

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

4th Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2020

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## A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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### GATHERING MUSIC

Kathy Parkins

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Weicher

### PRELUDE

*Suite No. 1 in G major: Allemande*

J.S. Bach

Ben Maxwell, cello

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Mindy Douglas

Leader: Though the way seems long and the road rough

People: **Yet will we trust the One who leads us.**

Leader: Though the direction is unknown and we don't know the outcome

People: **Yet will we place our lives in Christ's loving care.**

Leader: It is Christ who brings us out to green pastures and restores our souls.

People: **It is Christ who gives us hope and peace.**

Leader: Praise be to Christ our Lord.

All: **Let us worship God.**

### HYMN

*We Are One in the Spirit (verse 1)*

***We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;***

***We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,***

***And we pray that all unity may one day be restored:***

***And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;***

***Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.***

### CONFESSION OF SIN

John Weicher

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (All, in unison)

**Living God, you lead us toward green pastures but we wander in dark valleys.**

**You call us by name but we pretend not to hear.**

**Forgive us; give us new life!**

**Return us to your flock and fold that we may have abundant life,**

**the life that death cannot destroy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

### COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Carlo Diy

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

All: **Almighty God, you sent Jesus, our good shepherd, to gather us together.**

**May we not wander from his flock, but follow wherever he leads us,**

listening for his voice and staying near him, until we are safely in your fold, to live with you forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**A READING FROM THE PSALTER**

Psalm 23

Carlo Diy

Leader: Let us recite together the King James Version of the Shepherd's psalm.

All: **The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.**

**He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
he leadeth me beside the still waters.**

**He restoreth my soul:**

**he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.**

**Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:  
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.**

**Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:  
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.**

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

**A READING FROM ACTS OF THE APOSTLES** Acts 2:42-47

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

**MEDITATION**

*"Improv Church"*

Mindy Douglas

**SOLO**

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

*Resignation,*

Maddie Brigman, soloist

*Southern hymn melody*

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

John Weicher

**INVITATION TO GIVE AND DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING**

**HYMN**

*We Are One in the Spirit* (verse 4)

*All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,*

*And all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,*

*And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:*

*And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;*

*Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

**NEW MEMBERS SERVICE OF WELCOME**

Mindy Douglas

Words of Welcome and Introduction

Affirmation of Faith (All, in unison)

*The Apostles' Creed*

**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.

Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows

Prayer

## CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

Mindy Douglas

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Prayers of thanksgiving and intercession

. . . 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

*We Are One in the Spirit (verses 2-3)*

*We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;  
We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,  
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land:  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

*We will work with each other; we will work side by side;  
We will work with each other; we will work side by side,  
And we'll guard human dignity and save human pride:  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

## CLOSING PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.  
People: **And also with you.**  
Leader: Let us pray. Open unto me,  
People: **Light for my darkness.**  
Leader: Courage for my fear.  
People: **Hope for my despair.**  
Leader: Open unto me, peace for my turmoil.  
People: **Joy for my sorrow.**  
Leader: Strength for my weakness.  
People: **Wisdom for my confusion.**  
Leader: Open unto me, forgiveness for my sins.  
People: **Love for my hates.**  
Leader: Thy Self for my self.  
People: **Lord, Lord, open unto me! Amen.**

-Howard Thurman, 1900-1981

## BENEDICTION

Mindy Douglas

## POSTLUDE

Kathy Parkins

**First Presbyterian Church** welcomes all who worship with us. 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. On April 26, 117 households tuned in to the 11:00 a.m. streamed broadcast of worship.

**Special thanks** to **Ben Maxwell** (cello) and **Maddie Brigman** (soloist) for providing music for today's worship. Ben is a third year student at New England Conservatory (Boston, MA) and Maddie is a graduating senior at Durham School of the Arts.

Many thanks to **Jody Maxwell**, **Pat Dillon**, and **John Weicher** for their "behind the scenes" technical assistance, making our virtual worship broadcasts possible and accessible to us each Sunday.

In worship today, we are welcoming the following **new members** to First Presbyterian Church:

**George and Annie Gentithes** are married and have one daughter, Ruby, age 13. Both George and Annie hold master's degrees: George, in business, and Annie, in education. George, a native of Warren, OH, works with Evonik Corporation. Annie, a native of Durham, NC, teaches at Duke School.

**Mark Higgins**, raised in Evanston, IL and Pittsburgh, PA, relocated to Durham in 1992. He is a graduate of Hope College (Holland, MI) and Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science. Mark is former owner of Hall-Wynne Funeral Service, Durham.

Portions of **today's worship and music texts** were taken from *Call to Worship*, *Book of Common Worship (2018)*, *ministrymatters.com*, and *Glory to God* Presbyterian hymnal.

