

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia

Morning Worship

The Lord's Day | February 7, 2021 | 9:15 & 10:45 a.m.

[www.fpfo.org](http://www.fpfo.org) | 706.866.2521 | 1 Harker Road

## THE SESSION

Ryan Biese, Moderator  
Herman McConathy, Clerk  
David Bosshardt  
Wil Davis

## THE DIACONATE

Bob Keller, Chairman  
Lance Wood, Clerk

---

## THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

---

**The Announcements**

**\*The Call to Worship**

~ We Respond to God's Call to Worship Him ~

**\*The Psalm of Praise No. 149** ..... "Give Praise to the LORD"

1. <sup>1</sup>Give praise to the LORD and sing a new song,  
 2. <sup>3</sup>With tim - brel and harp and joy - ful ac - claim,  
 3. <sup>5</sup>In glo - ry ex - ult, O saints of the LORD;  
 4. <sup>7</sup>They'll ex - e - cute wrath on na - tions and lands,

a - mid all his saints his prais - es pro - long.  
 with danc - ing and song, give praise to his name!  
 let them on their beds his prais - es ac - cord.  
<sup>8</sup>to bind kings with chains and no - bles with bands,

<sup>2</sup>Let Is - r'el re - joice in his Mak - er and sing,  
<sup>4</sup>The LORD in his peo - ple his plea - sure will take,  
<sup>6</sup>May prais - es to God from each mouth now be poured.  
<sup>9</sup>for so it is writ - ten, this judg - ment will fall.

and chil - dren of Zi - on re - joice in their king.  
 with robes of sal - va - tion a - dorn - ing the meek.  
 May they in their hands wield a dou - ble - edged sword.  
 His saints have this glo - ry. Give praise to the LORD!

**\*The Prayer of Adoration**

**\*The Confession of Faith.....Heidelberg Catechism No. 54**

Q. What do you believe concerning *the holy catholic church*?

A. *I believe that the Son of God through his Spirit and Word, out of the entire human race, from the beginning of the world to its end, gathers, protects, and preserves for himself a community chosen for eternal life and united in true faith. And of this community I am and always will be a living member.*

**The Call to Confession.....Revelation 3:1-3**

I know your works. You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead. Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God. Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you.

**The Confession of Sin**

*O Lord, what evil have we not done? Or if there is evil that we have not done, what evil is there that we have not spoken? If there is any that we have not spoken, what evil is there that we have not thought to do?*

*But you, O Lord, are good. You are merciful. You saw how deep we were sunk in death, and it was your power that drained dry the well of corruption in the depths of our hearts.*

*All that You have asked of us was to turn from our bondage to sin and receive Christ by faith, but even this we do so miserably.*

*Forgive us for every failure to rest in Christ, and help us to follow You in every way and always. Thank you that our hope is not in how well we have turned to you, but that Christ has come for us and laid down His life for ours.*

*Please restore our peace and joy through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.*

**The Silent Confession**

~ God Answers His People and Speaks in the Scripture ~

The Assurance of Pardon .....1 John 1:7-9

But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

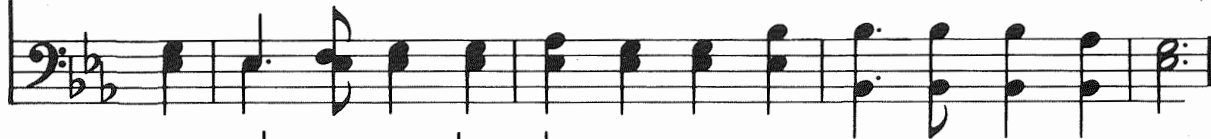
\*The Psalm of Thanksgiving No. 116....."I love the LORD Because He Heard"



1. <sup>1</sup>I love the LORD be - cause He heard My sup - pli - cat - ing plea;  
2. <sup>4</sup>Then called I on Je - ho - vah's name And un - to Him did sa  
3. <sup>7</sup>O thou my soul, do thou re - turn To thine own qui - et rest,



<sup>2</sup>I while I live will call on Him Who bowed His ear to me.  
"De - liv - er Thou my soul, O LORD, I do Thee hum - bly pray."  
Be - cause the LORD has dealt in grace; His boun - ty has thee blessed.



