

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP | THE LORD'S DAY | DECEMBER 15, 2024 | 10:45 A.M.

*The Call to Worship

*The Hymn of Praise No. 162“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

*The Prayer of Adoration

The Presentation of New Members: Tim & Dona Barnett

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

*The Confession of Faith.....The Westminster Larger Catechism No. 47

Q. How did Christ humble Himself in His conception and birth?

A. *Christ humbled Himself in His conception and birth, in that, being from all eternity the Son of God, in the bosom of the Father, He was pleased in the fullness of time to become the son of man, made of a woman of low estate, and to be born of her; with various circumstances of more than ordinary humiliation.*

The Call to ConfessionDeuteronomy 6:4–6

The Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, I am a sinner. Your Word and my heart confirm this to me. I have done that which you have forbidden and left undone what you have commanded. I have not loved you with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength. I have not loved my neighbor as myself. As judge of the whole earth, you would be just to condemn me. Yet in your love you sent Christ to bear the guilt of my sin and suffer my punishment. To him now I flee; forgive me for his sake, and by your Spirit help me to live in the light of his sacrifice, a life worthy of your name. Judge me not according to my work but according to your great mercy in Jesus Christ, my Lord. For in him I hope, and in him I come before you this day.

Of the Father's Love Begotten

*In the beginning was the Word... The Word was made flesh... and we beheld his glory,
the glory as of the only begotten of the Father. John 1:1, 14 KJV*

Unison



1. Of the Fa-ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be - gan to be,
2. O that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin, full of grace,
3. This is he whom heav'n-taught sing - ers sang of old with one ac - cord,
4. O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his prais - es sing;
5. Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost, to thee,

he is Al - pha and O - me - ga, he the Source, the End - ing he,
by the Ho - ly Ghost con - veiv - ing, bore the Sav - ior of our race;
whom the Scrip - tures of the proph - ets prom - ised in their faith - ful word;
all do - min - ions, bow be - fore him and ex - tol our God and King;
hymn, and chant, and high thanks - giv - ing, and un - wea - ried prais - es be,

of the things that are, that have been, and that fu - ture
and the babe, the world's Re - deem - er, first re - vealed his
now he shines, the long - ex - spect - ed; let cre - a - tion
let no tongue on earth be si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in
hon - or, glo - ry, and do - min - ion, and e - ter - nal

years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
praise its Lord, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small ... out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times. Mic. 5:2

1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie;
 2. For Christ is born of Mar - y; and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is giv'n!
 4. O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

a - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by:
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
 cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.

yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 And prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
 where meek souls will re - ceive him still, the dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el.

The Silent Confession

The Assurance of PardonColossians 2:13-15

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

*The Hymn of Thanksgiving No. 201“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

The Offering and Encouragement to Give.....Luke 2:10-11

And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

The Old Testament Reading.....Genesis 35:16-29

The Great Prayer.....Elder Wil Davis

*The Psalm No. 30“O LORD, I Will Extol You”

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "O LORD, I Will Extol You". It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is written in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble clef staff, with line numbers 1 through 5. The lyrics are: 1. O LORD, I will ex - tol you, for you have lift - ed me; 2. His ho - ly name re - mem - ber; you saints, the LORD now praise; 3. In pros - p'rous days I boast - ed, "Un - moved I shall re - main," 4. What prof - it if I per - ish, if I de - scend to death? 5. You turned my grief to danc - ing, from sack - cloth set me free.

my foes you kept from boast - ing and gloat - ing o - ver me.
⁵his an - ger lasts a mo - ment, his fa - vor all our days;
 • ⁷for LORD, by your good fa - vor my moun - tain you main - tained.
 Shall dust pro - claim your prais - es or speak your faith - ful - ness?
 You clothed me 'round with glad - ness; ¹²I shall not si - lent be.

²O LORD, my God, I plead - ed that you might heal and save;
 for though the tears of weep - ing may tar - ry for a night,
 • But when your face was hid - den, my heart was ter - ri - fied.
¹⁰O LORD, on me have mer - cy, and my pe - ti - tion hear;
 My soul will sing your prais - es, your name will I a - dore;

³you brought my soul from She - ol, re - stored me from the grave.
 there comes a shout of glad - ness when dawns the morn - ing light.
 • ⁸To you, O LORD, I plead - ed; for mer - cy, Lord, I cried.
 that you may be my help - er, in mer - cy, LORD, ap - pear.
 O LORD, my God, I thank you, both now and ev - er - more!

