

# 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 17, 2023 | 10:45 A.M.

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## The Announcements

\*The Call to Worship

\*The Hymn of Praise No. 218.....“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

\*The Prayer of Adoration

\*The Confession of Faith.....The Westminster Larger Catechism No. 36 & 37

Q. Who is the mediator of the covenant of grace?

A. *The only mediator of the covenant of grace is the Lord Jesus Christ, who, being the eternal Son of God, of one substance and equal with the Father, in the fullness of time became man, and so was and continues to be God and man, in two entire distinct natures, and one person, forever.*

Q. How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?

A. *Christ the Son of God became man, by taking to Himself a true body, and a reasonable soul, being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost in the womb of the Virgin Mary, of her substance, and born of her, yet without sin.*

The Call to Confession .....Ezekiel 33:13

Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die.

The Confession of Sin

*Almighty, merciful God, we acknowledge for ourselves and we confess before you that which is the truth; namely, that if you decided to consider our merits and worthiness, we would not be worthy to lift our eyes to heaven and bring our prayer before you. For our consciences accuse us and our sins testify against us. We also know that you are a righteous Judge, who punishes the sins of those who transgress your commandments. But, O Lord, since you commanded us to call upon you in every affliction, and promised in your unspeakable mercy to hear our prayers, not for the sake of our merits—of which there are none—but for the sake of the merits of our Lord, Jesus Christ, whom you have set forth as our Mediator and Advocate, so we forsake all other help and take our refuge in your mercy alone. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray, Amen.*

# Angels, from the Realms of Glory

*They saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him.*  
 Matt. 2:11

1. An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
 2. Shep - herds in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,  
 3. Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;  
 4. Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in hope and fear,  
 5. All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;

ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
 God with man is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant Light:  
 • seek the great De - sire of na - tions; ye have seen his na - tal star:  
 sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing, in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:  
 ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to th'e - ter - nal Three in One:

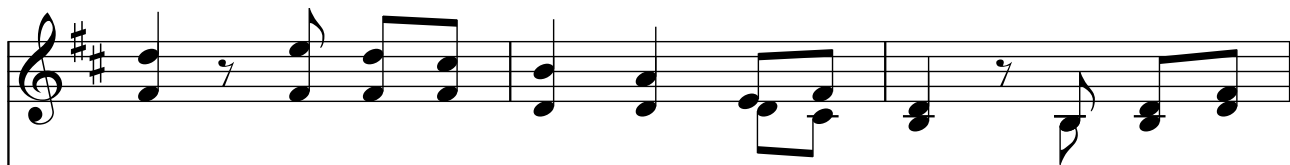
REFRAIN

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

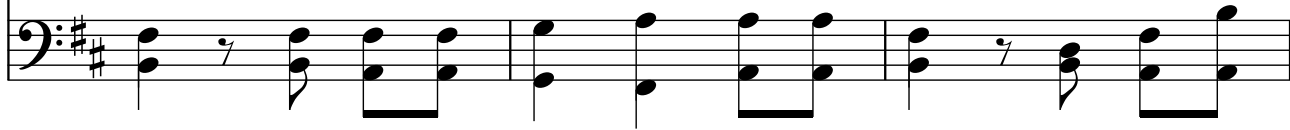




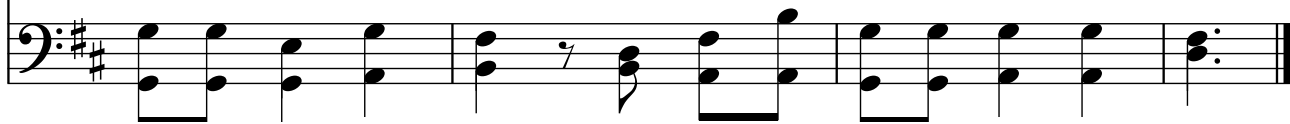
grav - en on his hands, my name is writ - ten on his  
sin - less Sav - ior died, my sin - ful soul is count - ed  
self I can - not die. My soul is pur - chased by his



heart. I know that while in heav'n he stands, no tongue can  
free; for God, the just, is sat - is - fied to look on  
blood! My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my



bid me thence de - part, no tongue can bid me thence de - part.  
him and par - don me, to look on him and par - don me.  
Sa - vior and my God, with Christ, my Sav - ior and my God.



