

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP | THE LORD'S DAY | JANUARY 29, 2023 | 10:45 A.M.

The Announcements

The Prelude

***The Call to Worship**

***The Psalm of Praise No. TH1“All People that on Earth Do Dwell” (Ps. 100)**

***The Prayer of Adoration**

***The Confession of FaithThe Heidelberg Catechism No. 53**

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.*

~ **God Calls His People to Confess Their Sins** ~

The Law of God.....Exodus 20:2–11

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

The Confession of Sin

O God, you have shown us the way of life through your Son, Jesus Christ.

We confess with shame our slowness to learn of him, our failure to follow him, and our reluctance to bear the cross. Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us.

We confess the poverty of our worship, our neglect of fellowship and of the means of grace, our hesitating witness for Christ, our evasion of responsibilities in our service, our imperfect stewardship of your gifts. Have mercy on us, Lord, and forgive us because of your covenant faithfulness through Jesus Christ.

The Silent Confession

~ God Assures His People of His Covenant Mercies ~

The Assurance of PardonGalatians 3:13–14

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”—so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

~ God Assures His People of His Covenant Mercies ~

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

*The Psalm of Thanksgiving No. 77.....“O God, Most Holy Are Your Ways”

5. ¹³O God, most ho - ly are your ways. What god is great like you?
6. ¹⁶The wa - ters saw you, O my God; they saw and were a - fraid.
7. The whole earth shook and trem - bled then, ¹⁹your path was thro' the sea.

¹⁴You are the God by wonders known, whose pow'r the na - tions view.
The ver - y depths be - came con - vulsed; ¹⁷the clouds poured down their rain.
Your way thro' might - y wa - ters led; your foot - prints none could see.

¹⁵Your peo - ple you re - deemed, O LORD, with your al - might - y arm;
The thun - der rolled a - cross the skies as light - ning bolts were hurled.
²⁰Your peo - ple, like a flock of sheep, you guid - ed ev - 'ry day;

the sons of Ja - cob, Jo - seph's seed, you saved them from all harm.
¹⁸Your thun - der in the wind was heard; your light - ning lit the world.
by Mo - ses' and by Aa - ron's hand you led them on the way.

The Encouragement to Give & OfferingDeuteronomy 16:16-17

They shall not appear before the LORD empty-handed. Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God that he has given you.

The Great Prayer.....Elder Nathan Bowers

***The Hymn No. 540“A Few More Years Shall Roll”**

SERMON NOTES

I. Introduction

II. Main Argument

A. The Door (v. 7)

1. Lack of Understanding: How does Jesus respond to the lack of understanding of His hearers?
 - a. How else are *door* metaphors used in the Scripture?
 - b. What other statements of Jesus in John’s Gospel parallel this?
2. Principal Point: On what are all souls fed?

B. The Trespassers (v. 8)

1. Trouble: What is the trouble with this statement?
2. Resolving the Trouble
 - a. How have people resolved the ‘trouble’ with what Jesus says here?
 - b. Ordinarily, who is the first person each day to enter the sheepfold?
3. Troublers: Who does the Saviour have in view as *thieves and robbers*?
4. **Application: *Jesus Christ is the only way to life, to God***

C. The Safety (v. 9)

1. Emphasis: What does the Saviour focus on as *the Door* here?
2. Those Who Enter
 - a. He will be saved...

b. He will go in and out

c. He will...find pasture

1) What is the “twofold advantage” of the gospel?

2) Do the elect ever stray?

d. **Application**: *Come in by Christ and be free.*

D. Contrast (v. 10)

1. **Deprivation**: What do thieves and robbers come to do?

a. How do we see this in human history?

b. Where do we see this in the history of the Church?

c. What are the motives?

d. **Application**: *False teachers are always deadly.*

2. **Abundance**: What has Jesus come to give?

