Yale University, is author of *The Christian Imagination: Theology and the Origins of Race*, *Acts: A Theological Commentary*, and *After Whiteness: An Education in Belonging*.

3/10	9:45 am Faith & Community Class 11:00 am Worship Service 3:30 pm Community Conversation
3/11	9:00 am Clergy Breakfast

First Presbyterian Church-Durham
305 East Main Street | (919) 682-5511

Pre-Lectureship Conversations

Sunday, February 25

Sunday, March 3

Faith and Community Class

9:45-10:45 a.m. in Watts-Hill Hall

Susan Dunlap, Steve Rimmer, and Lea Bingham will introduce some of Jennings' writings in preparation for his visit.

More details about the McPherson Lectureship are forthcoming! All are welcome.

20 All Things Bright and Beautiful

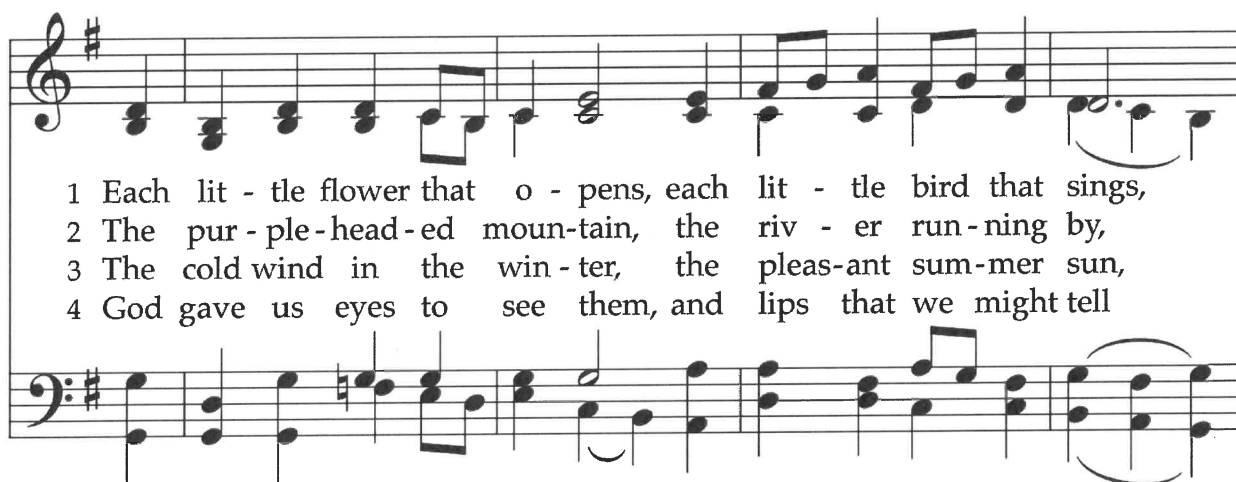
Refrain



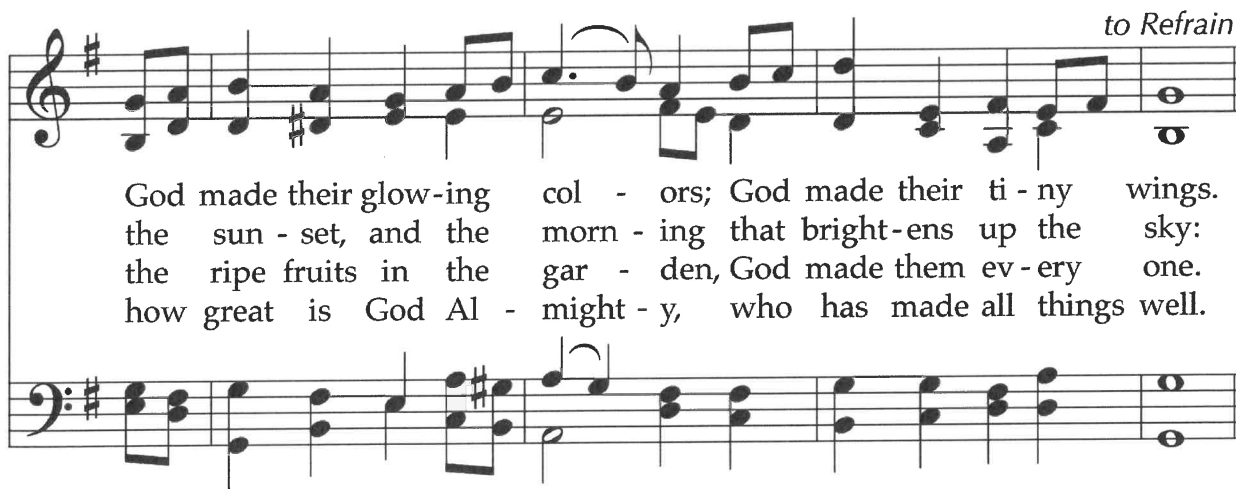
All things bright and beau-ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,