The **sources of the photos** included in today's worship broadcast:

- Swanson, John August. *Psalm 23*, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. This image is used as today's bulletin cover.
- Millet, Jean François, 1814-1875. *Shepherd*, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.  
*Good Shepherd*, c. 1480 from the *Rosenwald Collection*, National Gallery of Art, Washington D.C.
- Chou, Arnie. 2017. *Woman Sitting on Rock Beside Wall and Near Sheep*, from Pexels.com.

**Church staff** are working from their homes under the Stay-at-home Order for the state of North Carolina. If you need assistance, you may call the church office (919-682-5511) and leave a message, or email a specific staff person. Thank you for your patience as we respond to your calls and emails. Please read church emails and check our social media to stay up-to-date.

**Children and Youth – Are you Connected?** If you are not receiving a separate weekly email connecting you to FPC online activities and events for children and youth, contact John Weicher to be added to the list.

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**These Days** devotional booklets for April - June 2020 are now available at the church in regular and large print. Contact the office (919-682-5511) to arrange to pick up a copy from the church, or to have one mailed to you.

## **Celebrations and Concerns**

**Congratulations:** *Miriam Morey* has been awarded the Veteran's Administration Rehabilitation Research and Development Service's highest honor—the Paul B. Magnuson Award. It is given to recognize humanitarianism and dedication in service to Veterans.

**Condolences:** The love and concern of the congregation are extended to:

- **Linn Lopez and family** on the death of her husband, **Anthony "Tony" Lopez**, on April 26<sup>th</sup>. A private graveside service was held May 1<sup>st</sup> at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens, Durham.
- **Tom and Sandy Roberts** on the death of Tom's sister, **Julie McLean**, who died April 21<sup>st</sup> in Hartford, CT.

**Concerns:**

- **Asher Wilson**, son of Mike and Emily Wilson and grandson of Chuck and Jean Wilson, home after a brief hospital stay
- **John Kerr** has returned to his residence at Durham Regent after a brief hospital stay
- **Camilla Crampton**, companion of Mal King, is a patient at UNC Hospital (Hillsborough)
- **Margaret Mubanga**
- All who have been impacted by the COVID-19 global pandemic

### **Care Communities:**

Brookdale Durham: **Julian Boswell, Becky Crockett**

Croasdaile Pavilion: **Bob Rankin, Henderson Rourk**

Dubose Center at The Cedars (Chapel Hill): **Arthur Clark**

Durham Regent: **Ann Prospero, John Kerr**

Emerald Pond: **Paul Cornsweet**

Hillcrest Convalescent Center, Durham: **Jean Lazarides**

Southern Living for Seniors, Louisburg: **Phillip Herndon**

The Forest at Duke: **Fran Bryant**

### **Family and Friends of the Congregation:**

**Tiffany Barber**, niece of Christyn Klinck

**Peggy Boulden**, mother of Dick Boulden

**Ken Chambliss**, father of Will Chambliss

**Paula Cope**, sister of Sam Miglarese

**Becky Evans**, sister of Vernon Neece

**Dolores Ewald**, mother-in-law of Susan Ewald

**Shannon Johnson**, daughter of Mary Putman

**Chris Kovach**, friend of Jeanne Hervey

**Doug Neece**, brother of Vernon Neece

**Jim Vacca**, father of Jamie Chambliss

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## **Winesdays on Wednesdays Virtual Happy Hour**

You are invited to FPC's virtual Winesday Happy Hour each Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. Join in with your beverage of choice! Contact Laurie Williamson or Mindy for the link to join this group.



## Weekday Book Studies

The study of ***Call It Grace*** by Serene Jones and led by Mindy Douglas is meeting online on Tuesdays from 5:00-6:00 p.m. using Zoom. If you wish to join this discussion group, contact Mindy Douglas.

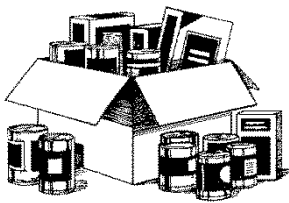
All are welcome to join the Women's Spirituality Group in a study of ***Helpmates, Harlots and Heroes*** by Alice Bellis, via Zoom on Wednesdays from 7:30-8:15 p.m. If you wish to join this discussion group, contact Deborah Momsen-Hudson.

