

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP | THE LORD'S DAY | DECEMBER 8, 2024 | 10:45 A.M.

*The Call to Worship

*The Hymn of Praise No. 194 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

*The Prayer of Adoration

*The Confession of Faith The Heidelberg Catechism No. 45

Q. What are the outward and ordinary means whereby Christ communicates to us the benefits of redemption?

A. *The outward and ordinary means whereby Christ communicates to us the benefits of redemption are, His ordinances, especially the Word, sacraments, and prayer; all which are made effectual to the elect for salvation.*

The Call to Confession Exodus 20:1-17

The Prayer of Confession

Be gracious to us, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; according to the greatness of Your compassion, blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin. For we know our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us. Against You, You only, we have sinned, and done evil in Your sight. So that You are justified in Your speech, blameless in Your words, and altogether righteous in Your judgments. Behold, we were brought forth in iniquity, and in sin our mothers conceived us. Behold, You desire truth in the innermost being, and in the hidden parts You will make us know wisdom. Purify us with hyssop, and we shall be clean; wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow. Make us hear joy and gladness, let the bones which You have broken rejoice. Hide Your face from our sins, and blot out all our iniquities. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew steadfast spirits within us. In the Name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, we pray.

The Silent Confession

The Assurance of Pardon Matthew 1:18-23

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

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

194

*"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

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 Offering and Encouragement to Give.....1 Peter 4:7-10

The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.

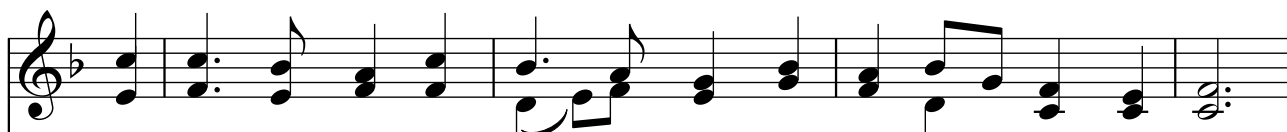
The Old Testament Reading.....Genesis 35:1-15

The Great Prayer.....Elder John Taylor

***The Psalm No. 107“O Thank the LORD” (pages 4-5)**

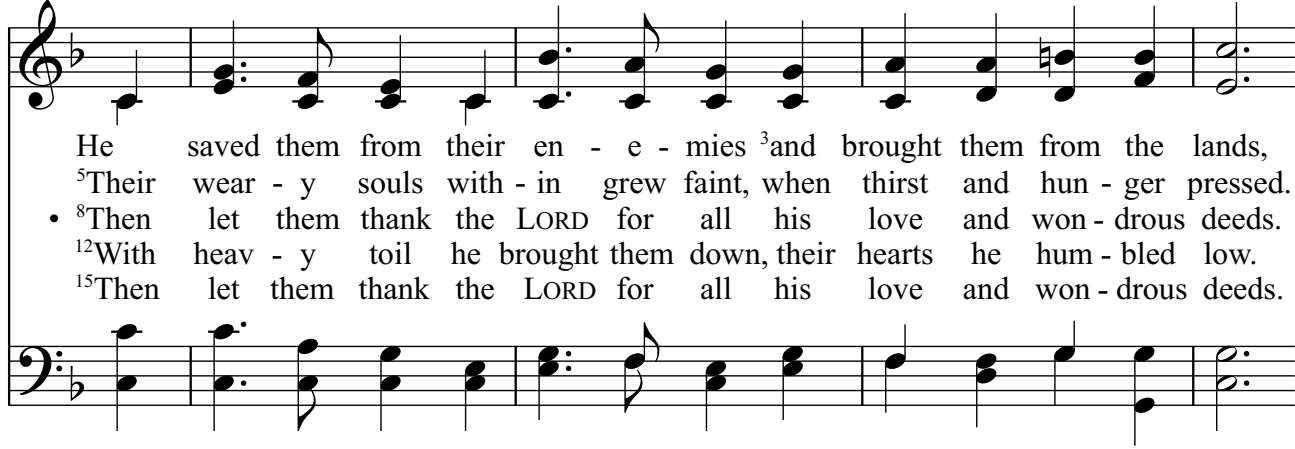


1. ¹O thank the LORD, for he is good; his mer - cy e'er en - dures.
2. ⁴Some wan - dered in the des - ert wastes, not find - ing an - y way
3. ⁷He made the way be - fore them straight, and he be - came their guide,
4. ¹⁰Some sat in death's dark shade of night, by chains in pris - on held;
5. ¹³They cried then to the LORD in grief; he saved them from dis - tress;