III. Conclusion

*The Hymn of Commitment No. 172.....“Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder”

*The Benediction

*The Response No. 735“The Gloria Patri”

*Welcome to First Presbyterian Church! We are glad you've worshiped with us.
Please submit your prayer requests and/or record your attendance at worship with us:*



A History of the Presbyterian Church in Chattanooga to Fort Oglethorpe

OPENING UP OF THE NEW WORLD

Establishing contact with the Western Hemisphere began before the Protestant Reformation in Europe. Starting with the first voyage of Christopher Columbus in 1492 for the King and Queen of Spain, vast interest in the Americas spread quickly throughout Europe. The Age of Discovery brought with it pursuits of Gold, God and Glory. Columbus himself wrote about his desire to Christianize all peoples and recognized the hand of God in the provision. He wrote in a letter to the King and Queen:

"Who doubts that this illumination was from the Holy Spirit. I attest that he, the Spirit, with marvelous rays of light consoled me through the Holy Scriptures, encouraging me to proceed and continually, without ceasing for a moment, they inflame me with a sense of great urgency. Our Lord wished to perform the clearest miracle"

One hundred years later, the newly discovered Continent was being used to provide refuge for persecuted Christians and to offer a compelling, open opportunity to preach the Gospel where Christ was not known. Colonies of different denominations and sects were established. Puritans separating from the Anglican Church in the North East, in New England, Dutch and German Reformed in New York, Quakers in Pennsylvania, Catholics in Maryland, Baptists in Rhode Island. Among them others sought prosperity and fulfilled their colonial obligations to their sponsoring monarchs and entrepreneurs. Wherever they were, self-governance and worship of God were issues of importance to their societies. In applying the commands of Christ into their ways of life, the going into all their

spheres of influence to make disciples of Christ were concerns for all who followed Jesus. Concern for the Native Americans to hear the Good News of the Gospel lead evangelists and preachers deeper into the frontier. More intense zeal for seeing lost sinners saved had led to seminaries being established and ministers of the Gospel raised up on this continent and not from Europe. Reawakening of America with Christian response to relief from our individual sinful states through repentance and newness of life, preached openly by many evangelists, swept the country in two waves 1735-1743 and again 1795-1830. Influence from these periods have affected the Christian Church in the United States to this day. Interest in evangelism and missionary work increased. From this, the Gospel message made its way to the South Chickamauga Creek and the Tennessee River area of the American frontier, just up river from the place known at that time as Ross' Landing.

Students were taught to read the Bible in English in hope of them returning to their people to witness and preach the Gospel. Over the 20 years of its work, the Mission served about 300 people, all learning to read English, but a smaller number actually joining the Presbyterian Church at the Brainerd Mission.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COMES TO EARLY FRONTIER AMERICA, SOUTHEAST TENNESSEE



In 1817, the Brainerd Mission was established by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. The Board was supported by churches and their members from Protestant Reformed traditions

including Presbyterian, Congregationalist and German Reformed Churches. This was the largest and most important foreign missionary organization in the United States at that time. The Mission was initially named the Chickamauga Mission but within months was renamed in honor of David Brainerd (1718-1747), an American Presbyterian Minister who had devoted himself to ministering to Native Americans in New York and New Jersey until his death from Tuberculosis in 1748.

The Mission consisted of an old grist mill initially and was on land of John McDonald, a Scot trader and the maternal grandfather of John Ross who would eventually become Chief of the Cherokee Nation. John Ross had set up a trading post, a warehouse and a river ferry on the Tennessee River in 1816, downstream and over Missionary Ridge from where John McDonald had sold this land to the Mission. Over time and with the effort of many missionaries who came to serve the Mission, it developed to a functioning farm with many buildings. It included a school house and dwellings for boys and girls and a cemetery.

The cemetery still remains protected as a National Historic Site and can be seen off Brainerd Rd, though the rest of the Mission was engulfed by the building of East Gate Mall. Most of the graves are those of the missionaries, though David Brown, a Cherokee clergyman and English translator, and other Cherokee are buried there as well. The Mission site predated the founding of Chattanooga. It was strategically located on the bank of the South Chickamauga Creek and convenient to the local Cherokee town of Chickamauga and its people to whom they ministered. A separate school was also established for slaves of African descent. Students were taught to read the Bible in English in hope of them returning to their people to witness and preach the Gospel.

