

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fort Oglethorpe, Ga. | www.FPFO.org | 706.866.2521 | 1 Harker Road

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP | THE LORD'S DAY | NOVEMBER 14, 2021 | 10:45 A.M.

## The Announcements

*Please submit your prayer requests and/or record your attendance at worship with us:*



## \*The Call to Worship

~ God's People Respond to His Call to Worship ~

\*The Psalm of Praise No. 6 ...*"O Come, My Soul, Bless Thou the Lord"* (Psalm 103)

## \*The Prayer of Adoration

\*The Confession of Faith .....Heidelberg Catechism No. 1

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. *That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has delivered me from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, also assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.*

~ God Calls His People to Confess their Sins ~

The Call to Confession .....Matthew 3:1-2

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

## The Confession of Sin

*Almighty God, Creator of the heavens and the earth, Redeemer of Your people, we come in humble confession of our sins because You have promised to forgive us on the merits of Christ, Your only Son, the Lamb of God who covers our iniquities.*

*You alone know how often we have offended You and injured others.*

*Forgive us, O Lord, for every irreverent thought, for every untrue word, for every unkind act, for our neglect of prayer, for every selfish use of money, and for forgetfulness of our sacred vows.*

*O God, have mercy upon us and heal us, and enable us by Your Holy Spirit to walk after the example of Christ, our Lord and King. In His name we pray,*

## The Silent Confession

~ God Assures His People of His Covenant Mercies ~

## The Assurance of Pardon .....1 Peter 2:24

Christ Himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By His wounds you have been healed.

~ We Respond to God's Grace with Offerings of Ourselves and Our Needs ~

## \*The Hymn of Thanksgiving No. 197 .....“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”

## The Encouragement to Give .....Matthew 6:25–26

Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

## The Great Prayer .....Elder David Bosshardt

## \*The Psalm No. 139.....“O LORD, You See and Search My Life”



1. <sup>1</sup>O LORD, you see and search my life; you know me through and through.
2. <sup>5</sup>You hem me in be - hind, be - fore; on me you lay your hand.
3. <sup>9</sup>If I should take the wings of dawn and dwell be - yond the sea,
4. <sup>12</sup>Yet ev - en dark - ness is not dark to you in an - y way;



<sup>2</sup>Be - fore a word is on my tongue, be - hold, it's known to you.  
<sup>6</sup>Such knowl - edge is too won - der - ful, too high to un - der - stand.  
<sup>10</sup>e'ven there your hand my guide would be, your right hand hold - ing me.  
for dark - ness is as light to you, the night as bright as day.

<sup>3</sup>My go - ing out and ly - ing down are plain be - fore your view.  
<sup>7</sup>Where can I from your Spir - it flee or from your pres - ence go?  
<sup>11</sup>If I should say, "The dark will sure - ly hide me from your sight,  
<sup>13</sup>For you, O LORD, cre - a - ted me; you wove me on your loom.

<sup>4</sup>Be - fore I speak a word, O LORD, it is well known to you.  
<sup>8</sup>In heav'n a - bove, LORD, you are there, or deep in death be - low.  
and all the light sur - round - ing me be - come as dark as night."  
My in - most be - ing you have formed with - in my moth - er's womb.

SERMON NOTES

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I. **Introduction**: Why does John emphasize the greatness of Christ so much?

II. **Main Argument**

**A. The Question**

1. **Testimony**: In contrast to the other evangelists (Gospel writers), what is the primary focus of the Baptizer’s ministry for John?

2. **The Delegation**

a. What is meant by *the Jews*?

b. What is behind or motivating their question?

3. **Application**: *Those entrusted with spiritual authority ought to be diligent to monitor what is going on in the church*

**B. The Denials**

1. **Lack of Ambiguity**: What is strange about the way John introduces the Baptizer’s testimony?

2. **The Christ**: Why was First Century Judea rife with speculation and anticipation about messianic and eschatological matters?

a. What does *christ* mean? What sort of people bore that title?

b. What is expected by the Hebrews about *the Christ*?

3. **Elijah (v. 21)**

a. Why were the Jews right to be looking for Elijah?

b. Does John contradict Jesus here?