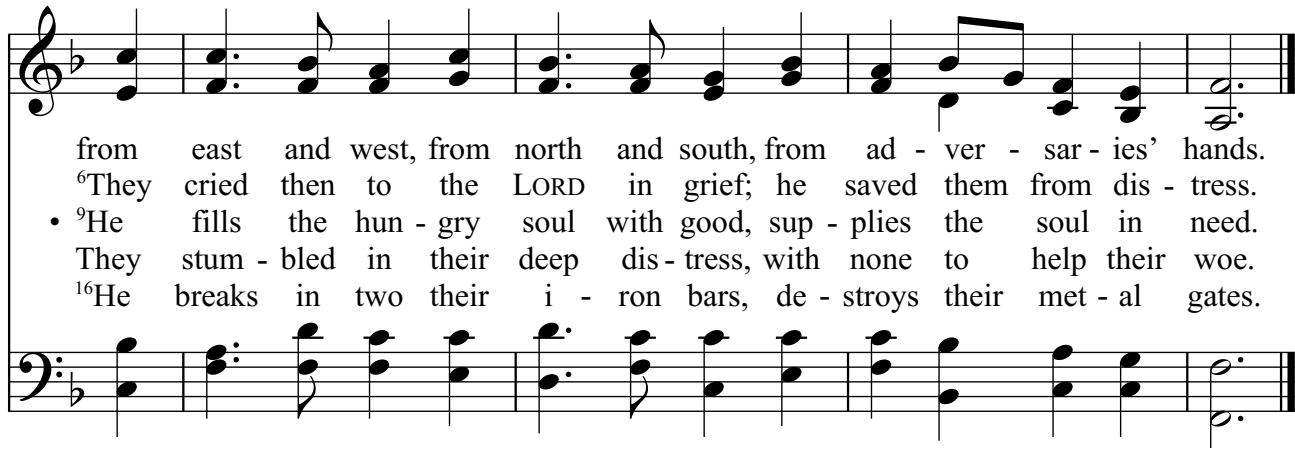


²So let the LORD's re - deemed ones say, the ones he saved from fear.
to reach a cit - y where they might ob - tain a place to stay.
• that they might to a cit - y go in which they would a - bide.
¹¹they scorned the ways of God Most High, a - gainst his words re - belled.
¹⁴he broke their chains, he saved from death; from dark - ness brought re - lease.





He saved them from their en - e - mies ³and brought them from the lands,
⁵Their wear - y souls with - in grew faint, when thirst and hun - ger pressed.
 • ⁸Then let them thank the LORD for all his love and won - drous deeds.
¹²With heav - y toil he brought them down, their hearts he hum - bled low.
¹⁵Then let them thank the LORD for all his love and won - drous deeds.



from east and west, from north and south, from ad - ver - sar - ies' hands.
⁶They cried then to the LORD in grief; he saved them from dis - tress.
 • ⁹He fills the hun - gry soul with good, sup - plies the soul in need.
 They stum - bled in their deep dis - tress, with none to help their woe.
¹⁶He breaks in two their i - ron bars, de - stroys their met - al gates.

- 6. ¹⁷Some strayed as fools in sinful ways; for sin they suffered pain.
- ¹⁸They loathed their food of ev'ry kind, to gates of death they came.
- ¹⁹They cried then to the LORD in grief; he saved them from distress.
- ²⁰He sent his word and it went forth to heal their wretchedness.