<sup>3</sup>The cords of death on eve - ry side En - com - passed me a - round;  
<sup>5</sup>The LORD is gra - cious and is just; Our God will mer - cy show;  
<sup>8</sup>Thou hast re - leased my soul from death, My eyes from tears kept free;





The sor - rows of the grave took hold; I grief and trou - ble found.  
6The LORD pre - serves the meek in heart; He saved me when brought low.  
From fall - ing Thou hast saved my feet; 9I live and walk with THEE



### **The Encouragement to Give .....Psalm 54:6-7**

With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you; I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good. For he has delivered me from every trouble, and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

**~ God's People Call upon Him for Help ~**

### **The Great Prayer**

*Please submit your prayer requests and/or record your attendance at worship with us via this [link](#) or the QR code below. You can also call (706.866.2521) or email ([office@fpfo.org](mailto:office@fpfo.org)) the church office.*



**\*The Hymn.....“Be Thou My Vision”**

1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart; naught be all  
 2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word; I ev - er  
 3. Be thou my bat - tle shield, sword for my fight; be thou my  
 4. Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise, thou mine in -  
 5. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won, may I reach

else to me, save that thou art— thou my best thought by  
 with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my great Fa - ther,  
 • dig - ni - ty, thou my de - light, thou my soul's shel - ter,  
 her - i - tance, now and al - ways: thou and thou on - ly,  
 heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart, what -

day or by night, wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 I thy true son; thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.  
 • thou my high tow'r: raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.  
 first in my heart, High King of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 ev - er be - fall, still be my vis - ion, O Rul - er of all.

~ God Answers His People and Speaks in the Scripture ~

The Sermon .....Rev. Ryan Biese

“The Elder’s Life” | I Timothy 3:1-7

**I. Introduction**

**II. Main Argument**

**A. The Elder: Above Reproach (vv. 1-3)**

1. Overseer: How is the greek word *episkopos* typically translated?
  
2. Worthy of Respect: How does the Apostle define respectability, and why must we guard against a cultural view of “respectability”

**B. The Elder’s Home (vv. 4-5):** How is this significant for every Christian and not just those discerning a call to church office?

1. Revealing: What does a man’s home life reveal about him?
  
2. Household Management (v. 4a)
  - a. What does the word *manage* convey?
  
  - b. How does the Lord Jesus Christ show husbands how to love?
  
3. Dignified Parenting (v. 4b): How does a man’s care for his children prepare him (or not) for shepherding the church of God?
  
4. The Home as “Little Church” (v. 5)
  - a. What is the connection between home life and church life?
  
  - b. Where else is the word translated *care* used and how?

### **C. The Elder's Maturity (v. 6)**

1. Without Haste: Why is there a tendency to rush to put someone in leadership or other positions of responsibility?
  
2. Danger of Inexperienced Leadership: Why is it better to be shorthanded than to have green or untested leaders?
  - a. What is the danger to the man?
  
  - b. What is the theological danger to the church?
  
  - c. What is the pastoral danger to the church?
  
  - d. "Potential is not \_\_\_\_\_"

### **D. The Elder's Reputation (v. 7)**

1. Bookends: Why does it help the gospel to become central when the character of the elders is impeccable?
  
2. The Elders Lead: How do elders impact the character of a congregation?
  
3. Snare of the Devil
  - a. Why must elders be particularly alert to the devil's schemes?
  
  - b. Why does Satan target church leaders more than others?
  
4. Application: How should we pray for the elders?



\*The Hymn of Commitment....."Lift High the Cross"

*Unison*

(Ref.) Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim,

till all the world a-dore his sa-cred name.

*Fine*

1. Come, brethren, follow where our Savior trod,  
 2. Led on their way by this triumphant sign,  
 3. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
 4. Thy kingdom come, that earth's despair may cease  
 5. For thy blest cross which doth for us atone,

our King vic-tor-ious, Christ, the Son of God.  
 the hosts of God in con-qu'ring ranks com-bine.  
 • as thou hast prom-ised, draw men un-to thee.  
 be-neath the shad-ow of its heal-ing peace.  
 cre-a-tion's prais-es rise be-fore thy throne.

*D.C.*

**\*The Benediction**

**\*The Response**.....“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.*

Music © 2018 Orthodox Presbyterian Church and United Reformed Church  
Trinity Psalter Hymnal Joint Venture. Used by permission: CCLI #487914

## Why Do We Sing the Psalms?

Rev. Ryan Biese

If you are like me, and were not born a Presbyterian or are new to Reformed Worship, you may be wondering, “why do we sing so many psalms at FPFO?”

After all, sometimes the ideas and language of the psalms seem strange to our ears. But the language and ideas of the psalms are not only our spiritual heritage, but also things in which we can find great blessings if we are familiar with them.

Let me give you four reasons why we sing these ancient psalms as well as more modern hymns and songs in our worship.

**1. The Command and Example of Scripture:** When Jesus and the Twelve (eleven) left the Upper Room they sang a hymn, but not just any hymn: one of the Psalms customary for use at Passover (Pss. 113-118). So when we sing the psalms, we’re following His example. But Christianity is not simply “what did Jesus do,” because after all there are many things Jesus did that we ought not to do. So we also sing psalms because we are explicitly commanded to do so in such places as Col. 3:16 or Eph. 5:19.

