

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP | THE LORD'S DAY | DECEMBER 18, 2022 | 10:45 A.M.

The Announcements

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



The Prelude

*The Call to Worship

*The Hymn of Praise No. 196 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

*The Prayer of Adoration

The Presentation of New Members: Tim and Cheryl Haynes

- + Biblical Explanation
- + Vows of Membership
- + Prayer
- + Benediction

*The Confession of Faith The Heidelberg Catechism Nos. 46-47

Q. What do you mean by saying, *He ascended to heaven?*

A. *That Christ, while his disciples watched, was taken up from the earth into heaven and remains there on our behalf until he comes again to judge the living and the dead.*

Q. But isn't Christ with us until the end of the world as he promised us?

A. *Christ is true man and true God. In his human nature Christ is not now on earth; but in his divinity, majesty, grace, and Spirit he is never absent from us.*

~ God Calls His People to Confess Their Sins ~

The Law of God Exodus 20:1-2, 16

And God spoke all these words, saying, "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery... You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor"

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

196

Waiting for the consolation of Israel. Luke 2:25

1. Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
 2. Joy to those who long to see thee, Day-spring from on high, ap - pear;
 3. Come to earth to taste our sad - ness, he whose glo - ries knew no end;
 4. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
 come, thou prom - ised Rod of Jes - se, of thy birth we long to hear!
 by his life he brings us glad - ness, our Re - deem - er, Shep - herd, Friend.
 born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
 O'er the hills the an - gels sing - ing news, glad tid - ings of a birth;
 Leav - ing rich - es with - out num - ber, born with - in a cat - tle stall;
 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear De - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
 "Go to him, your prais - es bring - ing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."
 this the ev - er - last - ing won - der, Christ was born the Lord of all.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

The Confession of Sin

Our Creator and Redeemer, your spoken word brings order, beauty, and light where there is chaos, emptiness, and darkness. We thank you for the power of your word in creating the world and in making us a new creation in Christ.

We confess that our words are often riddled with falsehood, misrepresentation, and manipulation. Our lips lie and produce death rather than life, rivalry rather than friendship, and blame rather than repentance.

We twist, distort, and dodge the truth in order to justify ourselves, protect our interests, or tear down others. Our love for appearing right has come at the expense of the truth and of the reputation of our fellow image-bearers. Lord, may we love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

Forgive us for our words that spread lifelessness and which dishonor you. May the word of Christ dwell in us richly so that the words of our mouth and the meditations of our heart please you, our Rock and our Redeemer. In the name of Jesus Christ, Word made flesh, we pray.

The Silent Confession

~ God Assures His People of His Covenant Mercies ~

The Assurance of PardonPsalm 130:7-8

O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

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

*The Psalm of Thanksgiving No. 18 "I Love you, LORD" (Psalm 18:1-6)

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some chords. Below the staff, there are four numbered lines of lyrics corresponding to the notes above them.

1. ¹ I love You, LORD! You are my strength:
2. ³ I call up - on the LORD for help,
3. ⁴ I was en - cir - cled by death's ropes,
4. ⁶ In my dis - tress I cried for help,

² The LORD, my rock, my fort, my pow'r,
 For wor - thy of all praise is He;
 And at de - struc - tion's flood, I feared.
 And begged the LORD, my God, to hear.

My God, my hid - ing place, my shield,
 And in this way I will be saved
⁵ The ropes of She - ol wrapped a - round;
 He from His tem - ple heard my voice;

My horn of safe - ty, and my tow'r.
 And res - cued from my en - e - my.
 Be - fore me snares of death ap - peared.
 My cry for help had reached His ear.

The Encouragement to Give 1 Peter 2:24

He 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.

