

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP | THE LORD'S DAY | MARCH 19, 2023 | 10:45 A.M.

The Announcements

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



The Introit.....“The Strife Is O’er, the Battle Done”

*The Call to Worship

*The Hymn of Praise No. TH77.....“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

*The Prayer of Adoration

*The Confession of FaithThe Heidelberg Catechism No. 58

Q. How does the article concerning *life everlasting* comfort you?

A. *Even as I already now experience in my heart the beginning of eternal joy, so after this life I will have perfect blessedness such as no eye has seen, no ear has heard, no heart has ever imagined: a blessedness in which to praise God eternally.*

~ God Calls His People to Confess Their Sins ~

The Call to ConfessionEzekiel 18:30–31

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die?

The Confession of Sin

Holy and merciful Father, we acknowledge and confess before you our sinful nature, our sinful thoughts, our sinful words, and our sinful deeds. Our sicknesses and diseases derive from Adam's sin and our own.

We often forget your love and your commandments; we often grieve and quench your Spirit.

But O Father, we cry to you for mercy, for saving faith, for cleansing faith, and for healing faith for our souls.

Help us to glory in the promises of your gospel, that we may live in freedom from condemnation. Help us to walk according to your precepts, that we may live in your light and love. All this we ask on the basis of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

*Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion. Praise the LORD,
O my soul. Ps. 103:22*

Unison

1. Praise, my soul, the King of heav-en, to his feet your
2. Praise him for his grace and fa-vor to our fa-thers
3. Fa-ther-like, he tends and spares us; well our fee-ble
4. Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour-ish, blows the wind and
5. An-gels, help us to a-dore him; you be-hold him

trib-ute bring; ran-somed, healed, re-stored, for-giv-en,
in-dis-tress; praise him, still the same for-ev-er,
• frame he knows; in his hands he gent-ly bears us,
it is gone; but while mor-tals rise and per-ish,
face to face; sun and moon, bow down be-fore him,

who, like me, his praise should sing? Al-le-lu-ia!
slow to chide and swift to bless. Al-le-lu-ia!
• res-cues us from all our foes. Al-le-lu-ia!
God en-dures un-chang-ing on. Al-le-lu-ia!
dwell-ers all in time and space. Al-le-lu-ia!

Al-le-lu-ia! Praise the ev-er-last-ing King.
Al-le-lu-ia! Glo-rious in his faith-ful-ness.
• Al-le-lu-ia! Wide-ly as his mer-cy goes.
Al-le-lu-ia! Praise the High E-ter-nal One.
Al-le-lu-ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

The Silent Confession

~ God Assures His People of His Covenant Mercies ~

The Assurance of PardonEzekiel 36:25-26

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

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

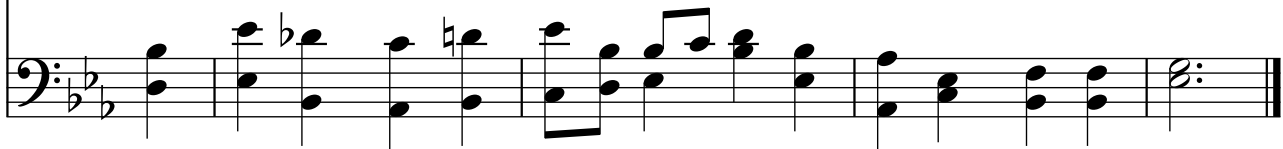
*The Psalm of Thanksgiving No. 4 "Give Ear, God of My Righteousness"



1. ¹Give ear, God of my right-teous-ness, my com- fort in dis- tress.
2. ²The glo- ry of my name, O men, how long will you de- spise?
3. ³But know the LORD has set a- part the god- ly as his own;
4. ⁴Be an- gry, yet from sin de- part; con- sid- er and be still.
5. ⁶"O who can show us an- y good?" I hear so man- y say.



