

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP | THE LORD’S DAY | JULY 26, 2026 | 10:45 A.M.

The Announcements

The Prelude

*The Call to Worship..... Psalm 148:1-2

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the heights! Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts!

*The Psalm of Praise “From Heaven O Praise the Lord” (pg. 4-5)

*The Prayer of Adoration

*The Confession of Faith..... Westminster Larger Catechism Q & A 75

Q. What is sanctification?

A. Sanctification is a work of God’s grace, whereby they whom God hath, before the foundation of the world, chosen to be holy, are in time, through the powerful operation of His Spirit applying the death and resurrection of Christ unto them, renewed in their whole man after the image of God; having the seeds of repentance unto life, and all other saving graces, put into their hearts, and those graces so stirred up, increased, and strengthened, as that they more and more die unto sin, and rise unto newness of life.

The Call to Confession of Sin..... II Chronicles 7:14

If My people who are called by My name humble themselves, and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

The Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, in ourselves we are unworthy to come into Your presence, because of our many sins. We do not deserve any grace or mercy from You, if You dealt with us as we deserve. We have sinned against You, O Lord, and

we have offended You. And yet, O Lord, as we acknowledge our sins and offenses, so also do we acknowledge You to be a merciful God, a loving and favorable Father, to all who turn to You. And so, we humbly ask You, for the sake of Christ Your Son, to show mercy to us, and forgive us all our offenses. By Your Spirit, O God, take possession of our hearts, so that, not only the actions of our life, but also the words of our mouths, and the smallest thought of our minds, may be guided and governed by You. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with You and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen

The Silent Confession of Sin

The Assurance of Pardon Micah 7:18-19

Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of His inheritance? He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; He will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

***The Hymn of Thanks No. 500 “Rock of Ages”**

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

The Offering and Encouragement to Give Psalm 37:21-22

The wicked borrows but does not pay back, but the righteous is generous and gives; for those blessed by the LORD shall inherit the land, but those cursed by Him shall be cut off.

The Old Testament Reading Leviticus 25:23-28 & 35-55

The Great Prayer TE Jim Richter

***The Hymn of Preparation No. 181 “We Come, O Christ, to You”**

~ God Speaks to Us in His Word ~

The Sermon Rev. Jim Richter

“Wages of Sin or Free Gift of God” | Romans 6:15-23 | Pg. 887

~ We Respond to God Speaking in His Word ~

*The Hymn of Response No. 460 “Amazing Grace”

*The Benediction

*The Response No. 735 “The Gloria Patri”

Psalm 148A

1. ¹From heav'n O praise the LORD! On high the LORD O praise!

2. ⁵O let them glo - ri - fy the LORD's ma - jes - tic name;

3. ⁷From earth O praise the LORD, you deeps and all be - low,

4. ¹¹Let all the peo - ples praise, and kings of ev - 'ry land;

5. The LORD a - lone be praised a - bove the earth and sky!

LORD!

- fy

LORD,

praise,

praised

On high the LORD O praise!

the LORD's ma - jes - tic name;

you deeps and all be - low,

and kings of ev - 'ry land;

a - bove the earth and sky!

²All an - gels, praise ac - cord; let all his host give praise.

when he spoke from on high, they in - to be - ing came.

• ⁸wild winds that do his word, you clouds, fire, hail, and snow,

let all their voic - es raise who judge and give com - mand.

¹⁴He for his saints has raised a king to rule on high;

³Praise him on high, sun, moon, and star,
⁶And he ar - ranged where they should stand;
 • ⁹hills low and high, and ce - dars tall,
¹²By young and old, by girl and boy,
 so praise ac - cord, O Is - ra - el;

sun, moon, and star, ⁴you heav'ns a - far, and cloud - y sky.
 where they should stand by his com - mand can - not be changed.
 • and ce - dars tall, ¹⁰beasts great and small, and birds that fly.
 by girl and boy, ¹³his name with joy should be ex - tolled.
 O Is - ra - el, who near him dwell, O praise the LORD!

Book of Psalms for Worship, 2009

ST. CATHERINES 6.6.6.6.4.4.4.4.
 Horatio R. Palmer

Wages of Sin or Free Gift of God

Romans 6:15-23

Since the middle of Chapter 5, at Romans 5:12, through the end of Chapter 6, Paul has been declaring by divine inspiration that all of us are under the reign/dominion/servitude of one of two masters, either of sin or of God. Now in Romans 6:23 Paul brings the message home in eternal terms. “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Today we will look at the contrasts in this sentence, then consider the ultimate question that each of us faces.

1. The results received from the two masters
 - Sin - fruit of which ashamed – death
 - God – sanctification/good fruit – eternal life
2. The nature of the reception of the results from the two masters
 - Sin – wages
 - God – free gift
3. The Justice and Grace of God
4. Who is your lord?

"Discipleship is more a matter of hungering and thirsting than of knowing and believing. Jesus's command to follow Him is a command to align our loves and longings with His—to want what God wants, to desire what God desires, to hunger and thirst after God and crave a world where He is all in all—a vision encapsulated by the shorthand 'the kingdom of God.'" -James KA Smith, *You Are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit*

"It is always the Holy Spirit's work to turn our eyes away from self to Jesus. But Satan's work is just the opposite; he is constantly trying to make us look at ourselves instead of Christ. He insinuates, 'Your sins are too great for pardon; you have no faith; you do not repent enough; you will never be able to continue to the end; you do not have the joy of His children; you have such a wavering hold of Jesus.' All these are thoughts about self, and we shall never find comfort or assurance by looking within. But the Holy Spirit turns our eyes entirely away from self: He tells us that we are nothing, but that Christ is everything."

Charles Spurgeon

"Desire and delight are the two acts of love, distinguished only by the absence or presence of the object. When the object of love is absent, the soul desires it. When the object of love is present, the soul delights in it. The former is the soul's motion, whereas the latter is the soul's rest. Now, the incomparable God must have incomparable desires: panting, longing, and fainting (Pss. 42:1; 119:20, 40, 81). We must desire Him above all: "Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee" (Ps. 73:25). The incomparable God must also have incomparable delight: "Then will I go unto the altar of God, unto God my exceeding joy" (Ps. 43:4). Our souls must be ravished in the enjoyment of God (Song 2:4)." *George Swinnock, The Blessed and Boundless God*

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR JULY 26, 2026

Announcements due 5:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and must be emailed to secretary@firstpresfo.org.

- ❖ **The Lord's Supper** will be observed as part of worship next Lord's Day morning. A fellowship meal will follow in the fellowship hall. Please bring a dish to share.
- ❖ **Pictures** for a new church directory will be taken in July. Please see Andrew Keller after a morning service this month to snap a quick photo.
- ❖ **Operation Christmas Child** collection for July is 8-pack Crayola Crayons (because they don't melt) and small composition books.

Please note the new email address for church office for communications is: secretary@firstpresfo.org. The Session may be contacted via session@firstpresfo.org, and the Clerk of Session via clerk@firstpresfo.org.

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, contact the church secretary: secretary@firstpresfo.org.
- + Contributions may be received during the offering in worship, mailing a check to the church office, or online: FPFO.org/give

To submit prayer requests, please 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

6:00 p.m. Evening Worship
(excluding First Sundays)

5:55 p.m. Covered-Dish Supper

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

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

Nursery: **July 26:** E. Murphy & H. Rowan **August 2:** L. Bible & A. Wilson