

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP | THE LORD'S DAY | JANUARY 21, 2024 | 10:45 A.M.

The Announcements

*The Call to Worship

*The Psalm of Praise No. 46.....“God Is Our Refuge and Strength” (pp. 2-3)

*The Prayer of Adoration

The Presentation of New Members: Timothy Murphy and Emilia Valenzuela

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

The Confession of FaithThe Westminster Larger Catechism No. 7

Q. What is God?

A. *God is a Spirit, in and of Himself infinite in being, glory, blessedness, and perfection; all-sufficient, eternal, unchangeable, incomprehensible, everywhere present, almighty, knowing all things, most wise, most holy, most just, most merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth.*

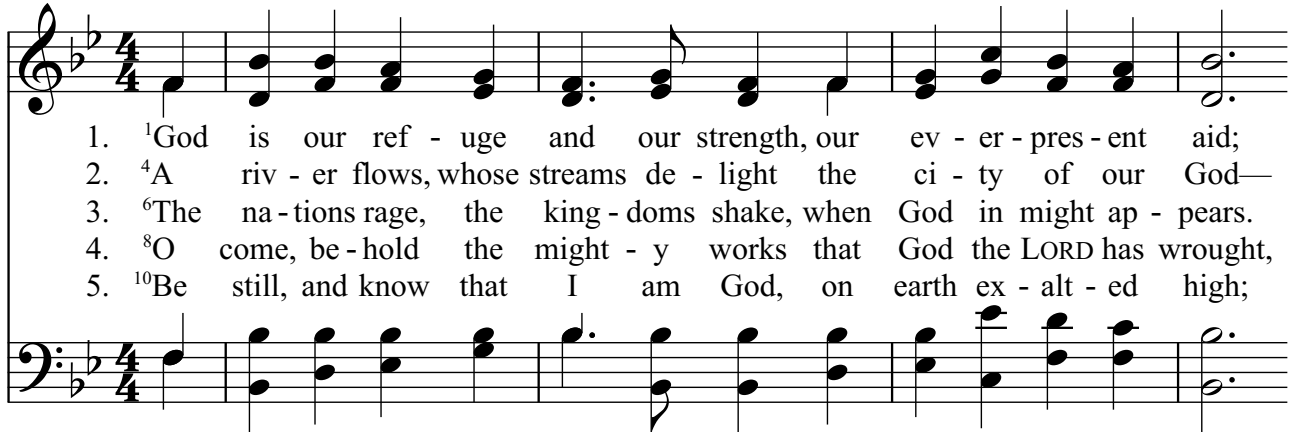
The Call to ConfessionPsalm 106:2–3

Who can utter the mighty deeds of the LORD, or declare all his praise?
Blessed are they who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times!