4. The Prophet (v. 21): What is the difference between a *prophet* and *the prophet*?

**5. Application**

a. *The Need for Spiritual Humility*

b. *The Danger of Law-Based, Transactional Religion*

**C. The Affirmation (vv. 22-23)**

1. Desperate request (v. 22)

a. In what way is this a proper question?

b. **Application**: *When can we begin to be filled?*

2. Identity Revealed (v. 23)

a. How does the New Testament enrich God's people's understanding of God's promises in Isaiah?

b. How does John minimize his own significance?

c. **Application**: *In what way does John have an end of life perspective?*

**D. The Answer (vv. 24-28)**

1. Contingent (vv. 24-25): Who is asking this question?

2. Greatness of Christ (vv. 26-27):

a. What is significant about the way John records the Baptizer's explanation as different from that of the other evangelists?

b. What's wrong with taking off somebody's sandals?

**c. Application: *The Danger of Mere Religious Focus***

3. Geography: Why is it significant for John that this takes place in Bethany?

**III. Conclusion**

~ God's People Respond in Praise ~

\*The Hymn of Commitment ..... "My Heart is Filled with Thankfulness"

~ God Blesses His People ~

1. My\_ heart is filled with thank-ful-ness to Him who bore my pain; Who plumbed the depths of  
heart is filled with thank-ful-ness to Him who walks be - side; Who floods my weak-ness  
heart is filled with thank-ful-ness to Him who reigns a - bove; Whose wis - dom is my

6  
my dis - grace and gave me life a - gain; Who crushed my curse of sin-ful - ness and  
es with strength and caus-es fears to fly; Whose ev - 'ry prom-ise is e - nough for  
per fect peace, whose ev - 'ry thought is love. For\_ ev - 'ry day I have on earth is

clothed me in His light, and wrote His law of right - eous - ness with  
 ev - 'ry step I take; Sus - tain - ing me with arms of love and  
 gi - ven by the King. So — I will give my life, my all, to

15

pow'r u - pon my heart.  
 crown - ing me with grace. 2.My —  
 love and fol - low Him. 3.My —

**The Benediction**

**\*The Response ..... "The 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.*

**NOVEMBER 2021 FINANCIAL REPORT**

Oct. Expenses:	\$12,588.31	Oct. Budget:	\$23,196.88
Oct. Income:	\$19,206.19		
Oct. Net Income:	\$6,617.88		
2021 Ord. Expenses:	\$192,038.76	YTD Budget:	\$231,968.80
2021 Ord. Income:	\$221,240.07		
2021 Net Income:	\$29,201.31*		

\*Note: financial figures now only reflect ordinary income and expenses. In reports for previous months, unrealized investment gains and/or losses were considered.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR NOVEMBER 14, 2021

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MASK POLICY:

The back two rows of the middle section are reserved for people wearing masks (covering mouth and nose) for the entirety of the worship service while seated or standing there. The service is also live-streamed to the adult Sunday school room for those observing greater masking and distancing protocols.

- + Today is the last day to have your picture made by Andrew Keller for the new pictorial directory. If you have not had your picture made, please see him after worship today.

## *An Evening of Fellowship, Thanksgiving, and Praise*

**Tuesday, Nov. 23 Supper @ 5:45 | Thanks & Praise 6:30**

*In this busy week at the start of a busy season of the year, let us pause together as a congregation and unite to reflect on God's goodness to us as we express our gratitude to God with one another.*

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

- + Sign up for text message alerts and updates by texting **FPFO** to 84576.
- + To subscribe to the prayer list, please contact the church secretary: [office@fpfo.org](mailto:office@fpfo.org).
- + Contributions may be received by placing your offering in the box at the auditorium doors, mailing a check to the church office, or online: [FPFO.org/give](http://FPFO.org/give).

### **FPFO Weekly Activities Schedule**

#### **The Lord's Day**

9:30 a.m. Fellowship Time  
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\*  
(excluding First Sundays)

#### **Wednesday**

5:55 p.m. Covered-Dish Supper  
6:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting  
6:30-7:30 p.m. KidsQuest (children)  
6:50-7:30 p.m. Classes & Studies  
*The Kings of Israel* (adults)\*  
*The Life of David* (young men)  
*Galatians* (young women)

\*Livestream available at [www.fpfo.org/live](http://www.fpfo.org/live)

**Children are always welcome in worship, but a nursery is also available for children 3 and under.**

Nursery Nov 14: Julia Porter

Nursery Nov. 21: Beth Rowan