

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP | THE LORD'S DAY | MAY 24, 2026 | 10:45 A.M.

The Announcements

The Prelude

*The Call to Worship Psalm 149:1-4

Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song, His praise in the assembly of the godly! Let Israel be glad in his Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King! Let them praise His name with dancing, making melody to Him with tambourine and lyre! For the Lord takes pleasure in His people; He adorns the humble with salvation.

*The Psalm of Praise "You Who to His Temple Throng" (pg. 4)

*The Prayer of Adoration

*The Confession of Faith Heidelberg Catechism Q & A #26

Q. What do you believe when you say: I believe in God the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

A. That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth and all that is in them, and who still upholds and governs them by His eternal counsel and providence, is, for the sake of Christ His Son, my God and my Father. In Him I trust so completely as to have no doubt that He will provide me with all things necessary for body and soul, and will also turn to my good whatever adversity He sends me in this life of sorrow. He is able to do so as almighty God, and willing also as a faithful Father.

The Call to Confession of Sin James 1:2-4

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

The Prayer of Confession

Holy God, You promised that suffering produces endurance, endurance character, and character hope. Yet, we confess that we often run from suffering and reject the endurance You call us to. When trials come, we complain rather than glory in them. Lord, we confess that we have often failed to show the character of Christ. We seek comfort over character and convenience over hope. We have doubted the love You have poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit. We confess that we are often hard-hearted, hesitant to trust You in the midst of our tribulations. We have not always rejoiced in the hope of Your glory, focusing instead on our immediate pain. Lord, have mercy on us. While we were still weak and ungodly, You showed Your love for us through Christ's death. Forgive us for living as though we are not fully loved or totally redeemed. Pour out Your love through the Holy Spirit into our hearts once again, that we may be filled with a hope that does not disappoint. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

The Silent Confession

The Assurance of Pardon I Peter 1:3-7

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

***The Hymn of Thanksgiving No. 605 "All the Way My Savior Leads Me"**

The Sacrament of Baptism of Joseph Asher Wilson

The Covenant Promises and Institution

The Questions to the Parents and Congregation

The Sign of the Covenant

The Prayer of Consecration

***The Baptismal Hymn No. 410..... “Lord Jesus Christ, Our Lord Most Dear”**

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

The Offering and Encouragement to GiveActs 20:35b

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He Himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’

The Old Testament ReadingLeviticus 11:1-12, 41-47

The Great Prayer.....RE Nathan Bowers

***The Hymn of Preparation No. 146..... “Break Thou the Bread of Life”**

~ God Speaks to Us in His Word ~

The Sermon..... Rev. Jim Richter

“More Than That, Rejoicing in Our Sufferings” | Romans 5:1-11 | Pg. 886

~ We Respond to God Speaking in His Word ~

***The Hymn of Response No. 529 “Love Devine, All Loves Excelling”**

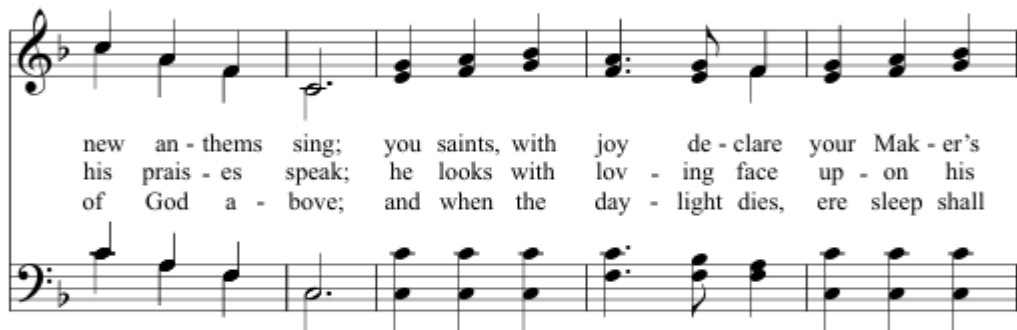
***The Benediction**

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

Ye Who His Temple Throng



1. You who his tem - ple throng, Je - ho - vah's praise pro - long,
2. O let his name em - ploy your ev - 'ry note of joy,
3. You saints, your joy pro - claim and glo - ry in the name



new an - thems sing; you saints, with joy de - clare your Mak - er's
his prais - es speak; he looks with lov - ing face up - on his
of God a - bove; and when the day - light dies, ere sleep shall



lov - ing care, and let the chil - dren there joy in their King.
cho - sen race, and will with ev - 'ry grace a - dom the meek.
close your eyes, let praise to God a - rise for all his love.

from Psalm 149
Psalter Hymnal, 1957

TRINITY (Italian Hymn) 6.6.4.6.6.6.4.
Felice de Giardini, 1769

Sermon Outline for May 24, 2026
More Than That, Rejoicing in Our Sufferings
Romans 5:3-8

In verses 1-2 of Romans chapter 5 the Apostle Paul has given three foundational results/benefits in the lives of those who have been justified by faith in the Gospel. These three benefits in the life of a believer provide a basis for strong assurance of our salvation, and of God's favor and love toward us. Now, in verses 3-6, the Apostle Paul by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit tells us that there is another, and perhaps even more wonderful evidence that God is really with us and for us. That is the way that we are enabled by God's grace to face, and even rejoice/glory/boast in our troubles, struggles, problems, and tribulations. People, and even Christians, often struggle with the occurrence of the realities of pain and suffering in life. So, the experience of joy in suffering is a great countercultural testimony of the reality of God's presence and power. Let's look at how this works its way out:

1. Four things we experience and know through trials and sufferings:
 - Suffering produces endurance
 - Endurance produces character
 - Character produces hope
 - God's love poured out in our hearts
2. How these four things are experienced.
3. The greatest proof of God's love.

How are we responding to our struggles?

SERMON NOTES

From Charles Spurgeon

I bear witness that the worst days I have ever had, have turned out to be my best days. In the same way, when God has seemed to be the most *unkind* to me, He has then been the most *kind*. If there is anything in this world for which I would thank Him more than for all else, it is for *pain* and *affliction*. I am sure that in these things, His richest and tenderest love has been most manifested towards me. I am certain that I have never grown in grace, one-half so much anywhere else, as I have upon the *bed of pain*. I have learned to kiss the *wave*, that throws me against the Rock of Ages. Affliction is the best piece of furniture in my house. It is the best *book* in a minister's library. Those who dive in the sea of affliction, bring up rare pearls. God's love letters are often sent in black envelopes. The *cloud* that is black with horror, is big with mercy. We may not ask for trouble; but if we were wise, we would look upon affliction as the harbinger of an unusually great blessing.

"My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor faint when you are reproved by Him; for those whom the Lord loves He disciplines, and He scourges every son whom He receives. Our earthly fathers disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share His holiness. All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, *afterwards* it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness."

(Excerpted from **Hebrews 12:5-12**)

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MAY 24, 2026

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

- ❖ **The Session** has prayerfully decided to delay officer training until after the Lord provides our next pastor. This will ensure that the new pastor is able to take part in preparing and equipping future officers. Thank you for your continued prayers for our church and for the man God is calling to serve here.
- ❖ The next **men's prayer breakfast** is Saturday, June 6 at 9am at the church. Please sign up on the bulletin board. Suggested donation of \$3 to cover food.
- ❖ **Operation Christmas Child** collection for May is small toy trucks and cars, and small round nerf balls.

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 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

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

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

Nursery: May 24: H. Rowan & E. Murphy May 31: M. Brande & A. Wilson