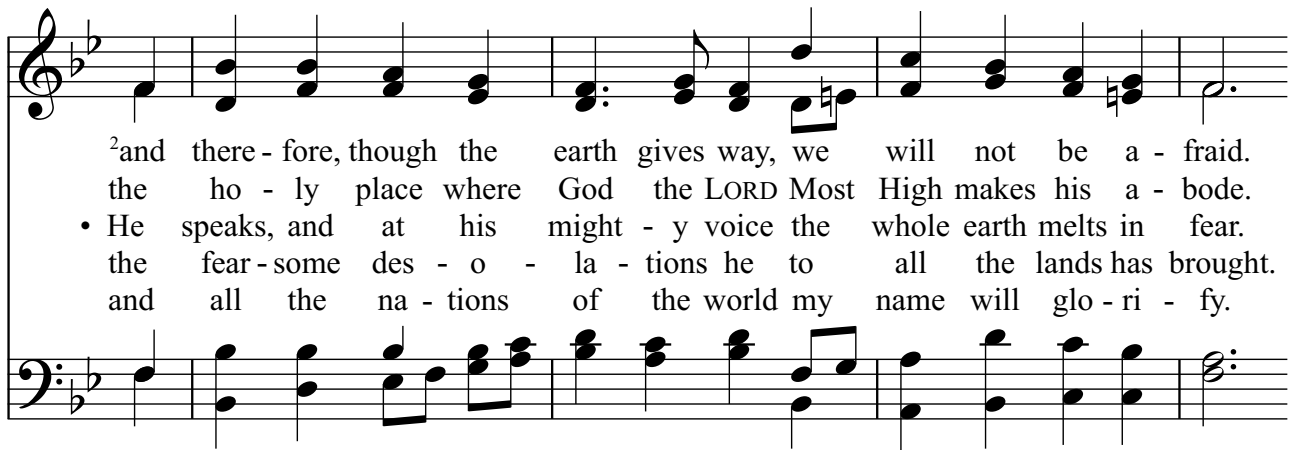
The Confession of Sin

O Lord God, who reigns on high ruling and defending the church, have mercy on us for our many sins against Your holy Law. We confess that we have neglected the weightier matters of the Law as we have followed our own desires, inventive traditions, and self-interest. Though You deserve pure worship, our hearts are often cold and indifferent to the beauty of holiness. Though our neighbors bear Your image, our hearts have been slow to move in response to the needs of even our closest family members and friends. Cleanse us of our defiling hypocrisy and self-centeredness, and grant that we would grow in grace and godliness as the Spirit teaches us how best to seek for the good of all, and especially those of the household of faith. In the Name of Christ, we pray.

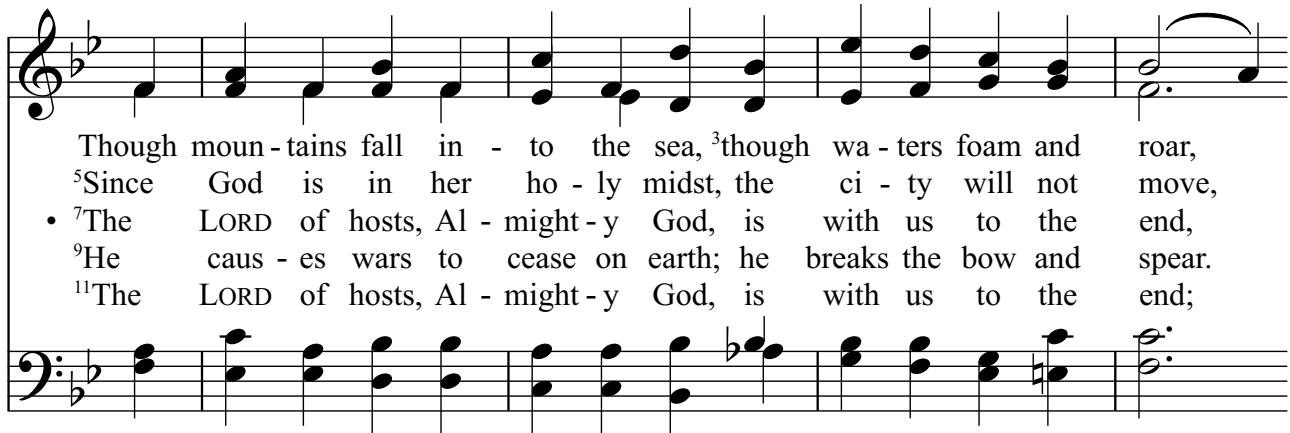
Psalm 46A



1. ¹God is our ref - uge and our strength, our ev - er - pres - ent aid;
2. ⁴A riv - er flows, whose streams de - light the ci - ty of our God—
3. ⁶The na - tions rage, the king - doms shake, when God in might ap - pears.
4. ⁸O come, be - hold the might - y works that God the LORD has wrought,
5. ¹⁰Be still, and know that I am God, on earth ex - alt - ed high;



²and there - fore, though the earth gives way, we will not be a - fraid.
the ho - ly place where God the LORD Most High makes his a - bode.
• He speaks, and at his might - y voice the whole earth melts in fear.
the fear - some des - o - la - tions he to all the lands has brought.
and all the na - tions of the world my name will glo - ri - fy.



Though moun - tains fall in - to the sea, ³though wa - ters foam and roar,
⁵Since God is in her ho - ly midst, the ci - ty will not move,
• ⁷The LORD of hosts, Al - might - y God, is with us to the end,
⁹He caus - es wars to cease on earth; he breaks the bow and spear.
¹¹The LORD of hosts, Al - might - y God, is with us to the end;

we will not fear, though mountains quake as waves engulf the shore.
 for God will come at break of day; her help-er he will prove.
 • the God of Ja - cob is for us a for - tress and de - fense.
 The LORD ig - nites the char - i - ots to burn in blaz - ing fire.
 the God of Ja - cob is for us a for - tress and de - fense.

