FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia Morning Worship

The Lord's Day | February 28, 2021 | 9: 15 & 10:45 a.m. 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



- 5. Ye who confess Christ's holy name, to God give praise and glory! Ye who the Father's pow'r proclaim, to God give praise and glory! All idols underfoot be trod, the Lord is God! The Lord is God! To God all praise and glory!
- 6. Then come before his presence now and banish fear and sadness; to your Redeemer pay your vow and sing with joy and gladness: Though great distress my soul befell, the Lord, my God, did all things well. To God all praise and glory!

*The Prayer of Adoration

- 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.

The Confession of Sin

Most holy and merciful Father: we acknowledge and confess before You our sinful nature - which is prone to evil and slothful in good - and all our many sins and offenses. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from Your ways, in wasting Your gifts, and in forgetting Your love. But, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

We are ashamed and sorry for all the ways we have displeased You. Teach us to hate our errors, cleanse us from secret faults, and forgive our sins for the sake of Your dear Son.

And O, most holy and loving Father, help us, we beseech You to empower us to live in Your light and walk in Your ways according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Silent Confession

~ God Answers His People and Speaks in the Scripture ~



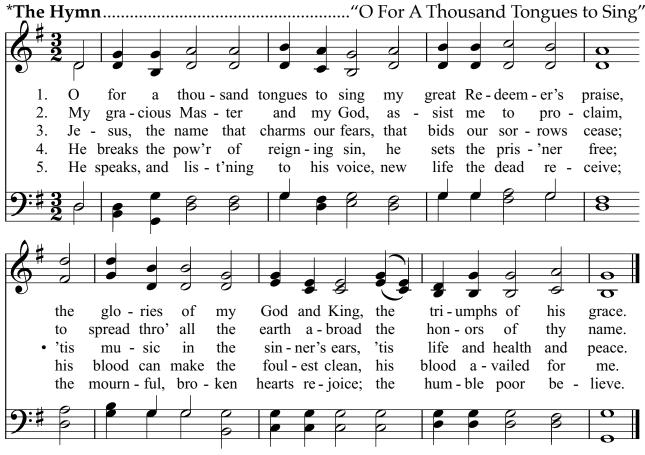
You shall give to him freely, and your heart shall not be grudging when you give to him, because for this the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake.

~ God's People Call to 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) the church office.





- 6. Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb, your loosen'd tongues employ; ye blind, behold your Savior come; and leap, ye lame, for joy.
- 7. To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever giv'n; by saints below and saints above, the Church in earth and heav'n.

~ God Answers His People and Speaks in the Scripture ~ The SermonRev. Ryan Biese

"Book of the Covenant: Laws for Life" | Exodus 21:12-36

- I. Introduction
 - A.Since the "Book of the Covenant" is not an exhaustive law code, what is it designed to do for Israel?

B.What legal principles undergird the applications of the Law here?

1.Equal ______ for All

2.Intent _____

3.Punishments are ______ not merely _____

II. Main Argument

A. Capital Crimes (vv. 12-17)

- 1. <u>Capital Punishment</u>: Why does God institute capital punishment?
- 2. <u>Premeditated Murder (vv. 12-14)</u>: Why is human life sacred?
 - a. How does this ordinance show the greatness of God?
 - **b.** Is everyone who commits homicide supposed to be executed?
 - c. What are Israel's judges to investigate according to Num 35?
 - **d.** *Abiding Principle No. 1*: not all homicide is the same in God's sight and should likewise be treated differently

- e. *Abiding Principle No. 2*: God delights in justice and Christians should not participate in vigilante mobs, but allow due process to run its slow course.
- **3.** <u>Assault on Parents (vv. 15, 17)</u>: Which of the Ten Commandments are these ordinances addressing?</u>
 - a. What does the verb translated *strike* mean?
 - **b.** Why is an adult child merely cursing or shaming his or her parent such a grave offense? What sort of behavior is this?
 - c. <u>Application</u>: Why are the punishments for this so severe?
 - **d.** *Abiding Principle No. 3*: God's people ought to show respect for their parents: honoring them and covering their faults.
- **4.** <u>Manstealing (v. 16)</u>: How does this ordinance differ from comparable rules in other Ancient Law Codes?</u>
 - a. How does the punishment's severity cripple trade in slaves?
 - **b.** *Abiding Principle No. 4*: The dignity of mankind as God's Image entitles all men to freedom such that any person who *unlawfully* deprives his neighbor of freedom assaults God's dignity and freedom and is no longer worthy of life.

