

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA

15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 12, 2020

## A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

<b>GATHERING MUSIC</b>	<i>Variations on "Forest Green"</i>	English folk tune, arr. Lovelace
	<i>Variations on "O Waly Waly"</i>	English folk tune, arr. Powell
<b>WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>		Susan Dunlap
<b>PRELUDE</b>	<i>O Waly Waly</i>	English folk tune, arr. Daniel Kallmann
	(saxophone, Kash Sewell; piano, Kathy Cain Parkins)	

**CALL TO WORSHIP** ( from Psalm 119:105, 108-109, 111-112) Susan Dunlap

Leader: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

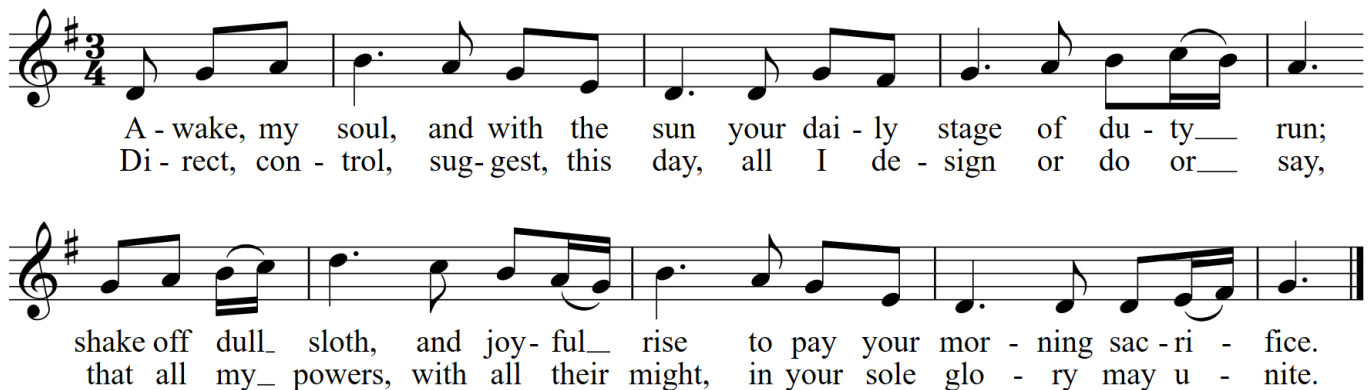
People: **Accept my offerings of praise, O Lord, and teach me your ordinances.**

Leader: I hold my life in my hand continually, but I do not forget your law.

People: **Your decrees are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart.**

All: **I incline my heart to perform your statutes forever, to the end.**

**HYMN** No. 663 (verses 1,3) *Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun* sung to *O Waly Waly*  
(Led by Amy Wilson)



A - wake, my soul, and with the sun your dai - ly stage of du - ty\_\_ run;  
Di - rect, con - trol, sug - gest, this day, all I de - sign or do or\_\_ say,  
shake off dull\_ sloth, and joy - ful\_\_ rise to pay your mor - ning sac - ri - fice.  
that all my\_ powers, with all their might, in your sole glo - ry may u - nite.

**CONFESSION OF SIN** Susan Dunlap

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

**Faithful God, your word falls on hardened ground  
when our worldly anxiety and attachment to wealth  
crowd out your place in our lives.**

**Forgive our frail and human ways  
and cultivate in us a spirit of trust and faithfulness  
for you are our hope for deliverance.**

Silent Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness

Response (Hymn No. 844, verses 2-3) *Incline Your Ear, O Lord, to me* Sung to *O Waly Waly*



You, Lord, have shown to me your grace, in ways be - yond my mor - tal\_ sight.  
With stead-fast love and mer - cy sure, God hears con - fes - sion and for - gives;



Be - fore your face, I lift my\_ soul; to sing your praise is my de - light.  
re-deemed, the\_ soul in which God dwells, and blessed, the heart in which God lives.

**COLLECT FOR THE DAY** (Sung by Amy Wilson)

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.  
When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way, still you're there right beside me.  
Nothing will I fear as long as you are near me. Please be near me to the end.  
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

**EPISTLE LESSON**

Romans 8:1-11

Amy Wilson

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

**GOSPEL LESSON**

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

John Weicher

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON**

John Weicher

**HYMN NO. 171** (verse 1)

*A Sower Came from Ancient Hills*

Sung to *Forest Green*



A Sow - er came from an - cient hills and cast good seed a - broad;



his field, ten thou-sand hu - man hearts; his seed, the word of God.