SERMON NOTES

A. Commission (vv. 15-17)

B. Glory (vv. 18-19a)

C. Calling (v. 19b)

~ We Respond to God Speaking in His Word ~

*The Hymn of Commitment No. 628.....“Come, My Soul, Thy Suit Prepare”

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.*

FPFO SPECIAL ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Wednesday, Dec. 18	Community Christmas Caroling 5:45 p.m. Covered Dish Supper 6:25 p.m. Caroling 7:45 p.m. Desserts & Hot Chocolate at the Church
The Lord's Day, Dec. 22	No Sunday School; Worship Schedule Unchanged
Wednesday, Dec. 25	No Midweek Activities
The Lord's Day, Dec. 29	No Sunday School; AM Worship Schedule Unchanged
The Lord's Day, Dec. 29	6:00 p.m. Joint PM Worship at Cornerstone OPC 1813 Long Street Chattanooga, Tennessee
Wednesday, Jan. 1	No Midweek Activities
Saturday, Jan. 11	9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study Begins
The Lord's Day, Jan. 5	Sunday School Resumes;
Wednesday, Jan. 15	6:30 p.m. Stated Session Meeting & WIC Meeting
Saturday, Jan. 18	Ladies Tea
The Lord's Day, January 26	Dr. Dennis Johnson Preaching in AM & PM Worship

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 box at the auditorium doors, mailing a check to the church office, or online: [FPFO.org/give](https://www.fpfo.org/give)

Knowing That Christ Is at the Father's Right Hand.

By Richard Sibbes edited by David B. MacKinnon

Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh, I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. Col. 1:24

Christ's ascension is a ground of contentment in all conditions. What if we lack comfort, houses, or anything on earth, when we have heaven provided for us, and glory provided for us in our Head? Will not any condition content a man in this world, who has such a glorious condition in the eye of faith to enter into? We should look up to heaven with comfort: Yonder is my Savior, yonder is a house provided for me.

Here we may lack comforts, we may be thrust out of house and home, out of our country and all; but all the world, and all the devils in hell, cannot thrust us out of heaven, nor dissolve or break the communion that is between Christ and us. Therefore, we should be content with any condition in this world. Christ is ascended into heaven, to keep a blessed condition for us.

Likewise, when we think of the troubles of this world, of the enemies we have here, we must often only think of Christ taken up to glory. But he first suffered, and then he entered into glory. We must be content to suffer first, and then be glorified. We were predestined to be conformed to Christ's image. Where stands our conformity? It is first in being humbled, and then being glorified. Christ entered into glory in this order, and will we think to come to heaven in another order than Christ did?

If we are in Christ, all that we suffer in this world, are sufferings of conformity that make us like our Head and fit us for glory. Our greatest humiliations, what are they in comparison to the humiliation of Christ? None was ever so low, and there is none so high. As he was the lowest in humiliation, so he is the highest in glory. When he was at the lowest, in the grave, not only dead, but under the kingdom and command of death, then he rose gloriously and ascended. Our lowest humiliations are forerunners of our advancement and glory.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

When the difficulties of life suggest that evil and chaos reign, we need to see that God occupies the throne in heaven and rules this world. Revelation: Hope in the Darkness by Scotty Smith reminds us that though these can be scary times, we have a champion Savior in Jesus Christ, who is with us and will one day make all things right.

Starting Saturday, January 11 | 9:00 a.m.
Contact Susan Wilson for more details.



To order the book in advance, please sign up with Margaret Davis.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 15, 2024

Announcements are due 5:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and must be **emailed** to **office@fpfo.org**.

- + Please answer God's call to worship this evening with us at 6:00 p.m. We will have our normal hymn sing to begin worship, so be ready with your requests! The Lord's Supper will be observed as part of worship tonight as well.
- + We are celebrating with John and Julia Porter on the coming birth of their baby. There will be a basket (running from 12/1/24 to 12/22/24) in the fellowship hall for those who'd like to give them diapers, wipes, gift cards, etc.
- + The Annual *Desserts and Caroling* returns December 18 at 6:25 p.m. Midweek Supper will start at 5:45 p.m. There are no other midweek activities this week.
- + Please see the updated calendar on page 6 in the bulletin for list of schedule changes and special activities during this season.
- + Andrew Keller will be here today and December 29 to take pictures for the updated member directory. All church members are encouraged to participate.

To record your worship with us or submit prayer requests, please scan the QR code with your phone, email the church office, or call 706-866-2521.



FPFO Weekly Activities Schedule

The Lord's Day

Wednesday

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)

5:55 p.m. Covered-Dish Supper

6:30-7:15 p.m. Prayer Meeting

6:30-7:15 p.m. Children's Song Class

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

Nursery: Dec.15 S. Taylor & A. Wilson

Dec. 22: B. Rowan & M. Tuggle