The Silent Confession

The Assurance of Pardon.....Colossians 1:21-22

And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him.

***The Hymn of Response No. 498“Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!”**

The Encouragement to GiveMatthew 6:19-21

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The Offertory

The Great PrayerElder David Bosshardt

***The Psalm No. 139“Within the Womb You Knitted Me” (p. 4)**

Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!

A friend of ... "sinners." Matt. 11:19

1. Je - sus! what a Friend for sin - ners! Je - sus! lov - er of my soul;
 2. Je - sus! what a strength in weak - ness! Let me hide my - self in him;
 3. Je - sus! what a help in sor - row! While the bil - lows o'er me roll,
 4. Je - sus! what a guide and keep - er! While the tem - pest still is high,
 5. Je - sus! I do now re - ceive him, more than all in him I find;

friends may fail me, foes as - sail me, he, my Sav - ior, makes me whole.
 tempt - ed, tried, and some - times fail - ing, he, my strength, my vic - t'ry wins.
 • e - ven when my heart is break - ing, he, my com - fort, helps my soul.
 storms a - bout me, night o'er - takes me, he, my pi - lot, hears my cry.
 he hath grant - ed me for - give - ness, I am his, and he is mine.

REFRAIN

Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Sav - ior! Hal - le - lu - jah! what a Friend!

Sav - ing, help - ing, keep - ing, lov - ing, he is with me to the end.

6. ¹³With - in the womb you knit - ted me so fear - ful -
 7. ¹⁵When in the depths my frame was wrought, ¹⁶your eye did
 8. ¹⁷Your thoughts, O God, how man - i - fold, more pre - cious
 9. ¹⁹Oh, that the wick - ed you would slay! From men of
 10. ²¹Do I not hate your hat - ers, LORD? Those fight - ing

ly and won - drous - ly; ¹⁴I give my Mak - er
 see, and in your thought my life in all its
 • un - to me than gold! ¹⁸They num - ber more than
 blood I turn a - way; ²⁰they speak a - gainst the
 you have I ab - horred. ²²I hate them all most

thank - ful praise, whose won - drous works my soul a - maze.
 per - fect plan was or - dered ere my days be - gan.
 • all the sand; a - wak - ing, still I'm in your hand.
 name di - vine, ²²I count God's en - e - mies as mine.
 fer - vent - ly and count them as my en - e - mies.

11. ²³O search me, God, my heart discern,
 and try me, God, my thoughts to learn;
²⁴and lead me, if in sin I stray,
 to choose the everlasting way.

SERMON NOTES

I. Introduction

II. Main Argument

A. Chosen for Holiness (vv. 16-17)

1. Elected by Grace

2. Chosen to Go

3. Prayerfulness

B. Love and Hatred (vv. 17-19)

1. The Defining Visible Quality of God’s People

2. The Defining Quality of the World

3. Comfort in (enduring) Hatred

4. Applications

a. ***The World is Not Safe***

b. ***The World is Not Compatible with Christ***

c. ***Do Not Be Distraught by the World’s Hatred***

d. ***Do Not Respond with Hatred***

e. ***Are You Hated by the World?***

C. Reasons for the World's Hatred (vv. 19-21)

1. The World Loves Its Own

2. The World Hates Christ's Name

3. The World is Ignorant of God

4. Application

a. ***Persecution is a Hallmark of Christianity***

b. ***We Must Love Those in the World***

c. ***We must Never Be Discouraged or Surprised by Rejection***

III. Conclusion

*The Hymn of Commitment No. 707.....“Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken”

*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.*

707

Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. Mark 8:34

1. Je - sus, I my cross have tak - en, all to leave and fol - low thee;
 2. Let the world de - spise and leave me, they have left my Sav - ior too;
 3. Man may trou - ble and dis - tress me, 'twill but drive me to thy breast;
 4. Take, my soul, thy full sal - va - tion, rise o'er sin and fear and care;

des - ti - tute, de - spised, for - sak - en, thou from hence my all shall be.
 hu - man hearts and looks de - ceive me; thou art not, like man, un - true;
 life with tri - als hard may press me, heav'n will bring me sweet - er rest.
 joy to find in ev - 'ry sta - tion some - thing still to do or bear;

Per - ish ev - 'ry fond am - bi - tion, all I've sought or hoped or known;
 and, while thou shalt smile up - on me, God of wis - dom, love, and might,
 O 'tis not in grief to harm me while thy love is left to me;
 think what Spir - it dwells with - in thee, what a Fa - ther's smile is thine,

yet how rich is my con - di - tion, God and heav'n are still my own.
 foes may hate and friends may shun me; show thy face, and all is bright.
 O 'twere not in joy to charm me, were that joy un - mixed with thee.
 what a Sav - ior died to win thee: child of heav'n, shouldst thou re - pine?