And some who lis - tened would not hear, and some who heard for - got.



But some re-ceived in fer - tile soil the truth the Sow - er taught.

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (in unison)** (Adapted from *A Declaration of Faith*)

Amy Wilson

**Jesus Christ stands at the center of the Biblical record.**

**The Bible is the account of God's word and action in history,  
together with God's people's response in faith.**

**It tells how the Lord has moved with Israel and the church  
towards the kingdom of God, God's just and loving rule over all.**

**It is the story of the one God,  
who is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.**

**That story is still unfolding  
and in faith we make it our own.**

**It forms our memory and our hope.**

**It tells us who we are and what we are to do.**

**To retell it is to declare what we believe.**

**A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

Natalie Wolf

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

**CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS**

**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.**

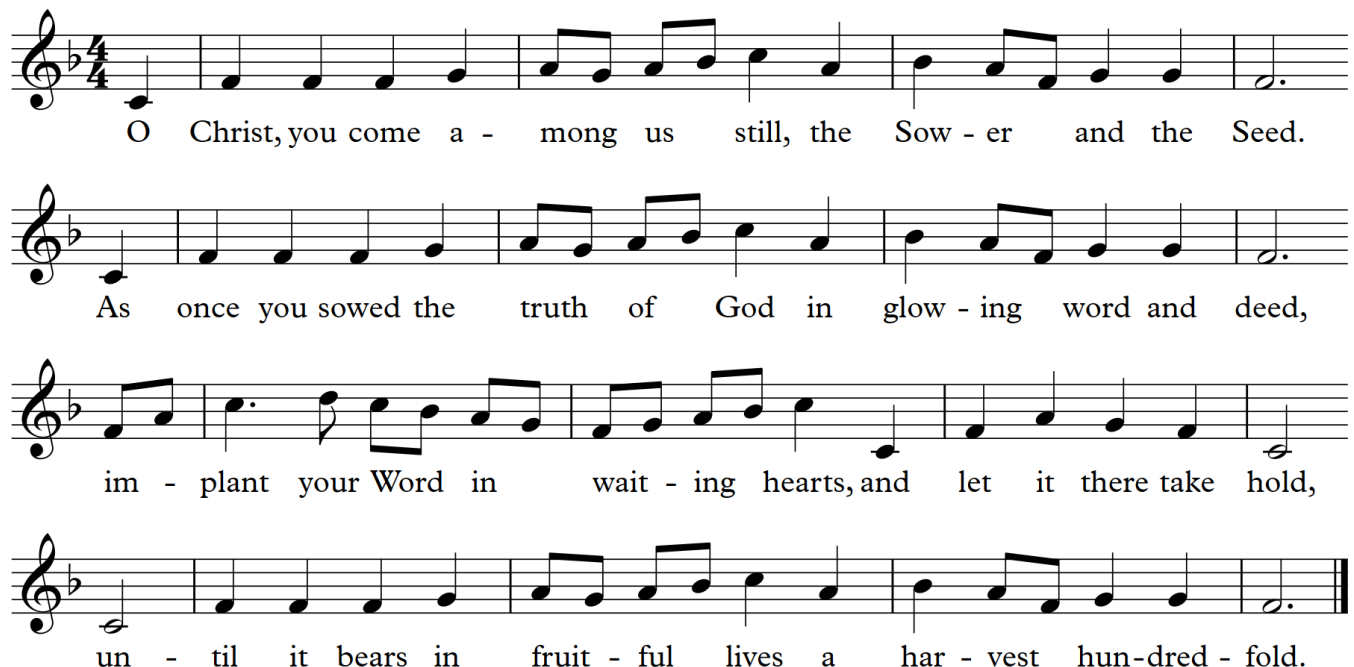
**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**HYMN No. 171 (verse 4)**

*A Sower Came from Ancient Hills*

(sung to *Forest Green*)



O Christ, you come a - mong us still, the Sow - er and the Seed.

As once you sowed the truth of God in glow - ing word and deed,

im - plant your Word in wait - ing hearts, and let it there take hold,

un - til it bears in fruit - ful lives a har - vest hun - dred - fold.