In 1838, though internally contested by the Cherokee, treaties with the US government, ceded lands East of the Mississippi River to the US Government and removal of the Native American Indians was accomplished, known as the Trail of Tears. On October 28, 1838 the



Mission officially closed. Some of those ministering to the Cherokee then went West to the Oklahoma Territory with them. Among these were Rev and Mrs. Ainsworth Blunt, who would later return to the area and move to Dalton and become its first Mayor and found First Presbyterian Church of Dalton. Another of the missionaries, Rev and Mrs. John Vail, would go West to the Oklahoma Indian Territory, but returned also and contributed to the founding of a permanent Presbyterian church here. The Brainerd Mission was at a distance from Ross' Landing where more settlement was taking place. Numbers of the remaining former missionaries to the Cherokee people moved to band together to worship God in the growing community through establishing a Presbyterian Church. 28 Believers held worship services in a building built for public gatherings, believed to be the first Christian worship service. The second week, June 28, 1840, four more were added to the original 28 and the first Communion service in the settlement was held. In the same building prominent members of the establishing community around Ross' Landing met to decide on the name "Chattanooga" as the town's name.

Other denominations would come to use the meeting house over time. The new town of Chattanooga granted land for the building of the first church, the Presbyterian Church. In 1845 a 30X60 ft building was build, the first church building in Chattanooga. Soon the first Sunday School in Chattanooga would begin in the same building.

A marker outside the First Presbyterian Church Chattanooga commemorates some of these historical events:

This church, founded June 21, 1840, by missionaries to the Cherokee Indians from the Brainerd Mission and others, is Chattanooga's oldest with record of its founding date. During the War Between the States, its building at 7th and Market streets was shelled by the Union Army and used as a hospital. During that time, the Reverend Thomas H. McCallie, pastor, ministered from his home one block west of here. Completed in 1910, this church building at the church's fifth location was designed by the noted New York firm of McKim, Mead, and White.

In 1981, the Medical Arts building, erected in 1928, was added as a part of the church. This church that began Chattanooga's first Sunday School, began many other Presbyterian churches in the area, and on January 17, 1926, while Dr. Joseph G. Venable was pastor, began a Sunday radio broadcast, among the longest running radio broadcasts in the United States. Three pastors- Dr. Jonathan W. Bachman, Dr. James L. Fowle, and Ben Haden - served over 120 years.

The establishing of a Presbyterian Church in Ft Oglethorpe that would eventually become FPF0 has these roots in the line of these historical events. This included the preaching of Dr James L. Fowle in the commissioning of Lakeview Presbyterian Church, our predecessor, in 1959. We will trace how God's hand guided the placing of His Church here, as we witness it in this place today, through His use of many people and many churches.



PLAN NEW CHURCH—Members of the church committee consisting of the Pastors of the Presbyterian Church are shown above in front of a proposed Presbyterian Church at Lakeview. A Sunday School will open at the Lakeview High School building on a proposed site. The first purchased for the proposed church building is on a lot near the high school. Left to right are: James Fowle, James A. Smith, Alex. H. Smith, Edward Newton, the Rev. Leonard Halliday, Donald Hoffman, Mrs. Ed Halliday and Miss Beulah Mae Smith. —(Photo by Bill Evans)

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR JANUARY 29, 2023

Announcements are due each week by Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. via office@fpfo.org.

- + Additional help is needed on Wednesday night to work with the elementary age children. Please let one of the elders know if you are interested in serving.
- + Additional help is needed in the nursery on Lord's Day mornings. Please let Mary Lou Wilson know if you are interested in serving. This opportunity is open to adults and teens.
- + The youth and adult Sunday school classes are combined this quarter. Next quarter the youth will be studying *The Identity and Attributes of God* taught by Joseph Wilson.
- + The Lord's Supper will be observed next week followed by a fellowship meal. All are invited to the fellowship meal and encouraged to bring a dish to share.

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).

28 for 28: Prayer in February

During the month of February, the men of the church are invited to do the "28 for 28" challenge: pray for 28 minutes a day each day for 28 days. If you are interested in receiving a packet with guidance, scripture passages, and helpful prayers, please sign up in the fellowship hall.

Contact Joe Wilson with questions.

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. Young Adult Study
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.

Jan 29: H. Rowan & C. Rowan

February 5: E. Wilson & M. Tuggle