

First Presbyterian Church

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September 13th, 2026

We welcome you not as strangers but as a part of God's family! We are a community of faith that gathers to praise our Lord and Savior, serve others, search for answers, and enjoy the fellowship of one another. We hope today you will be challenged and discover encouragement. The peace of Christ be with you!

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

16th Sunday After Pentecost

September 13th, 2026

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

*Worship begins with the Prelude. Please use this time for **silent** preparation.*

PRELUDE

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

CHORAL INTROIT

“Blessed Jesus, at Your Word”

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: Where two or three are gathered;
People: *Christ is there among them.*
Leader: With our hearts and with our voices,
People: *we gather to worship the Lord.*
Leader: We are met in the presence of God,
People: *and we do not meet alone.*

PRAYER OF PRAISE

*HYMN OF ADORATION # 620

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Merciful God, it is only as we look at Jesus that we know our sin. On most days, we think of ourselves as pretty good people – until we look at Christ. We see ourselves as better than others – until we look at Christ. We take pride in our little deeds and small accomplishments – until we look at Christ. But when we fix our gaze on our Lord, we can only admit that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, but what we have done, and by what we have left undone. Have mercy upon us. Let the same Christ who judges our sin come to redeem us and set us free, so that we may love and serve in his name. Amen.

*DECLARATION OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.*

A MOMENT WITH OUR CHILDREN

*HYMN OF PREPARATION # 435

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

*...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.*

PROCLAIMING GOD’S WORD

EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 13:8-14, page 162

ANTHEM

Henry Coleman

“Ye Servants of God”

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Matthew 15:12-20, page 20

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

SERMON

Rev. Maggie Beamguard

“Baby Ruth and ButterFinger”

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Page 35 of hymnbook

“Apostles’ Creed”

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

Fred Pratt Green

“The Church of Christ in Every Age”

*DOXOLOGY

Hymn # 606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING GOD’S WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT # 65

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Jaroslav Vajda

“Go, My Children”

*POSTLUDE

*CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Opportunities for the Week of September 13th -September 20th

Today:	8:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service / Rev. Maggie Beamguard
	11:00 a.m.	Congregational Meeting
	11:15 a.m.	Session Meeting
	5:00 p.m.	Youth Group (Grades 7-12)
Tuesday:	6:15 p.m.	Men’s Group
Wednesday:	5:45 p.m.	Choir Practice
Sunday:	8:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service / Communion / Rev. Karen Allen
	11:15 a.m.	Annual Picnic

Announcements

Please welcome back Rev. Maggie Beamguard as she brings forth the message this morning.

The Worship Committee is following up to see how the congregation likes having morning worship at 10:00 a.m. since it began in January. Please share your thoughts, so they can keep working to find what works best for the church. Place your survey in the designated box in the lower narthex by September 30, 2026. Use this link [2026 Survey for Time of Worship.pdf](#) to sign up, it is also on the website.

The F & M Committee invite you to participate in the 2026 Annual Picnic that will be held on Sunday, September 20th, at 5:00 p.m. Please use the link [Church: 2026 Annual FPC Picnic - Sunday, September 20th at 5pm](#) or SignUpGenius listed on the website to sign up.

The Pastoral Search Committee continues to work to obtain feedback from our church family for a new Pastor. Please complete the Congregational Survey (Please use this link to access survey) <https://forms.gle/KACZEtmUGXBPeKYT7>. If you prefer, you may print the survey and mail it to the church office or drop it in the collection plate.

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting today, September 13, following worship service for the purpose of hearing the Nominating Committee's report regarding election of elders for the class of 2028 and election of the cemetery committee."

Phillip Warmbrod has a new mailing address: Care of trinity United Methodist Church (Homeless Ministry) 215 N. Church St. Durham, NC 27701.

Fellowship & Mission is sending \$500 donation to Heart of Indiana United Way for the flood recovery fund. Margaret Leonard's hometown is Muncie, Indiana in Delaware County and recently affected by flooding. If you would like to donate individually, please use the link provided. <https://heartofindiana.org/flood>

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by Gail & Keith Hardin.