## CLOSING PRAYER

John Weicher

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Leader: O Lord Jesus Christ, the Way, the Truth, and the Life:

All: **Do not let us stray from you, the Way,**

Leader: nor distrust you, the Truth,

All: **nor rest in anything other than you, the Life. Amen.**

– Desiderius Erasmus (c. 1466-1536)

## BENEDICTION

John Weicher

## POSTLUDE

*Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*

Johann Walther

**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 June 28, 99 households tuned in to the 11:00 a.m. live-streamed broadcast of worship.

**Music Notes** (from **Kathy Parkins**): The Prelude this morning is performed by my cousin, **Kash Sewell**, who is a student at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. He recorded his part in Cincinnati and I recorded the piano part in the church sanctuary. **David Smith** stitched the two parts together. Many thanks to David for making this possible. There are three hymn texts to this tune in our hymnal.

**Portions of today's** worship texts are taken from **Feasting on the Word**. Music reprinted under Onelicense.net A.713928.

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

**Church staff** will continue working from home until further notice. If you need assistance, you may call the church office (919-682-5511) and leave a message, or email/ text a specific staff person. Thank you for your patience as we respond to your calls, texts, and emails.

**Children and Youth – Are you Connected?** If you are not receiving a separate weekly email connecting you to FPC activities and events for children and youth, contact [Natalie Wolf](#) or [John Weicher](#) to be added to the email listserv.



The **Director of Children's Ministry Search Team** announced this week that FPM member **Lenore Champion** has been called to serve in this newly created staff position. Lenore is gifted, caring and faithful. She understands children, possesses a deep faith and theological training, and has a heart for our congregation and our children. Lenore will serve 12 hours per week, beginning Monday, July 20. You can reach Lenore at this email address: [l.champion@firstpres-durham.org](mailto:l.champion@firstpres-durham.org). Congratulations, Lenore!

## ~ Our Concerns ~

The love and concern of the congregation are extended to the following:

- **Rob Parker, Beth Taylor, and family** upon the death of Rob's mother, **June Driscoll**, in Texas on Monday, July 6 of COVID-19. In addition, Rob's father, **James Driscoll** is receiving end of life care. Rob just recovered from a bicycle accident, and his wife Beth is now recovering from a foot injury.
- **Nora Tisdale and her family** upon the death of her father, **Jim Tubbs**. Jim most recently served as Parish Associate at White Memorial Presbyterian Church and lived with his wife **Lee** at Glenaire Retirement Community in Cary. He was 99. Lee remains at Glenaire and is receiving end of life care. Nora is recovering at home from gall bladder surgery.

**Dale Gaddis**, recovering at home following back surgery

**Joe Harvard**, recovering at daughter's home (Rebecca Barnes) following a brief hospital stay

**Bill Hendrickson**, in PT rehab at Duke General Hospital

**Mal King**, recovering at home from an outpatient procedure

**Peggy Mordecai**, mother of Beth Eisenson, recovering at Hillcrest Convalescent Center

**Will Rubiera**, grandson of Margaret and Miguel Rubiera, recovering from a fall

**Chuck and Jean Wilson**, isolating at home with COVID-19

**All those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic**

**Hospice Care: Ruth Buck**, mother of Susan Buck

### 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: **John Kerr, Ann Prospero**

Emerald Pond: **Paul Cornsweet**

Rose Vista Village Assisted Living, Kinston NC: **Phillip Herndon**

The Forest at Duke: **Fran Bryant**

### Family and Friends of the Congregation:

**Brendan Bequette**, family friend of Margaret & Miguel Rubiera

**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

**Jim Vacca**, father of Jamie Chambliss

**Art Warren**, friend of Michael Honeycutt & Paul Pasquarella



**Register your child(ren) [here](#) for our virtual Vacation Bible School which is taking place the entire month of July**

A graphic for a book study. On the left is the cover of the book "WHITE FRAGILITY: WHY IT'S SO HARD FOR WHITE PEOPLE TO TALK ABOUT RACISM" by ROBIN DIANGELO, with a foreword by MICHAEL ERIC D. The cover is black with white text. To the right of the book is a white, torn-edge paper announcement that reads: "BOOK STUDY W/MINDY DOUGLAS TUESDAYS, 5 PM BEGINNING JULY 14". On the far right, vertical text reads "FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, DURHAM". At the bottom of the book cover, it says "CONTACT MINDY FOR ZOOM LINK".

