

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

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THE ORDER OF WORSHIP | THE LORD'S DAY | DECEMBER 29, 2024 | 10:45 A.M.

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## The Announcements

## The Prelude

## \*The Call to Worship

\*The Hymn of Praise No. 223.....“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”

## \*The Prayer of Adoration

\*The Confession of Faith.....The Westminster Larger Catechism No. 39

Q. Why was it required that the mediator should be Man?

A. *It was required that the mediator should be man, that He might advance our nature, perform obedience to the law, suffer and make intercession for us in our nature, have a fellow-feeling of our infirmities; that we might receive the adoption of sons, and have comfort and access with boldness unto the throne of grace.*

The Call to Confession .....Romans 8:3-4

## The Prayer of Confession

*O Lord our God, we are reminded of the Divine purpose for the incarnation: that His name was called Jesus because He would save His people from their sins. We are grieved that our condition was so sinful that it required nothing less than the death of the Son of God. We mourn over our fallen nature and our sins that proceed from it. We confess that in our flesh dwells no good thing. We have broken Your commandments in thought, word, and deed. We have committed sins of omission and commission. We have been lazy over heaven's concerns and selfish over our own. Even in our best efforts we find pride and self, “Wretched man that I am. Who will set me free from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord.” O Father, we thank You for His birth, His life, His death, His resurrection, and His ascension for sinners like us. In His redeeming name, we ask Your forgiveness and pardon.*

## The Silent Confession

223

## While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

*There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. Luke 2:8*

1. While shep - herds watched their flocks by night, all seat - ed  
 2. "Fear not," said he— for might - y dread had seized their  
 3. "To you, in Da - vid's town this day, is born of  
 4. "The heav'n - ly babe you there shall find to hu - man

on the ground, the an - gel of the Lord came down,  
 trou - bled mind— "glad tid - ings of great joy I bring  
 Da - vid's line, the Sav - ior, who is Christ the Lord,  
 view dis - played, all mean - ly wrapped in swath - ing bands,

and glo - ry shone a - round, and glo - ry shone a - round.  
 to you and all man - kind, to you and all man - kind.  
 and this shall be the sign, and this shall be the sign:  
 and in a man - ger laid, and in a man - ger laid."

5. Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith  
 appeared a shining throng  
 of angels praising God, who thus  
 addressed their joyful song,  
 addressed their joyful song:
6. "All glory be to God on high,  
 and to the earth be peace;  
 good will henceforth, from heav'n to men,  
 begin and never cease,  
 begin and never cease!"

# The Assurance of Pardon.....Jeremiah 31:33-34

For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

# \*The Psalm of Thanksgiving No. 9 ..... "Sing Praise to the LORD"

6. <sup>11</sup> Sing praise to the LORD, who in Zi - on does dwell;  
7. <sup>13</sup> LORD, see what I suf - fer from mal - ice and hate;  
8. <sup>15</sup> The na - tions are sunk in the pit they pre - pared;

A - mong all the peo - ples His great do - ings tell.  
Have mer - cy! O lift me a - way from death's gate;  
Their foot in the net that they hid is en - snared.

<sup>12</sup> When blood He a - ven - ges, His mem - 'ry is clear;  
<sup>14</sup> In gates of the daugh - ter of Zi - on I'll praise,  
<sup>16</sup> The LORD by His judg - ment has made Him - self known;

The cry of the poor nev - er fades from His ear.  
 Re - joic - ing in Your might - y pow - er to save.  
 He catch - es the wick - ed in snares of their own.

9. <sup>17</sup> The wicked to death's realm of darkness are brought;  
 All nations who would not keep God in their thoughts.

<sup>18</sup> Forgotten no longer the cause of the weak,  
 Nor perished forever the hope of the meek!

10. <sup>19</sup> Arise, LORD, that man may not make himself strong;  
 Let nations be judged in Your presence for wrong.

<sup>20</sup> O LORD, put Your fear and Your terror in them;  
 Let nations know truly that they are mere men.