5. Hasten on from grace to glory, armed by faith and winged by prayer;
 heav'n's eternal day's before thee, God's own hand shall guide thee there.
 Soon shall close thy earthly mission, swift shall pass thy pilgrim days;
 hope shall change to glad fruition, faith to sight, and prayer to praise.

FPFO | Summary of Session & Board of Trustees Actions | 2023

- Session established a policy regarding the Lord's Supper that those who arrive for worship after the corporate confession of sin and assurance of pardon be instructed not to partake in the supper during that worship service.
- Session removed support for missionary TE David Stoddard in Berlin, Germany and TE Nick Bullock in Stuttgart, Germany; both have left the field for other works.
- Session reconstituted the Mission Committee and appointed John Taylor as convener. Others interested in joining the Mission Committee should contact John Taylor.
- Session offered a class for communicants taught by REs Bosshardt and McConathy.
- Session approved a renovation proposal from an architectural firm, but delayed action on it due to celebrations in conjunction with the 40th Anniversary as well as to better understand other opportunities and contingencies.
- Session approved a 40th Anniversary Celebration with Ligon Duncan as guest preacher.
- Session appointed RE Nathan Bowers as Sunday School Superintendent and approved a job description for the position of youth coordinator.
- Session created a study committee to offer advice on the administration of Boy Scout Troop 52 financials and charter. The Session directed the Church Treasurer to oversee all Scout Troop Financials. Session created a committee to draft a "Memorial" to record the history of the church's ministry through Troop 52 and to reflect upon what spiritual fruit has been harvested through the efforts of the members and officers engaged in the Troop.
- Session worked with the Diaconate to create a list of priority facility needs in preparation for a renovation of the church's 120 year old facility. The deacons additionally met with several contractors to request proposals for the work.
- Session adopted an overture to Tennessee Valley Presbytery proposing to add background checks as a requirement for those being examined by Presbytery.
- The Session was delinquent in submitting minutes from 2019-2021. The clerk worked to collect the missing minutes and submit them to Tennessee Valley Presbytery for review.
- The Session directed the clerk to send letters to local businesses soliciting donations and/or bulk discounts for the purpose of acquiring items for Operation Christmas Child. The Session also established a fund for members who wish to donate to this project.
- Session, in consultation with the Diaconate, created a temporary committee of the congregation to study potential options regarding renovation and relocation.
- The Board of Trustees approved a request from Troop 52 to transfer the Troop Charter to Mission Ridge Baptist Church effective Dec. 20, 2023.
- The Session adopted a policy governing Christian funerals taking place at the church. It is hoped this policy will help families in advance planning and preparation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR JANUARY 21, 2024

- + Evening worship continues tonight at 6:00; come and answer God's call to worship Him at the close of the Lord's Day. We will have our usual hymn sing prior to the start of evening worship; if there are any hymns you would like to sing, be ready with your requests! The Lord's Supper will be observed.
- + Today there is a table set up with information from Choices Pregnancy Center about ways to minister to women and children in need.
- + Officer nominations will be received during the month of January. Please be praying and asking God to provide additional officers to serve this congregation. Please discuss with the man you wish to nominate and secure his permission before submitting a nomination form.
- + From now to the end of February, we will be collecting water bottles and stuffed animals for Operation Christmas Child. Please no pigs or cows.

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 offering plate, by mailing a check to the church office, or online: FPFO.org/give.

Please submit your prayer requests and/or record your attendance at worship with us:



FPFO Weekly Activities Schedule

The Lord's Day

9:20 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)

Wednesday

9:00 a.m. Ladies' Prayer Meeting
5:55 p.m. Covered-Dish Supper
6:30-7:15 p.m. Prayer Meeting
6:30 p.m. Children's Singing Class

On First, Third, and Fifth Wednesdays
there is outreach at the Crossings Apts.

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

Nursery Jan. 21: A. Bandy & M. Tuggle

Jan. 28: B. Rowan & S. Wilson