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# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA**

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2017

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**A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD**  
**WITH THE SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM AND HOLY COMMUNION**

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

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS, JOYS AND CONCERNS**

Mindy Douglas

Ritual of Friendship

**PRELUDE**

*Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding*

Malcolm Archer

**INTROIT**

*Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding*

Merton

*Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding; "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;  
"Cast away the works of darkness, O ye children of the day."*

*So, when next he comes with glory and the world is wrapped in fear,  
May he with his mercy shield us, and with words of love draw near.*

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH CANDLE**

Kathy Colville, Gretchen and Karl Sims

**AND CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We light this candle for all God's people,  
struggling to be bearers of hope in a troubled world.

People: **God, as we wait for your promise, give light, give hope.**

*(Lighting of the candle)*

Leader: A candle burns, the sign of our hope.

All: **God of hope, come to us again this Advent.**

**May your hope live within us, burning as a light in our lives.**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN NO. 82**

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

*Hyfrydol*

**\*CONFESSION OF SIN** (remain standing)

Sam Miglarese

Call to Prayer

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

**Merciful God, always with us, always coming:**

**We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your Advent.**

**We have forgotten how to hope in miracles; we have ignored the promise of your kingdom.**

**We get distracted by all the busyness of this season.**

**Forgive us, God. Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds, the intelligent courage of the Magi, and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph, that we may journey with them to Bethlehem and find the good news of a child born for us. Now, in the quiet of our hearts, we ask you to make us ready for his coming.**

Silent Confession

Declaration of Pardon

\* Those who are able, please stand.

## COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Jeanne Hervey

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **Eternal God, you taught us that the night is far spent and the day is at hand. Keep us awake and alert, watching for your kingdom, and make us strong in faith, so that when Christ comes in glory to judge the earth, we may joyfully give him praise; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 13:24-37

(Pew Bible, NT Page 51)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

## HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 64:1-9

(Pew Bible, OT Page 694)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

## SERMON

*"Come Down, Lord!"*

Mindy Douglas

## \*HYMN NO. 348

*Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending*

*Helmsley*

## \*THE PEACE

Sam Miglarese

*Gathered from places near and far, let us share a sign of Christ's peace with one another.*

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

## DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

Offertory Anthem

*Remember Christians All*

Thomas Ravenscroft (16<sup>th</sup> cent.)

*Remember Christians all, your time is spent:*

*Remember Christians all, how you came to me then,  
And I did what I can, therefore repent.*

*Remember God's goodness and promise made:*

*Remember God's goodness, how his own Son he sent,  
Our sins for to redress: be not afraid.*

*In Bethlem was he born for people here.*

*In Bethlem was he born for us that were forlorn,  
And therefore suffered scorn, our sins to bear.*

*Give thanks to God alway, Christians all, with hearts right glad:*

*Welcome the King of Might upon that blessed night,  
And sing with great delight: Thanks be to God!*

\*Doxology (Hymn No. 108, verse 6)

*Divinum Mysterium*

***Christ, to thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee  
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be  
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory,  
Evermore and evermore!***

*(Children through 1<sup>st</sup> grade enter worship during the Doxology.)*

## A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Mindy Douglas

**Words of Scripture**

Elder: On behalf of the Session, I present Ezekiel Boone Castle to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Pastor: *(to the parents)*

Brian and Jeanette, do you desire that your child be baptized? Do you reaffirm your faith in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? Do you renounce evil and affirm your reliance on God's grace? Relying on God's grace, do you promise to live the Christian faith and to teach that faith to your child?

Parents: **We do.**

Pastor: *(to the gathered children who will respond with "Yes")*

Do you promise to be a friend to Ezekiel? If he gets lost, will you help him find the way? If he falls down, will you help pick him up? Will you share with him the stories of Jesus?

Elder: *(to the congregation)*

Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide Ezekiel by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging him to know and follow Christ and to be a faithful member of Christ's church?