**The Offering and Encouragement to Give .....James 1:17-18**

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

**The Old Testament Reading.....Genesis 37:2-28**

**The Great Prayer.....Elder Nathan Bowers**

**\*The Psalm No. 11 .....“The LORD Is My Refuge” (pp. 4-5)**

1. <sup>1</sup>The LORD is my ref - uge, how then can you say,  
 2. <sup>3</sup>“When e - vil pre - vails, they foun - da - tions re - move;  
 3. <sup>5</sup>The LORD looks on man with his all - search - ing eyes;  
 4. <sup>6</sup>The LORD will send judg - ment and pour out hot coals;

“O flee like a bird to your moun - tain a - way.  
 O what then, O what then, can righ - teous men do?”  
 his eye - lids ob - serve, and their con - duct he tries.  
 o'er all the un - god - ly his scorch - ing wind rolls.

<sup>2</sup>The god - less take aim with their bow and their dart,  
<sup>4</sup>Be sure that the LORD in his tem - ple on high,  
<sup>5</sup>The LORD tests the righ - teous who walk in his ways;  
<sup>7</sup>The LORD, ev - er righ - teous, his jus - tice por - trays;

like      sni - pers they shoot      at the up - right in heart.  
in      heav - en en - throned,      o - ver men casts his eye.  
his soul hates the wick - ed, who ter - ror em - brace.  
by grace all the up - right will look on his face.

The Sermon .....Pastor Ryan Biese

“Press On!” | Psalm 11 | p. 422 | *The Psalms: The Way of Life* No. 11

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SERMON NOTES

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**A. Plenty of Problems (vv. 1-3)**

1. Their Words (v. 1)
  
2. Their Actions (v. 2)
  
3. His Circumstances (v. 3)

**B. Power for Perseverance (vv. 4-7)**

1. God’s Location (v. 4)
  
2. God’s Observation (vv. 4-5)
  
3. God’s Actions (v. 6)
  
4. God’s Affections (v. 7)

~ We Respond to God Speaking in His Word ~

\*The Hymn of Commitment No. 257 .....“Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted”

The Benediction

\*The Response No. 735 .....“The Gloria Patri”

## FPFO SPECIAL ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

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, Jan. 19

Congregational Forum after Morning Worship

The Lord’s Day, Jan. 26

Dr. Dennis Johnson Preaching in AM & PM Worship

# 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.*

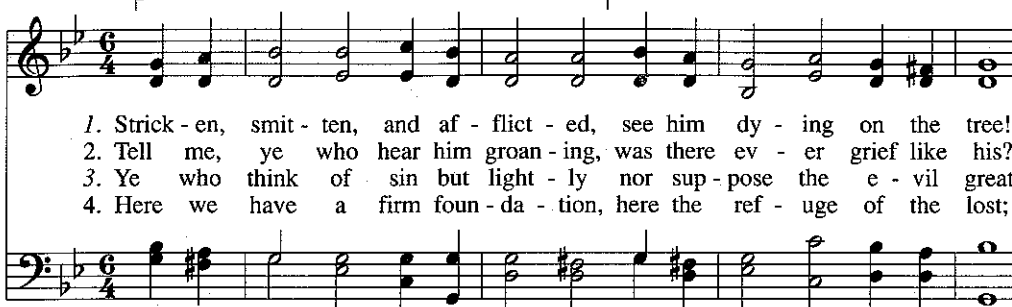
Starting Saturday, January 11 | 9:00 a.m.  
Contact Susan Wilson for more details.



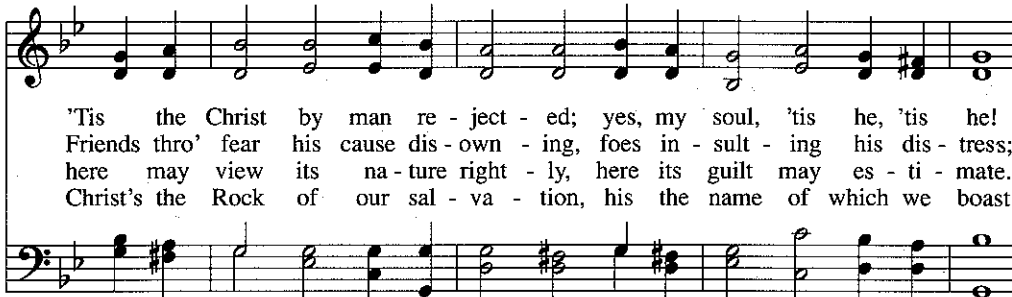
To order the book in advance, please sign up with Margaret Davis.