all things wise and won-der - ful, the Lord God made them all. *Fine*



1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2 The pur - ple-head-ed moun-tain, the riv - er run-ning by,
3 The cold wind in the win-ter, the pleas-ant sum-mer sun,
4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell



God made their glow-ing col - ors; God made their ti - ny wings.
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright-ens up the sky:
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - ery one.
how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well. *to Refrain*

435 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

1 There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness
2 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures

of the sea. There's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice,
of the mind. And the heart of the E - ter - nal

which is more than lib - er - ty. There is no place where earth's
is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were but more

sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place
faith - ful, we would glad - ly trust God's Word, and our lives re -

where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.
flect thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of our Lord.

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Bass) and piano accompaniment. It features a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is primarily in the soprano part, with the bass part providing harmonic support. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves, with arrows indicating the corresponding vocal parts. The score is divided into six systems, each with a vocal staff and a piano accompaniment staff.

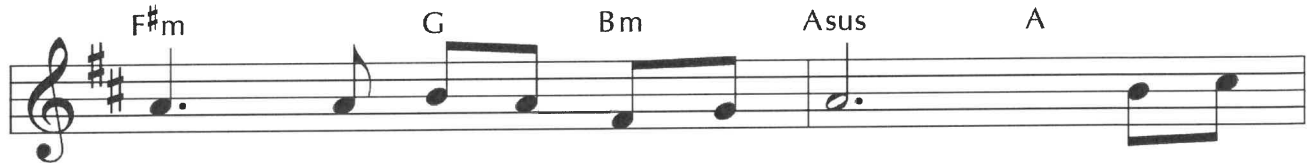
O God, You Search Me

29

(Psalm 139)



1 O God, you search me and you know me. All my
 2 You know my rest - ing and my ris - ing. You dis -
 3 Be - fore a word is on my tongue, Lord, you have
 4 Al - though your Spir - it is up - on me, still I
 5 For you cre - at - ed me and shaped me, gave me



thoughts lie o - pen to your gaze. When I
 cern my pur - pose from a - far, and with
 known its mean - ing through and through. You are
 search for shel - ter from your light. There is
 life with - in my moth - er's womb. For the



walk or lie down you are be - fore me: ev - er the
 love ev - er - last - ing you be - siege me: in ev - ery
 with me be - yond my un - der - stand - ing: God of my
 no - where on earth I can es - cape you: e - ven the
 won - der of who I am, I praise you: safe in your