**We will read one chapter each week beginning July 14.**

Click [here](#) to join the Zoom Discussion.

One tap mobile: +19292056099,,84138542515#,,,,0#,,315200# US (New York)



We have seen photos of beaches strewn with plastic trash, and we have heard about the 8 million tons of plastic that go into the ocean every year. **During this month of July, commit to either cut down on single-use plastic, or eliminate certain plastic items (grocery bags, water bottles, straws, for example), or you can go all the way and commit to eliminating all plastic.** As a church, we can make a difference! To sign up to participate, contact [Cris Rivera](mailto:Cris.Rivera@firstpresbyterian.org) (call 919-225-4228).

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## NEW OPPORTUNITIES

### **NEEDED: Long-Sleeve Shirts for Farmworkers**

The [Association of Mexicans in North Carolina \(AMEXCAN\)](http://www.amexcan.org) is collecting donations of long-sleeve shirts for farmworkers, and First Presbyterian Church, Durham is a collection site.

**What?** AMEXCAN is accepting new or used long-sleeve shirts, hats, caps, or gloves. These items help protect farmworkers from heat stress and pesticide exposure.

**When?** The collection will run from Monday, July 13 through Friday, July 31. Drop-offs (at FPC) will be accepted on Mondays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Where?** You can drop items off in the labeled boxes **inside the building**, in front of the volunteer office at First Presbyterian Church of Durham (305 E Main St, Durham, NC 27701). If you'd like to donate shirts but can't get to the church, contact **Katie Becker** ([katiebeckerwa@gmail.com](mailto:katiebeckerwa@gmail.com)) so that she can arrange to pick them up from your porch.

**Who?** There are at least 150,000 farmworkers in North Carolina. They work primarily in the tobacco, sweet potato, cucumber, tomato, Christmas tree, and blueberry industries. Some live here year-round, and some migrate from other countries each year through the H-2A visa program. Even though agricultural laborers are "essential workers" during the pandemic, they do not enjoy many of the workplace-safety protections that the rest of us take for granted. The typical farmworker earns \$11,000 per year.

**Why?** Long-sleeve shirts, gloves, and hats help protect farmworkers from the heat and pesticides, both of which can be life-threatening. Agriculture is one of the most dangerous occupations in the United States, and the farmworker-fatality rate in North Carolina is higher than the national average. Heat stress is a major cause of fatalities among farmworkers, and farmworkers experience the highest rate of toxic chemical injuries and skin disorders of any workers in the U.S.

To learn more about farmworkers and their working conditions, check out:

- [North Carolina Farmworker Health Facts](#), from Student Action for Farmworkers
- [A Former Farmworker on American Hypocrisy](#), published in the New York Times (discusses the impact of Covid-19 on undocumented farmworkers)
- [Trump deems farmworkers 'essential' but not safety rules for them. That could threaten the food supply.](#), published by Politico

## Durham CAN Listening Sessions

Our church is a member organization of Durham CAN (Congregations, Associations, and Neighborhoods). Over the years, we have worked on affordable housing, living wage, policing, jobs, education, Spanish language interpreters, health, rapid rehousing, transportation, and other areas of concern in Durham. For an update on our work, [click here](#). These issues are the product of organization-wide listening sessions where as many as 3000 people around our city give input. It is time for a new series of listening sessions and our church will participate as we have in the past through house meetings or in Sunday morning classes.

This year members of First Presbyterian are offering three Zoom meeting times to meet to talk about our areas of concern in Durham. These sessions will be led by the Durham CAN Core Team from our church.

**Monday, July 20, 4 p.m.**

**Thursday, July 23, 7 p.m.**

**Sunday, July 26, 1 p.m.**

Everyone in our church is invited to these sessions. For a link to the Zoom meeting, please contact Valerie McMillian, [v.mcmillian@firstpres-durham.org](mailto:v.mcmillian@firstpres-durham.org) or Susan Dunlap, [sjd4@duke.edu](mailto:sjd4@duke.edu).

### 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  
*Natalie Wolf*, Ministry Intern

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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