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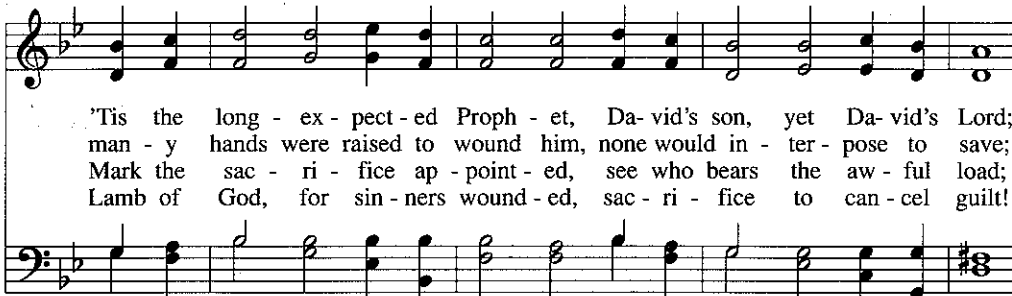
## Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted

*We considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. Is. 53:4*


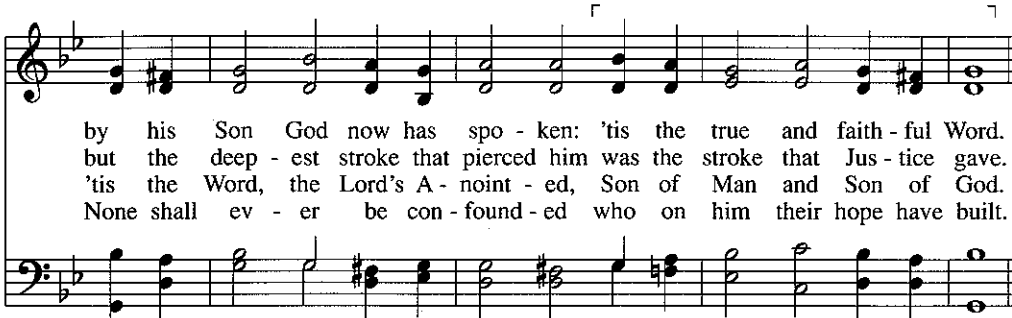
1. Strick - en, smit - ten, and af - flict - ed, see him dy - ing on the tree!  
 2. Tell me, ye who hear him groan - ing, was there ev - er grief like his?  
 3. Ye who think of sin but light - ly nor sup - pose the e - vil great  
 4. Here we have a firm foun - da - tion, here the ref - uge of the lost;



'Tis the Christ by man re - ject - ed; yes, my soul, 'tis he, 'tis he!  
 Friends thro' fear his cause dis - own - ing, foes in - sult - ing his dis - tress;  
 here may view its na - ture right - ly, here its guilt may es - ti - mate.  
 Christ's the Rock of our sal - va - tion, his the name of which we boast.



'Tis the long - ex - pect - ed Proph - et, Da - vid's son, yet Da - vid's Lord;  
 man - y hands were raised to wound him, none would in - ter - pose to save;  
 Mark the sac - ri - fice ap - point - ed, see who bears the aw - ful load;  
 Lamb of God, for sin - ners wound - ed, sac - ri - fice to can - cel guilt!



by his Son God now has spo - ken: 'tis the true and faith - ful Word.  
 but the deep - est stroke that pierced him was the stroke that Jus - tice gave.  
 'tis the Word, the Lord's A - noint - ed, Son of Man and Son of God.  
 None shall ev - er be con - found - ed who on him their hope have built.





# Ladies Tea

Join the women for a time of fellowship at the church.  
Please bring a brunch item to share. All ages are welcome.

January 18, 2025  
11:00 a.m.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 29, 2024

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

- + Please answer God's call to worship this evening with us at 6:00 p.m. We will be worshipping at Cornerstone OPC tonight; a refreshment reception will follow.
- + Sunday school and midweek activities are suspended until January 5, 2025.
- + Announcements for the Jan. 5 bulletin will be due *Tuesday* of next week rather than Wednesday. They must be emailed to *office@fpfo.org*.
- + Please see the updated calendar on page 6 in the bulletin for list of schedule changes and special activities during this season.
- + Andrew Keller is here to take pictures for the updated member directory. All church members are encouraged to participate.

## 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](mailto: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://FPFO.org/give)

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. 29: H. Rowan & E. Wilson

Jan. 5: M. L. Wilson & A. Bandy