People: **We do.**

*(The congregation will please stand.)*

**\*Affirmation of Faith** *(in unison)*

*The Apostles' Creed*

Marilyn Hedgpeth

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*Thanksgiving over the Water**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: Let us pray. We give you thanks, Eternal God, for you nourish and sustain all living things by the gift of water. In the beginning of time, your Spirit moved over the watery chaos, calling forth order and life. We thank you, O God, for the water of baptism: in it we are buried with Christ in his death; from it we are raised to share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the power of the Holy Spirit. Send your Spirit to move over this water that it may be a fountain of rebirth. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon Ezekiel that he may have power to do your will, and continue forever in the risen life of Christ. To you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, be all praise, honor, and glory, now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

*(The congregation may be seated.)*

**Baptism**

**Anointing**

**Welcome**

\*HYMN

*A Christian in Community*

Bill Lorimer

*(During the hymn, the children may return to the nursery, go to the choir room for Children's Choir rehearsal, or join their parents in the pews.)*

1. A Chris - tian in com - mu - ni - ty be - gins a life in church bap -  
 2. The church then leads the bap - tized on the sac - ra - men - tal, ho - ly  
 3. And when my bap - tism is ful - filled and last com - mu - nion done on

tized en - vel - oped by its bless - ed love and  
 way of bod - y, blood, and mys - ter - y com -  
 earth, the church will cel - e - brate with me while

by the grace of God a - bove.  
 mun - ing through - out life with Thee.  
 prais - ing God e - ter - nal - ly.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Mindy Douglas

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Marilyn Hedgpeth

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor tongue told of a glory like yours, Lord God. In Jesus you glorify your chosen people and inaugurate your church to be his body in the world. And so we gladly thank you, joining with the company of angels and archangels and all the host of heaven, in their unending hymn:

All: (sing) (sung to "Watchman, Tell Us of the Night") Aberystwyth (Hymn No. 97)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and God of might:  
heav'n and earth are full, this day, of your glory come our way.  
Blessed is the one who comes in your name to lead us home  
to the place where we may sing glad hosannas to our king!**

Leader: Ever-present God, your prophets longed that you would tear the heavens and come down; and in your son Jesus Christ you have come down and filled the earth with the splendor of your dwelling among us. In him, you were present to friend and stranger, the intrigued and the suspicious, the betrayer and the bereft. Come down now in the power of your Holy Spirit upon this bread and cup and make them be for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Great is the mystery of faith.

People: **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Leader: As you feed us with this living bread, strengthen those who wonder if they can survive this day; restore any who are downtrodden and heavy-laden; visit all who are forsaken and alone.

*(Prayers of intercession and thanksgiving)*

Open the window of your heaven that your church may glimpse the hope of your glory and your world may be transfigured by the light of your truth, until that day when heaven finally comes to earth, and your Spirit infuses your creation with resurrecting grace, and you are all in all, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

All: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

#### THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

*Gluten- and peanut-free bread is available by the lectern. As you come forward to receive the elements, please bring your blessing bags/supplies and place them in the baskets.*

Hymn for Communion No. 384 (all sing) *Soon and Very Soon* *Soon and Very Soon*

#### \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Mindy Douglas

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

All: **Faithful God, we thank you that Christ is being revealed in every time and place until he comes again in the fullness of glory. Strengthen our testimony and spiritual gifts; increase generosity in us, we pray, as we wait for the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

#### \*HYMN NO. 105

*People, Look East*

*Besançon*

#### \*BENEDICTION

Mindy Douglas

#### \*POSTLUDE

*Trumpet Tune on "Wake! Awake! For Night Is Flying!"*

Martha Sobaje

Everyone is invited to Watts-Hill Hall following worship to enjoy some refreshments, make crafts and support community organizations at our annual **Advent Festival and Alternative Gift Fair**. See the enclosed pamphlet for information about the organizations participating in today's fair.

**Christmas pageant participants** are asked to remain in the sanctuary following worship for a quick rehearsal.

**First Presbyterian Church** welcomes all who worship here. We honor and celebrate the human diversity and unity that God gives us in Christ. We welcome individuals of every age, race, nationality, gender, ability, sexual orientation, and economic circumstance to participate fully in the life of the church.

So that we may better know each other, please sign the *Ritual of Friendship pad*, pass it along the center pew across to the shorter side pew, and then return it to the starting point, noting the names of those sitting near you. We welcomed 21 visitors to our worship service on Sunday, November 26.

The *baptism service* this morning is for *Ezekiel Boone Castle*, son of *Jeanette and Brian Castle*. The name, Ezekiel, means God strengthens, and Boone, means good, a blessing. *Christyn Klinck* is the ruling elder standing as witness to Ezekiel's baptism.