The Great Prayer Pastor Ryan Biese

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*"The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins,"
declares the LORD. Is. 59:20*

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2. O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes, on
 3. O come, thou Rod of Jes - se, free thine own from Sa - tan's
 4. O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us by thy
 5. O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come and o - pen wide our

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here,
 Si - nai's height, in an - cient times didst give the law,
 • tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple save,
 draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
 heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that leads on high,

REFRAIN

un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 • and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
 and death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
 and close the path to mis - er - y.

man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

Latin antiphons, 12th cent.
 Latin hymn, 1710
 Tr. by John Mason Neale, 1851; alt. 1961

VENI EMMANUEL L.M.ref.
 Plainsong, 13th cent.
 Arr. by Thomas Helmore, 1856

SERMON NOTES

I. Introduction

A. How are the songs of Mary and Zechariah different?

B. What is the occasion of this hymn?

II. Main Argument

A. Blessing God (vv. 67-68)

1. Prophecy (v. 67): What question is Zechariah answering?

2. Praise (v. 68)

a. What two things characterize Zechariah’s praise?

b. Visitation: How is that term used in the Old Testament?

c. **Application: *Our praise of God should be specific.***

B. God’s Visitation (vv. 69-75)

1. Faithfulness in Salvation (vv. 69-70, 72-74): What is the significance of a horn?

a. Why is David’s house important?

b. What are the benefits of the covenant revealed in Christ?

c. **Application: *God’s promises are certain.***

2. Deliverance (v. 71)

a. How does Zechariah portray the completeness of God’s deliverance?

b. What sort of deliverance were the Jews expecting; how is this deliverance superior to such expectations?

3. Purpose (vv. 74b-75)
 - a. Why does Zechariah desire deliverance?
 - b. How is the deliverance Zechariah anticipates similar to that of the deliverance of Israel in the exodus from Egypt?
 - c. What is meant by *serve him*?
 - d. Character of the worship
 - 1) Without fear:
 - 2) Holiness and righteousness:
 - 3) All our days:

C. The Work of the Child (vv. 76-77)

1. Office & Calling (v. 76)

2. Message (v. 77)

3. Application: *The Kingdom Of God comes by gospel preaching.*

D. The Glory of the Sunrise (vv. 78-79)

1. Tender Mercy (v. 78): Why is this needed?

2. Visitation (v. 78): How does this fulfill what was promised in the blessing Aaron pronounced upon Israel?

3. Calling: What is His twofold mission?

III. Conclusion

~ God's People Respond in Praise ~

*The Hymn of Commitment....."Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending"

1. Lo! He comes, with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2. Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him,
 3. Ev - 'ry is - land, sea, and moun - tain,
 4. Now re - demp - tion, long ex - pect - ed,
 5. Yea, a - men! Let all a - dore Thee,

once for fa - vored sin - ners slain; thou - sand
 robed in dread - ful maj - es - ty; those who
 heav'n and earth, shall flee a - way; all who
 see in sol - emn pomp ap - pear! And His
 high on Thine e - ter - nal throne; Sav - ior,

thou - sand saints at - tend - ing swell the
 set at naught and sold Him, pierced, and
 hate Him must, con - found - ed, hear the
 saints, by men re - ject - ed, com - ing
 take the pow'r and glo - ry, claim the

tri - umph of His train. Al - le -
 nailed Him to the tree, deep - ly
 trump pro - claim the day: Come to
 with Him in the air. Al - le -
 king - dom for Thine own: O come

lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly
 judg - ment! Come to judg - ment! Come to
 lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 quick - ly, O come quick - ly, O come

lu - ia! God ap - pears on earth to reign.
 wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 judg - ment! Come to judg - ment, come a - way!
 lu - ia! See the day of God ap - pear!
 quick - ly! Al - le - lu - ia! Come, Lord, come!

*The Benediction

*The Response No. 735 "The Gloria Patri"

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 18, 2022

- + Sunday school and Midweek activities are on break December 18-January 4, 2023.
- + There is a Joint Officer Meeting December 21 at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
- + The Lord's Supper will be observed as part of Evening Worship tonight
- + On Jan. 8, 2023 FPFO & MTW Missionary TE David Stoddard will be preaching in morning worship and giving an update on his work in Berlin in Sunday school.
- + *Caroling at the Crossing*: after evening worship tonight. All are welcome to join in at the Crossing Apartments (across from Neighborhood Market & Fant Drive).

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://fpfo.org/give).

Next Lord's Day Evening:

Joint Worship at
Cornerstone OPC
1813 Long Street, Chattanooga

December 25 | 6:00 p.m.

Pastor Ryan Biese, Preaching
Luke 2:28-25, "Simeon's Song"

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
6:30 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)
Gospel of John (young women)

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

Dec. 18: E. Wilson & M. Tuggle

Dec. 25: E. Tuggle & A. Wilson