The Sermon **Pastor Ryan Biese**

“In Galilee” | John 21:1-14 | p. 853 | *Light Shines in the Darkness* No. 132

SERMON NOTES

A. Gone Fishing (vv. 1-3)

- 1. The Revelation

- 2. The Plan

B. Large Catch (vv. 4-8)

- 1. Enquiry

2. Command

3. Understanding

C. Abundant Provision (vv. 9-14)

1. Mercy

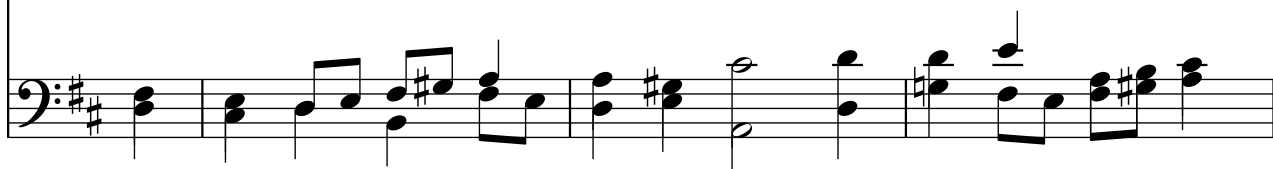
2. Ministry

~ We Respond to God Speaking in His Word ~

*The Psalm of Commitment No. 66....."O Shout to God with Joy, All Earth"

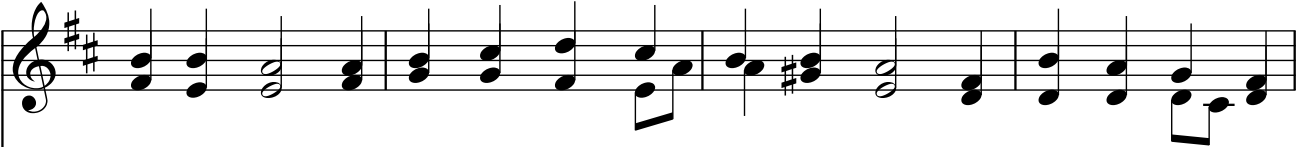


1. ¹O shout to God with joy, all earth, ²the glo - ry of his
2. ⁵O come and see what God has done; how awe - some in his
3. ⁸O peo - ples, bless our God and sound ⁹his praise, who makes our
4. ¹³I come with of - f'rings to your house; and there per - form to
5. ¹⁶Come, all who fear the Lord, draw near; what God has done for

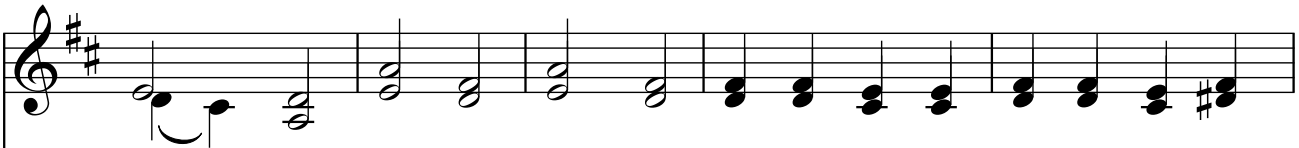


name sing forth, and give him glo - rious prais - es! ³Now say to God, "How
deeds to men is God a - mong the na - tions. ⁶He turned the sea to
• life a - bound and keeps our feet from fall - ing. ¹⁰Like sil - ver in a
you the vows ¹⁴my lips sin - cere - ly ut - tered. My mouth de - clared in
me, now hear: ¹⁷I cried to him and praised him. ¹⁸If sin took hold with -