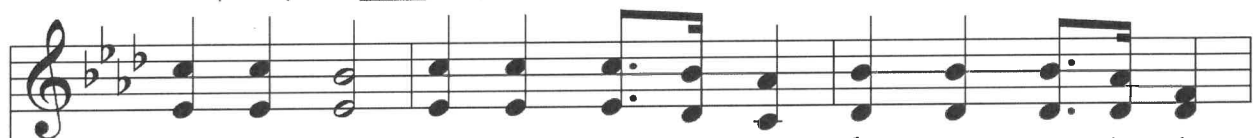
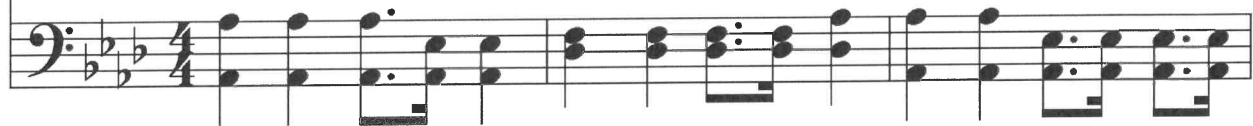
mak - er and keep - er of my days.
 mo - ment of life or death, you are.
 pres - ent, my past, and fu - ture, too.
 dark - ness is ra - diant in your sight.
 hands, all cre - a - tion is made new.

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine 837

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms



1 What a fel-low-ship, what a joy di-vine, lean-ing on the ev-er-
2 O how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev-er-
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev-er-



last-ing arms; what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine,
last-ing arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day,
last-ing arms? I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near,



Refrain



lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.

Lean-ing,
Lean-ing on Je-sus,



lean-ing,
lean-ing on Je-sus, safe and se-cure from all a-larms; lean-ing on



ing, lean-ing,
Je-sus, lean-ing on Je-sus, lean-ing on the ev-er-last-ing arms.



The Week at a Glance!

Later Today

8:00 PM MnMs Fellowship - Super Bowl
Snack Competition at halftime (via Zoom)

Monday, February 12

1:30 PM Worship Planning

6:00 PM Christian Education Committee
Property Committee

6:30 PM Service & Mission Committee

7:00 PM Worship & the Arts Committee

Tuesday, February 13

Newsletter Today

6:00 PM Things That Matter Book Group
Potluck (Watts-Hill Hall)

Wednesday, February 14

St. Valentine's Day ♥



12 Noon Ash Wednesday Midday Worship with the Imposition
of Ashes (Memorial Garden)

1:00 PM All Staff

6:00 PM Ash Wednesday Evening Worship with the
Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion (sanctuary)
followed by a light meal of soup and bread (Watts-Hill Hall)

7:15 PM Chancel Choir

Thursday, February 15

5:15 PM McPherson Lectureship Committee

Friday, February 16

2:00-3:30 PM Cole Arthur Riley presentation (Miller Morgan
Auditorium, NCCU campus)

7:00-8:30 PM Cole Arthur Riley presentation (Mt. Level
Missionary Baptist Church, 716 Hebron Rd, Durham)

Saturday, February 17

4:00-6:00 PM Crafting and Community activity for children
(Watts-Hill Hall)

Sunday, February 18

First Sunday in Lent

9:45-10:45 AM Faith Formation classes
for all ages

11:00 AM Worship and new member(s)
received

1:00-4:00 PM Racial Equity Task Force
Retreat (Watts-Hill Hall)

5:00-7:00 PM Youth Group

8:00 PM MnMs Fellowship
(via Zoom)

For more information about First Presbyterian Church, email the church office:
info@firstpres-durham.org or visit our website: <https://firstpres-durham.org>.

CHURCH STAFF

Tom Bloom, Business Administrator
Lenore Champion, Children's Ministry Director
Vernon Cooper, Sexton
Mindy Douglas, Pastor, Head of Staff
Susan Dunlap, Parish Associate
Omar Guess, Sunday Morning Sexton
Joseph Harvard, Pastor Emeritus



Esther Hethcox, Associate Pastor
Sybil King, Administrative Assistant
Mitzi Leshner-Thomas, Associate Pastor (Medical Leave)
Valerie McMillian, Parish Administrator
Kathy Parkins, Minister of Music
John Weicher, Associate Pastor

305 EAST MAIN STREET DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA 27701 919-682-5511 ORGANIZED 1871