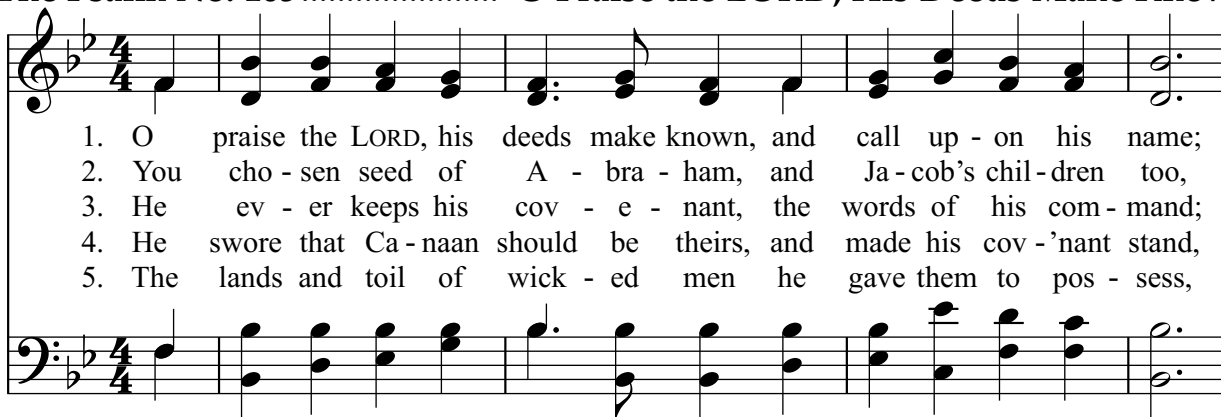
# The Encouragement to Give .....2 Corinthians 9:10-11

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

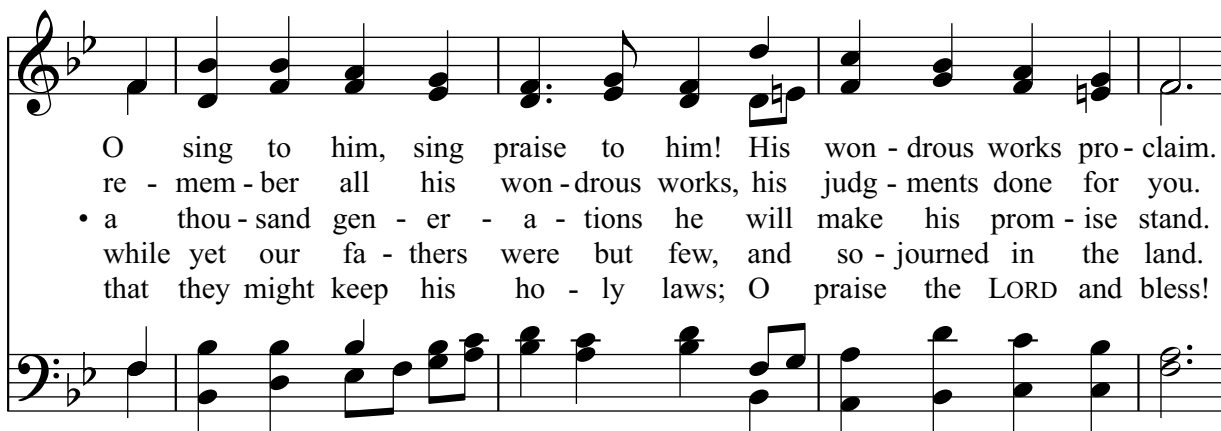
## The Offertory

### The Great Prayer.....Elder Wil Davis

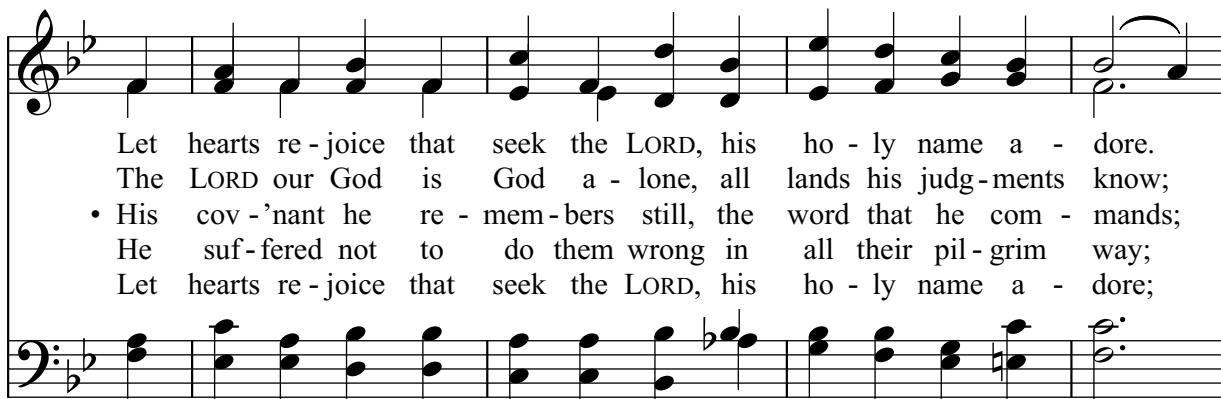
#### \*The Psalm No. 105....."O Praise the LORD, His Deeds Make Known"