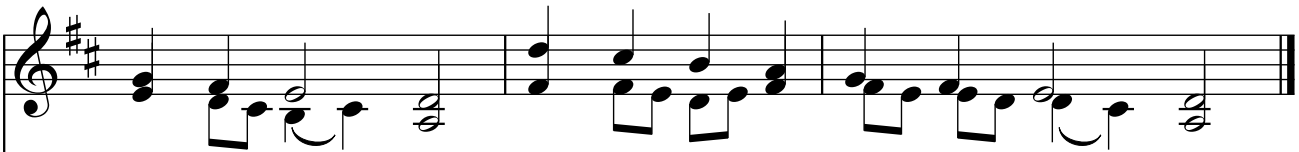




great your deeds, so great in pow'r, your en - e - mies will cringe be - fore your
 des - ert land; we crossed by foot on riv - er sand and there sang ju - bi -
 • fur - nace tried, you test - ed us and pur - i - fied; ¹¹you caught us in your
 suf - fer - ing that I will bring burnt of - fer - ings—the fat and choic - est
 in my heart, my pray'r the Lord would not re - gard, ¹⁹but tru - ly God has



pres - ence. ⁴Praise him! Praise him!—all the earth with voic - es ring - ing,
 la - tion. ⁷King for - ev - er, God in watch - ful ob - ser - va - tion
 • net - ting. You, Lord, crushed us—¹²fire and wa - ter came up - on us,
 crea - tures. ¹⁵Here I of - fer with the smoke of sac - ri - fic - es
 lis - tened. ²⁰Bless him! Bless him! God has not de - spised the need - y;



wor - ship bring - ing. Prais - es to your name they're sing - ing.”
 rules the na - tions. Let no reb - el rise a - gainst him!
 • men rode o'er us. Yet to boun - ty you have brought us!
 all my prais - es. Bulls and goats I bring in ser - vice.
 he has heard me. God has not re - moved his mer - cy!



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

Monday, Dec. 9	11 a.m. Winter "Over Sixties" Lunch & Music Program
Wednesday, Dec. 11	Regular Midweek Activities 5:55 p.m. Covered Dish Supper 6:30 p.m. Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m. Children's Singing Class
Friday, Dec. 13	7:00 p.m. Piano Recital for Studio of Diana Bowers Cookie Reception to Follow
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. 18	Ladies Tea

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

Think Often of the Incarnation of Christ

By Richard Sibbes edited by David B. MacKinnon

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life – the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us. (1 John 1:1-2)

To think of God absolutely, without God in the flesh, he is 'a consuming fire' (Heb, 12:29), every way terrible; but to think of God in our nature, we may, with boldness, securely go to him, as a brother. Think of God born of a virgin, of God lying in the cradle, sucking the breast!

Think of God going up and down teaching and doing all good! Think of God sweating for you, hanging on the cross, shedding his blood, lying in the grave, raising himself again, and now in heaven as our intercessor 'seated at the right hand of God' (Eph. 1:20).

To think of God alone swallows up our thoughts but to think of God in Christ, of God in the flesh is a comfortable consideration. To see the sun alone in itself, in the glory and lustre of it, it is impossible without hurting the eye; but to see the sun in water, or in an eclipse, we may do it. So, we cannot conceive of God alone, absolutely; but to conceive of God in our flesh is to look upon the sun as it were in the water. God tells Moses, None can ever see God and live (Exod. 33:20), that is, see God absolutely. Oh, but God, made manifest in our flesh, we may see; and it will be our happiness in heaven to see him there, to see 'God in our flesh face to face' (Exod. 33:11).

We cannot too often meditate on these things. It is the marrow of the gospel. It is the wonder of wonders. We need not wonder at anything after this. It is no wonder that our bodies will rise again; that mortal man should become immortal in heaven, since the immortal God has taken man's nature and died in it. All the articles of our faith and all miracles yield to this grand thing, 'God manifested in the flesh' (I Tim. 3:16).

Believe this and believe all other. Therefore, let us often have cherishing thoughts of God in our flesh, that it may strengthen and nourish our faith, especially in the time of temptation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 8, 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 next week.
- + The Winter "Over Sixties" Lunch will be Dec. 9 at 11:00 a.m. Please RSVP to Diana Bowers or sign up in the Fellowship Hall.
- + 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 will be no other midweek activities then.
- + 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 this week to take pictures for the new 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. 8: L. Bible & Sarah Wilson

Dec.15 S. Taylor & A. Wilson