**2. The Psalms Illustrate the Gospel:** We have no pictures of God or even of the Lord Jesus Christ; in fact, pictures of God are explicitly forbidden by Him. But the psalms provide illustrations of what Christ accomplished. In Psalm 22, for example, there is richly portrayed the extent of Christ’s suffering. Or think about Psalm 75,

which we sang last Lord's Day, there is powerfully illustrated for us what we deserve (i.e. the Lord's wrath pictured as a cup of foaming wine), yet we remember how in the Garden the Saviour was willing to drink the cup of wrath down to its very dregs to spare us from it (Mark 14:36 cf. Rev. 14:10, 16:19) so we could drink the cup of blessing (1 Cor. 10:16).

**3. The Psalms Remind us of *Our History*:** As Christians we are sons of God by faith in His Covenant promise. The Covenant promise dates back to the days of Abraham, Noah, and Adam: that God would save His people through faith rather than their own works. Every instance of God's salvation and redemption in the Old Testament not only testified to God's faithfulness to His word, but also prepared the people for God's final act of salvation in His Son. So when we sing of the blessing of Israel or of Zion, we're speaking of God's blessings to us, the Israel of God (Gal. 6:16). We're not fixated on a small ethnic group or city in the middle east; when we sing about Zion or Israel, we are rejoicing that the promises of God made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob have not only come to pass, but that even *we* have been grafted in and been made partakers in those covenant blessings by grace through faith in Christ (Rom. 11:19) even as we look forward to the Heavenly Zion coming to earth when the dwelling place of God will be with His people forevermore (Rev. 21:3). As we sing the psalms, we remember God's faithfulness in the past and have confidence in His continued mercies to and care for His saints now until His return.

**4. Songs for All Seasons:** John Calvin called the psalter "an anatomy of all parts of the soul," and indeed it is. The psalter has songs and prayers for every season and situation of life. There are very few hymns written for hard times, times of depression, loneliness, oppression, and sadness. But there are many psalms given by God for us to sing in such occasions. Additionally there are words and ideas in the psalter that make us blush to sing them sometimes and were they not given by inspiration of the Holy Spirit, our cultural context might make us think such words are "sub-Christian." But God has given us the psalter for us to sing those words back to Him even if we may not fully understand His purposes in giving us such songs to sing and prayers to pray.

Presbyterians are part of the Reformed Faith, which is described as such because our forefathers desired to have their religion "re-formed" after the pattern seen in the Scripture rather than merely the traditions of men. Likewise in Reformed Worship, we are continually looking to the Scripture to tell us how to worship God, and what better way to do that than to sing the very hymns (psalms!) He has given to us?

# ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY 7, 2021

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MASK POLICY:

Masks are **required** for the 9:15 a.m. Service

The only exceptions are those actively leading a portion of the service and persons ten and under.

Masks are **recommended** for the 10:45 a.m. Service and 6 p.m. Evening Worship

For more information please visit the church website: [www.fpfo.org/Mask21.pdf](http://www.fpfo.org/Mask21.pdf)

**What About Nursery?** Young children are *always* welcome in worship! Yes, even noisy ones. Yet, if parents prefer there is a nursery available in the lower level of the “new” building. We regret - due to the public health situation - the nursery is not staffed, but the 10:45 a.m. service is live-streamed to the nursery.

- + Wednesday night activities resume on site February 10 with prayer meeting at 6:30 and teaching time at 6:50. Those wishing to join the prayer meeting virtually can find the link available on the church website.
- + Officer nomination forms are available on the table outside the auditorium. Completed forms may be submitted in the offering plate or to the church office.

### Help Needed!

New floor will be installed soon in the Library. Can you stay and help with furniture removal after Wednesday night activities?

### Keep up with the church in her worship and work:

- + Sign up for text message alerts and updates by texting FPFO to 84576.
- + If you are able to support the church in her worship and work, you can do so by placing your offering in the plate at the auditorium doors, mailing a check to the church office or by giving online: [www.FPFO.org/give](http://www.FPFO.org/give).
- + Weekly livestream services can be found on the church website: [FPFO.org/live](http://FPFO.org/live).

## FPFO Weekly Activities Schedule

### The Lord's Day

9:15 a.m. Morning Worship  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School\*  
10:45 a.m. Morning Worship\*  
5:00 p.m. Sermon Broadcast  
WAAK 94.7 FM  
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship  
(except First Sundays)

### Wednesday

6:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting\*  
6:50 p.m. Classes & Studies  
“All to God's Glory” (adults)\*  
“The Life of David” (young men)  
“Difficult Problems” (young women)  
“KidsQuest” (young children)

\*Also available remotely: [www.FPFO.org/live](http://www.FPFO.org/live)