- Dis- play your mer- cy now to me, and an- swer my re- quest.
How long will you de- lude your- selves, still search- ing af- ter lies?
• the LORD will hear me when I call and my re- quest make known.
⁵Pre- sent a righ- teous sac- ri- fice, and wait up- on his will.
Now shine your light up- on us, LORD; re- veal your face, we pray.



6. ⁷You filled my heart with greater joy than others may have found, as they rejoiced at harvest time, when grain and wine abound.
7. ⁸In peace, I will lie down and sleep; my heart will rest secure, for you alone, O gracious LORD, will keep me safe and sure.

The Encouragement to Give & Offering.....2 Corinthians 8:9

You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ: though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

The Great PrayerElder David Bosshardt

***The Psalm No. 63....."O God, You are My God Alone"**

1. ¹O God, you are my God a - lone; with ea - ger -
2. ²I've seen you in your ho - ly place; your pow'r and
3. ⁴I bless you, Lord, through - out my life and raise my
4. ⁶I lie a - wake up - on my bed, re - mem - b'ring
5. ⁷For you have been my help, O God; I sing for

ness I seek your face. My soul and bod - y
glo - ry held my gaze. ³Your love is bet - ter
• hands to you in prayer. ⁵My joy - ful lips will
you be - fore it's light; on you, my God, I
joy be - neath your wings. ⁸Your right hand holds and

thirst for you, as in a dry and wea - ry place.
far than life, and thus my lips will sing your praise.
• sing your praise; my soul is fed with rich - est fare.
med - i - tate, through - out the watch - es of the night.
strength - ens me; to you my soul for safe - ty clings.

SERMON NOTES

A. Return (vv. 7-8)

1. Devotion (v. 7)

- a. Why are there so many time markers here?

- b. How does Jesus demonstrate His devotion to Lazarus and his family?

- c. Why is returning to Judea perceived as a risk to Jesus' health?

2. Safety (v. 8)

- a. Why are the disciples *aghast* at Jesus determining to return to Judea?

- b. **Application: *Beware producing excuses from duty.***

- c. **Application: *The spiritual benefits of danger and risks...***

B. Fear (vv. 9-10)

1. Light of the World

- a. How does Jesus rebuke the obsession with safety?

- b. What does He mean by *twelve hours*?

2. Fear of Whom

- a. How does the fear of God liberate from the tyranny of fear?

- b. What general principles for all believers are applicable here?

- c. Where is the way of safety always?

C. Comfort (vv. 11-13)

1. The Faithfulness of Jesus (v. 11)

a. Our Friend...

b. Fallen Asleep...

c. I Go to Awaken...

2. The Obtuseness of the Disciples (vv. 12-13)

a. Where are the disciples fixated?

b. **Application: *Fear becomes its own hermeneutic***

D. Irony

1. Clarity (v. 14)

2. Purpose (v. 15): What is shocking about what Jesus says?

a. What is Jesus' purpose?

b. What is the relationship between God's glory and the good of His people?

3. Devotion (v. 16)

a. How is Thomas different here from his more familiar appearance?

b. How will the disciples fail to measure up to the call Thomas gives?

c. How has the Saviour provided comfort even in this failure?

*The Hymn of Commitment No. 498 "Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!"

*The Benediction

*The Response No. 735 "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.*

Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!

A friend of ... "sinners." Matt. 11:19

1. Je - sus! what a Friend for sin - ners! Je - sus! lov - er of my soul;
 2. Je - sus! what a strength in weak - ness! Let me hide my - self in him;
 3. Je - sus! what a help in sor - row! While the bil - lows o'er me roll,
 4. Je - sus! what a guide and keep - er! While the tem - pest still is high,
 5. Je - sus! I do now re - ceive him, more than all in him I find;

friends may fail me, foes as - sail me, he, my Sav - ior, makes me whole.
 tempt - ed, tried, and some - times fail - ing, he, my strength, my vic - t'ry wins.
 • e - ven when my heart is break - ing, he, my com - fort, helps my soul.
 storms a - bout me, night o'er - takes me, he, my pi - lot, hears my cry.
 he hath grant - ed me for - give - ness, I am his, and he is mine.

REFRAIN

Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior! Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Friend!