1. O praise the LORD, his deeds make known, and call up - on his name;  
2. You cho - sen seed of A - bra - ham, and Ja - cob's chil - dren too,  
3. He ev - er keeps his cov - e - nant, the words of his com - mand;  
4. He swore that Ca - naan should be theirs, and made his cov - 'nant stand,  
5. The lands and toil of wick - ed men he gave them to pos - sess,



O sing to him, sing praise to him! His won - drous works pro - claim.  
re - mem - ber all his won - drous works, his judg - ments done for you.  
• a thou - sand gen - er - a - tions he will make his prom - ise stand.  
while yet our fa - thers were but few, and so - journed in the land.  
that they might keep his ho - ly laws; O praise the LORD and bless!



Let hearts re - joice that seek the LORD, his ho - ly name a - dore.  
The LORD our God is God a - lone, all lands his judg - ments know;  
• His cov - 'nant he re - mem - bers still, the word that he com - mands;  
He suf - fered not to do them wrong in all their pil - grim way;  
Let hearts re - joice that seek the LORD, his ho - ly name a - dore;

O seek the LORD, and trust his strength; seek him for - ev - er - more.  
 his prom - ise he re - mem - bers still, while gen - er - a - tions go.  
 • a thou - sand gen - er - a - tions hence his prom - is - es will stand.  
 yes, for their sake were kings re - proved and cov - ered with dis - may.  
 O seek the LORD, and trust his strength; seek him for - ev - er - more.

The Sermon.....Rev. Ryan Biese

“Before Departure” | John 14:28-31 | p. 847 | *Light Shines in the Darkness* No. 90

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SERMON NOTES

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**A. Believe in Christ (vv. 28-29)**

1. Failure to Love
  
2. Failure to Understand What He Will Do
  
3. Failure to Understand the Benefits
  
4. They Will Understand & Believe

**B. Blameless (v. 30)**

1. The Devil is Coming
  
2. The Blamelessness of Christ
  
3. Satan’s Possible Claims

**C. Broadcast (v. 31)**

1. Christ's Obedience

2. Christ's Love

\*The Hymn of Commitment No. 201 .....“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

\*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.*

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## O Little Town of Bethlehem

*Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small ... out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times. Mic. 5:2*

1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie;  
 2. For Christ is born of Mar - y; and gath - ered all a - bove,  
 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is giv'n!  
 4. O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

a - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by:  
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.  
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.  
 cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.

yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;  
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!  
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,  
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
 And prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.  
 where meek souls will re - ceive him still, the dear Christ en - ters in.  
 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el.



# NEW YEAR'S LADIES LUNCH

Saturday, January 13

*Please sign up in the fellowship hall or email Sandra Taylor.  
Lunch provided; please bring a dessert to share.*

## He Came for Us.

6:00 p.m. Lord's Day Evenings in December

*When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman,  
born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law,  
so that we might receive adoption as sons.*

Galatians 4:4-5



Spotify

The FPO Sermon Podcast  
will be moving to a new  
platform. Please  
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iTunes

# ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 17, 2023

- + Evening worship continues tonight at 6:00; come and answer God's call to worship Him at the close of the Lord's Day and worship in Word & Sacrament.
- + Volunteers are needed for nursery duty for evening worship. Please see Mary Lou Wilson if you are willing to help.
- + Designated gifts to the Staff Love Offering may be made now through Dec. 24. Please watch for love offering envelopes arriving in the mail along with a letter from the Session Clerk with more details.
- + Christmas caroling at The Crossing immediately following evening worship tonight. Treats and hot-chocolate provided. See Joe Wilson or David Bosshardt for more information.
- + There will be a joint officer meeting December 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
- + Midweek Activities and Sunday School classes will resume the week of Jan 7, 2024.

## 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 offering plate, by mailing a check to the church office, or online: [FPFO.org/give](https://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 Dec. 17: R. Wilson & E. Tuggle

Dec. 24: E. Wilson & T. Keller