The *sanctuary table* upon which the Advent Wreath sits was made by *George Danser* and is given to the church by him and his wife, *Jean Cary*. George has drawn design features from our communion table and used oak removed from the sanctuary during our renovation and from a tree in their backyard that Jean saw get hit by lightning some years ago.

*Advent paraments*: First Presbyterian Church commissioned *Laurie Wohl* to design and create two paraments to be hung from the pulpit and lectern during Lent and Advent. Wohl is an internationally known fiber-artist who exhibited her work at the church in spring of 2012. The text on the Advent parament hanging from the pulpit, in Hebrew and English, is from Isaiah 12:3: "*With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.*" The text on the lectern parament is from Luke 1:78-79: "*The dawn from on high will break upon us to give light to guide our feet into the way of peace.*" We are grateful that the bequest of *Anne 'St. Clair' Williams* made it possible to enhance our sanctuary with these beautiful works of art.

*Today's worship texts* are taken from *Book of Common Worship, Candles and Conifers, Eucharistic Prayers, and Feasting on the Word*.

The *bulletin cover image* for this first Sunday of Advent is "No Between" © Jan L. Richardson. Used with permission. Inspired by Isaiah 64:1: "*O that you would tear open the heavens and come down ...*" Retrieved November 29, 2017 from <http://janrichardsonimages.com/details.php?gid=60&pid=189>

### ~ Our Concerns ~

We extend sympathies to *Mercy Ndambiri-Curlett and family* on the death of three relatives in Kenya this past week: *Faith Nginy'i* (first cousin), *Benjamin Bachoki* (nephew, age 17), *Asneth Gacibi* (aunt).

**Added this week:** *Jean Cary*, recovering from outpatient surgery

*Kristin Meade*, recovering from outpatient surgery

*Rosemary Seve*, traveling this week to Kenya to visit family for the holidays

*Jane Hawkins Raimi*, friend of Kathy Parkins

*Wagner family* and *Wintermute/Littles families*, friends of Kerry Holbrook

*Bill Lorimer*    *Julie Maxwell*    *Ruth and Russell Roberson*    *Henderson Rourk*

**Atria Senior Living:** *Peggy Mordecai*, mother of Beth Eisenson

**Brookdale Senior Living (Durham):** *Julian Boswell*

**Croasdaile Village:** *Bette Conroy, Bob Kever, Bob Rankin, Florence Shackelford*

**Pruitt Health at Carolina Point (Durham):** *Helen Garrison*

**The Forest at Duke:** *Fran Bryant, Peaches McPherson*

**Family of Church and Staff:**

- *George Bernhardt III*, son of George and Jo Bernhardt ( U.S. soldier stationed in South Korea)
- *Claiborne Clark*, son of Arthur and Mary Clark
- *Kim Cummings*, father of Drew Cummings
- *Lindsay Efland*, friend of Cherrie Henry
- *Rev. Ben Johnston-Krase*, pastor of Durham's Farm Church
- *Vickie Tobey*, niece of Mickey Velkey and cousin of Beth Brockman
- *Jerry Walter*, friend of Brian and Jeanette Castle
- *Christina Z.*, mother of Franzi Rokoske

## Service and Mission Opportunities

### Durham CAN Celebration Fundraiser

**Monday, December 4, from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.**

**at Duke Memorial United Methodist Church, 504 W. Chapel Hill St.**

The Durham CAN *Songs of Hope End of Year Celebration* is a night of music, fellowship, and entertainment. We will celebrate our diversity, relationships, and collective achievements; as well as recognize the leadership of our Clergy. This is a free public event.

### Let's Make Christmas Cards for Death Row Inmates

*I was naked and you gave me clothing,*

*I was sick and you took care of me,*

*I was in prison and you visited me. - Matthew 25.36*

**FPC and Human Kindness Foundation to make Christmas Cards for Death Row Inmates**

**Tuesday, December 5, from 7:00 p.m. until**

**at the home of Cherrie, Andy, and Sam Henry at 1407 Arbor St.**

Christmasy nibbles will be had by all. Stay for a long or little time.

### Community Invitation from Senior PharmAssist

**Medicare Open Enrollment "After Party"**

**Thursday, December 7, from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.**

**at Morgan Imports located at 113 S. Gregson St.**

Please join Senior PharmAssist in celebrating Durham's support for its seniors. There will be refreshments, music and door prizes. Morgan Imports will donate 10% of all sales to Senior PharmAssist. All are welcome.