B. Crimes of Personal Injury

- 1. Assault on Neighbor (vv. 18-19)
 - a. How is this an equitable system and show Israel's Law Code was not dependent on the Law Codes of their neighbors, but divinely given?

- b. How does this illustrate the principle of restorative rather than retributive justice and punishment?
- c. *Abiding Principle No. 5*: We must take responsibility when we unjustly do violence to our neighbor.
- 2. Assault on Slave (vv. 20-21, 26-27): Is corporal punishment evil?
 - a. What limits does God place on a master's authority?
 - b. Is the Bible teaching slaves are mere chattel, mere possessions?
 - c. Why would a slave be freed if s/he suffered permanent harm?
 - d. *Abiding Principle No. 6*: All people are entitled to the dignity and respect of their persons because they bear God's Image.
- 3. <u>Assault on Bystanders (vv. 22-24)</u>: How does God illustrate the way judges are to handle injuries to innocent bystanders?
 - a. What is the standard for the fine imposed on the guilty?
 - (1) What did even the pagans surrounding Israel recognize?
 - (2) Is it the job of Christians to step up and do the job of the State in instances in which the State has failed to do its duty?
 - b. What is the "Eye for an Eye" standard designed to do and how is it often misused and abused?

- (1) *Abiding Principle No. 7*: God desires justice in society with punishments that fit the crimes and aim for restoration.
- (2) **<u>Application</u>**: How does the principle of "eye for an eye" remind us to show mercy because of our own need of it?
- (3) **<u>Application</u>**: Does Jesus repeal "eye for an eye" in Matt. 5?

C. Crimes of Negligence (vv. 28-26)

- 1. <u>Abiding Principle No. 8</u>: We are responsible both for the injuries we ought to have prevented as well as the ones we actually cause.
- **2.** <u>Animals (vv. 28-32, 35-36)</u>: When is an animal's owner culpable for a death caused by his animal?</u>
- **3.** <u>Construction (vv. 33-34)</u>: how is the way we improve our property to show regard for the lives of our neighbors and their own wealth and outward estates?</u>
- **4.** <u>Restoration</u>: How do all these ordinances and principles point us forward to the work of the Lord Jesus Christ on our behalf?

The Hymn of Commitment......""My Song Is Love Unknown"



- 6. In life, no house, no home my Lord on earth might have; in death, no friendly tomb but what a stranger gave. What may I say? Heav'n was his home, but mine the tomb wherein he lay.
- 7. Here might I stay and sing, no story so divine; never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine.
 This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend.

*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.

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ECCLESIASTES: what really matters? Evening Worship | Starting March 14

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY 28, 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

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.

- +We welcome to Dr. Steve Davenport back with us at the piano bench. This evening we will welcome Dr. Scott Finch at the piano. In evening worship the sermon will be from Luke 19:1-10, "A Short Study in Repentance."
- +Today is the last day officer nominations will be received; if you wish to nominate someone, please place a completed nomination form in the offering plate after you discuss the it with your nominee.

We offer our Christian sympathy to the family of *Martha Kent* who went to be with the Lord on February 23. She was buried in Adairsville, Ga. on Thursday.

A memorial service will be planned at later date

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.

The Lord's Day

FPFO Weekly Activities Schedule Wednesday

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) 6:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting* 6:50-7:30 p.m. Classes & Studies All to God's Glory (adults)* The Life of David (young men) Is God Great & Good (young women) KidsQuest (young children)

*Also available remotely: www.FPFO.org/live