Sav - ing, help - ing, keep - ing, lov - ing, he is with me to the end.

A prayer group is being formed in which requests can be submitted and information can be relayed during the week to those who want to pray for Family and Friends at FPFO. If you are interested in being a part of this or have a prayer request to submit, please email fpfowicprayer@proton.me or speak with Shay Henshall. More info will be given soon.

Communicants Class Forming in April

Determining if your child is at an age and level of understanding where she or he is ready to attend a communicants class is not always easy. Thankfully, there are some helpful signs to look for in your child that will show he or she has the spiritual maturity to comprehend the discussion.

Have you seen the following in your child?

- She or he is asking questions about the Lord's Table and what is needed to participate;
- She or he is able to pay attention and participate in the worship service without toys, games, coloring, or other diversions for young children;
- She or he is displaying an awareness of his or her own sinfulness and asking questions about Jesus, salvation, and forgiveness.

If your child is showing those signs, that is a blessed indication that he or she is perhaps ready to join a communicants class and consider what it means to come to the Lord's Table with the rest of the congregation.

If she or he is not showing these signs, then it's probably a time to both wait for the next communicants class and be intentional in the way you talk about Jesus and the things of God at home with him or her to prepare for the next time the class is offered.

In the communicants class, the elders will be helping the children to reason through the Scriptures to know who Christ is to them and for them and how the Lord's Supper confirms and assures Christ's benefits to the faith of believers.

If you are interested in enrolling your child in the communicants class, please talk to one of the ruling elders.

FPFO GAME NIGHT

March 31, 2023

6:00 p.m. @ FPFO

Open to all; sponsored by FPFO Youth.

Bring your own games or join with others!

“I think we delight to praise what we enjoy because the praise not merely expresses but completes the enjoyment; it is its appointed consummation. It is not out of compliment that lovers keep on telling one another how beautiful they are; the delight is incomplete till it is expressed. It is frustrating to have discovered a new author and not to be able to tell anyone how good he is; to come suddenly, at the turn of the road, upon some mountain valley of unexpected grandeur and then to have to keep silent because the people with you care for it no more than for a tin can in the ditch; to hear a good joke and find no one to share it with. . . . The Scotch catechism says that man’s chief end is ‘to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.’ But we shall then know that these are the same thing. Fully to enjoy is to glorify. In commanding us to glorify Him, God is inviting us to enjoy Him.”

- Clive Staples Lewis

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MARCH 19, 2023

- + Additional members are needed on Wednesday night to help with the elementary age children. Please let one of the elders know if you are interested in serving.
- + There is hope to expand the outreach at the Crossing Apartments to a weekly ministry. If you are willing or interested in serving in this way, please talk with Joseph Wilson or David Bosshardt.
- + The Lord's Supper will be observed as part of evening worship this Lord's Day.
- + The 40th Anniversary Committee meets immediately following morning worship.
- + The Moms Encouragement Group will meet March 23 at 12:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided for moms along with child care and activities for ages 2 and older.
- + There will be no Sunday school April 9, 2022 in light of the Annual FPFO Congregation Brunch. Please bring something "brunchy" to share.
- + All the ladies of the church are invited to a brunch on April 22 at 10:30 to hear from Jennie Landrath of Choices Pregnancy Center.

Keep Up With the Worship & Work of the Church

- + 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.
- + Contributions may be received by placing your offering in the plates, mailing a check to the church office, or online: [FPFO.org/give](https://www.fpfo.org/give).

Announcements for the bulletin are due weekly on Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m. and must be emailed to office@fpfo.org.

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

9:00 a.m. Ladies' Prayer Meeting
5:55 p.m. Covered-Dish Supper
6:45-7:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting
6:30-7:30 p.m. *KidsQuest* (children)
6:45-7:30 p.m. Youth Class
The Gospel of John
On First, Third, and Fifth Wednesdays
there is outreach at the Crossings Apts.

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

Nursery March 19: R. Wilson & T. Keller

March 26: B. Rowan & M. Tuggle