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#### ~ Serving Today ~

Acolytes: *Lily Brigman, Maryn Leonard*

Crucifer: *Griffin Momsen-Hudson*

Liturgist: *Jeanne Hervey*

Baptism Elder: *Christyn Klinck*

Narthex Greeter: *Delia Kwon*

After Worship Greeters: *George Bernhardt* (Side/Font), *Jerry Postema* (Rear/Narthex)

Ushers: *Emily Wilkins* (head), *Michael Honeycutt* (flowers), *Karen Swope*,

*Amy Sanchez, Julie Whiddon, Jo Bernhardt*

Communion Elders: *Karen Romines* (Head elder/replenish elements)

Bread: *Tyler Momsen-Hudson* (process), *Eric Wiebe, Andy Henry, George Bernhardt*

Cup: *Jerry Postema, Delia Kwon* (process), *Sigfried Fullenkamp, Barbara Buckley*

Shepherds: *Carol Carson* (font aisle), *Caroline Rourk* (center aisle), *Jane Williams* (pulpit aisle)

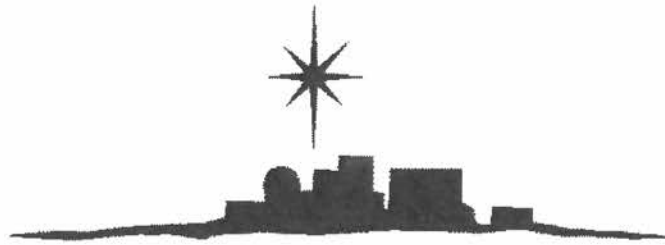




## Our 2017 Christmas Concerns

During Advent, share Christmas wishes with friends in the FPC congregation by making a donation to Christmas Concerns. Proceeds will be given to **Meals on Wheels and Partners for Youth Opportunity**. To participate in Christmas Concerns, write a check to FPC, earmarked "Christmas Concerns," and put it in the offering plate. Then sign an ornament and hang it on the Christmas Concerns "Giving Tree" located in the foyer. The names of those who share greetings via *The Giving Tree* will be listed in the December 19<sup>th</sup> newsletter.

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## ADVENT MIDWEEK CAROLING AND HOLY COMMUNION

**Wednesday, December 6** - Meditation by **Cherrie Henry**

**Wednesday, December 13** - Meditation by **Alex Stayer-Brewington**

**Wednesday, December 20** - Meditation by **Mary Berry**

All are welcome to gather on the Main Street steps for candlelight caroling at 5:45 p.m. followed by a procession of light into the sanctuary where worship with Holy Communion will begin at 6 p.m. A light supper will be provided at 6:30 p.m. in Watts-Hill Hall. Donations will be received to offset meal costs.

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## Sunday, December 10

**9:45 a.m. - Sunday School**

**11:00 a.m. - Worship and Children's Christmas Pageant**  
with Advent wreath candle lighting and seasonal music

**Begins with the children's Christmas Pageant. The waiting-for-Christmas story is told during worship.**

**5:30 p.m. - Christmas Potluck and Carols Sing-Along**

Families are asked to bring their favorite seasonal dish (vegetable, casserole, or dessert). We will enjoy a fellowship meal in Watts-Hill Hall. After we eat, everyone is invited to gather around the Chrismon tree to sing carols. If you play a musical instrument, bring it (and music stand) to play along with the improvised orchestra. If you will need sheet music for your instrument, please contact **Kathy Parkins** as soon as possible.



## **Sunday, December 17**

**9:45 a.m. - Sunday School**

**11:00 a.m. - A Service of Lessons and Carols**

“Lessons and Carols” is a service patterned after the service held annually on Christmas Eve at King’s College Chapel in Cambridge, England, using Scripture readings that recount the loving purposes of God for Christ’s Incarnation, with corresponding Christmas carols. The *PCUSA Joy Gift Offering* is also received. This offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and helps support our future leaders at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges.

**Youth Groups Dinner and Christmas Party from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.**

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## **CHRISTMAS EVE**

**Sunday, December 24**

**No Sunday School**

**11:00 a.m. - Worship (Advent 4)**

The *Hunger for Change Offering* will be received.