## Ways to Give to First Presbyterian Church

- Check made payable to First Presbyterian Church and mailed to the church
- Bill Pay initiated by you through your bank
- Direct Debit (monthly) from a checking account (contact Tom Bloom for required form)
- Text Giving (Contact Tom Bloom if you need instructions)
- Appreciated Stock (Contact Tom Bloom before initiating a stock transfer)
- Credit or Debit Card (Click DONATE on the church's website: <https://firstpres-durham.org>)
- Charitable Distribution from an IRA (For persons aged 70½; contact your IRA administrator)

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## Urgent Appeal from Iglesia Emanuel



The COVID-19 pandemic continues to wreak havoc on so many struggling families who have lost their source of income. Our sister church, Iglesia Emanuel, is working overtime to help address critical food shortages not only in the Hispanic community, but well beyond. Their food pantry has gone from serving 60 families a week to **360 families**. That computes to well over 1,000 people who will now have food on their tables for the coming week. The heartbreak was that this past Wednesday, there were still at least 100 more cars waiting in line for food after they ran out of all supplies.

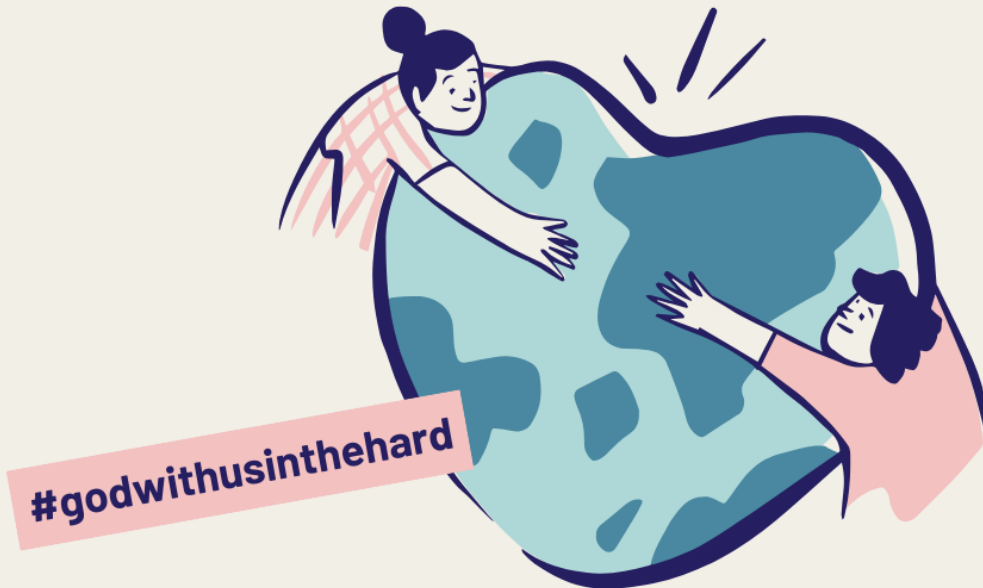
This is a huge undertaking week after week for such a small church, and Iglesia Emanuel could not possibly continue their mission to feed the hungry without ongoing support from others. We have been incredibly moved by the generous response from so many caring members of FPC, with financial as well as food donations. **Please, let us not grow weary in our support, as the immense needs continue to grow.**

There are several ways you can help:

- Make a financial donation on line by going to [emanueldurham.org](http://emanueldurham.org);
- Mail a check, written to Iglesia Presbyteriana Emanuel, 2504 N Roxboro, Durham, NC 27704;
- Donate food, preferably bulk items. Most needed are rice, beans, other staples such as Mac 'n Cheese, cereal, canned goods, etc.;
- Food donations may be taken to Iglesia Emanuel, but call Guillermo Salamea at 919-451-6626 to confirm time of drop-off;
- Food donations may also be taken to Miguel and Margaret Rubiera's house (call 919-452-7275 or 919-358-2346) and we will deliver for you, or we will pick up from your front porch!

Feel free to contact us with any questions, and thank you again for your loving commitment to help others. -Miguel ([miguelrubiera1@gmail.com](mailto:miguelrubiera1@gmail.com)) and Margaret ([margaretmr29@gmail.com](mailto:margaretmr29@gmail.com))

# EVENING PRAYERS



*Stay with me, remain here with me, watch and pray*  
**TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS, 8 PM**  
**[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FIRSTPRESDURHAM/](https://www.facebook.com/firstpresdurham/)**

You do not need to have a Facebook account to participate. Simply go online to: <https://www.facebook.com/firstpresdurham/> each Tuesday and Thursday at 8 p.m. If you are asked to create an account, just ignore and click on the video. Leaders this week: **Amy Wilson** (May 5) and **Griffin Momsen-Hudson** (May 7).

## CHURCH STAFF

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



**Sybil King**, Administrative Assistant  
**Valerie McMillian**, Parish Administrator  
**Kathy Parkins**, Minister of Music  
**John Weicher**, Associate Pastor

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>.

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