**5:00 p.m. - Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion**

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**First Sunday After Christmas**

**Sunday, December 31**

*Happy 146<sup>th</sup> Birthday to FPC!*

**No Sunday School**

**11:00 a.m. – Worship**

Robert Brawley, preaching



# SONAM

SINGERS OF NEW & ANCIENT MUSIC

**SONAM presents its Winter Concert**

## *Music of gifts and light for Epiphany*

**Saturday, January 6, 2018**

**7:00 pm**

The sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church  
(305 East Main St, Durham)

Music of gifts and light in celebration of Epiphany and the end of the Christmas season. Featuring compositions by

- Victoria
- Poulenc
- Whitacre
- Sametz
- Busnoys
- Distler
- Tallis
- Howells
- Clemens

Singers of New and Ancient Music (SONAM) is a chorus committed to creating high-quality sacred and secular music and giving back to the community.

SONAM was founded in 2012 with two primary missions: to make excellent choral music, focusing primarily on the Renaissance and modern eras, and to support local non-profits through benefit concerts. SONAM consists of about 20 talented singers from central North Carolina and is led by conductor **Allan Friedman** and accompanist **Jane Lynch**. SONAM is a volunteer organization sustained by donations of time and resources.

## The Week at a Glance!

<p><b>After Worship:</b> Christmas Pageant rehearsal (pageant participants only, in the sanctuary)</p> <p><b>Advent Festival and Alternative Giving Fair</b> (Wassail and refreshments)</p> <p><b>2:00 PM</b> Communion at The Forest at Duke</p> <p><b>5:00 – 8:00 PM</b> Screening of “13<sup>th</sup>” Documentary</p> <p><b>5:00 – 8:00 PM</b> Youth Groups (Decorate tree)</p>	<p><b>Monday, December 4</b></p> <p><b>10:30 AM</b> Presbyterian Women Circle and Bible Study</p> <p><b>2:00 PM</b> Worship Planning</p> <p><b>3:00 PM</b> Program Staff</p> <p><b>7:00 – 8:30 PM</b> Durham CAN Songs of Hope year-end celebration and fundraiser at Duke Memorial UMC</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, December 5</b></p> <p><b>6:45 PM</b> Screening of “13<sup>th</sup>” Documentary at the home of Mindy Douglas/ Tim O’Brien</p> <p><b>7:00 PM</b> Christmas holiday card-making for Human Kindness organization at the home of Cherrie and Andy Henry</p>	<p><b>Wednesday, December 6</b></p> <p><b>5:00 PM</b> Handbell Choir</p> <p><b>5:45 PM</b> Candlelight Caroling (sanctuary steps)</p> <p><b>6:00 PM</b> Advent Worship with Communion (Cherrie Henry, preaching) A light supper follows at 6:30 PM in Watts-Hill Hall</p> <p><b>7:00 PM</b> Chancel Choir</p>
<p><b>Thursday, December 7</b></p> <p><b>6:00 – 9:00 PM</b> Senior PharmAssist Medicare Open Enrollment After Party at Morgan Imports</p>	<p><b>Friday, December 8</b></p> <p><b>6:30 PM</b> Primetimers’ Covered Dish Supper at the McCorkle home</p>	<p><b>Saturday, December 9</b></p> <p><b>6:30 PM</b> First Friends (adults only) at the Ruley/Fisher home</p>	<p><b>Sunday, December 10</b> <small>Second Sunday of Advent</small></p>  <p><b>9:45 AM</b> Sunday School</p> <p><b>11:00 AM</b> Worship and Children’s Christmas Pageant</p> <p><b>2:00 PM</b> Shape Note Choir</p> <p><b>5:30 PM</b> Christmas Potluck and Carols Sing-A-Long</p>

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

### CHURCH STAFF

*Tom Bloom*, Business Administrator  
*Robert Daye*, Sexton  
*Mindy Douglas*, Pastor/Head of Staff  
*Susan Dunlap*, Parish Associate  
*Sarah Finbow*, Youth Minister



*Marilyn Hedgpeth*, Associate Pastor  
*Cheryl Henry*, Parish Associate  
*Valerie McMillian*, Parish Administrator  
*Sam Miglares*, Associate Pastor  
*Kathy Parkins*, Minister of Music

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