

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia

Evening Worship

The Lord's Day | December 15, 2024 | 6 o'clock

[www.fpfo.org](http://www.fpfo.org) | 706.866.2521

## THE SESSION

Ryan Biese, Moderator

Nathan Bowers, Clerk

Wil Davis

Herman McConathy

John Taylor

## THE DIACONATE

Bob Keller, Chairman

Bill Henshall, Clerk

# THE LORD'S DAY EVENING

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | WORSHIP IN WORD & SACRAMENT

December 15, 2024 | 6:00 P.M.

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HYMN SING

\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

\*THE PSALM OF PRAISE NO. 84....."Your Dwelling Places, LORD"



1. <sup>1</sup> Your dwell - ing plac - es, LORD of hosts, How beau - ti - ful they  
2. <sup>3</sup> My God, my King, with - in Your house The spar - row has a  
3. <sup>5</sup> Those find - ing strength in You are blessed, With pil - grims' hearts they



are to me. <sup>2</sup>The LORD's courts are my soul's de - sire, I'm  
dwell - ing there. O LORD of hosts, Your al - tars are Where  
on - ward reach, <sup>6</sup>The val - ley's tears they turn to springs, While



yearn - ing for them ea - ger - ly. I to the liv - ing God cry  
 swal-lows choose their young to bear.<sup>4</sup> Blessed all who in Your house do  
 rain with bless - ings cov - ers each.<sup>7</sup> They, gain-ing strength, toward Zi-on

out, With joy my heart and bod - y shout!  
 live, To You their praise they ev - er give.  
 run; Be - fore God then ap - pears each one.

\*THE PRAYER OF ADORATION & LORD'S PRAYER

\*THE CONFESSION OF FAITH .....The Nicene Creed (page 846)

THE LAW OF GOD .....Ephesians 4:1-7

*I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.*

## THE CONFESSION OF SIN

*Lord, the great and awesome God, You are righteous, but today we are covered with shame, because we have sinned against You. Though You are merciful and forgiving, we have turned away from You, we have rebelled against You, and have refused to obey Your good and perfect commands.*

*O Lord our God, who brought Your people out of Egypt with a mighty hand, and who made a name for Yourself that endures to this day, let not Your anger fall upon us. Turn to us and hear our prayer and forgive us, showing us Your grace and mercy. For Your sake, O God, do not delay, because Your Church and Your people bear Your Name.*

## THE SILENT CONFESSION

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON .....Romans 5:1-2

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

\*THE PSALM OF THE MONTH NO. 118 .....“The Glorious Gates” (pages 4-5)

1. The glo - rious gates of righ - teous - ness throw o - pen un - to me,  
2. This is thy tem - ple gate, O LORD, the just shall en - ter there.  
3. The stone re - ject - ed and de - spised is now the cor - ner - stone;  
4. In this the day that thou hast made, tri - um - phant - ly we sing;

and I will en - ter them with praise, O LORD, my God, to thee,  
 My Sav - ior, I will give thee thanks, O thou that hear - est prayer;  
 how won - drous are the ways of God, un - fath - omed and un - known;  
 send now pros - per - i - ty, O LORD; O LORD, sal - va - tion bring;

and I will en - ter them with praise, O LORD, my God, to thee.  
 my Sav - ior, I will give thee thanks, O thou that hear - est prayer.  
 how won - drous are the ways of God, un - fath - omed and un - known!  
 send now pros - per - i - ty, O LORD; O LORD, sal - va - tion bring.

THE SCRIPTURE READING .....Ezra 4:1-5 (p. 363)

THE SERMON .....Protecting the Purity of the People and Project

**A. Rapid Progress (v. 1)**

1. Reformation

2. Antagonism

**B. Samaritan Proposal (v. 2)**

1. Offer

2. Identity

**C. Standing on Principle (v. 3)**

1. Unity

2. Rejection

3. Reason

**D. Samaritan Politics (vv. 4-5)**

1. Response

2. Failure

**E. Application**

1. Destructive Power of Pluralism

2. Response to Discouragement

3. Schemes of the Devil

4. Urgency of Prayer

- \*THE HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 420 .....“ At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”
- WE COMMUNE WITH CHRIST BY FAITH
- THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION
- THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION
- THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS
- PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
- \*THE PSALM OF THANKSGIVING NO. 117 .....“Praise Jehovah, All Ye Nations!” (page 8)
- \*THE BENEDICTION
- \*THE RESPONSE NO. 733 .....“The Doxology”

**FPFO SPECIAL ACTIVITIES CALENDAR**

- 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. 11**                      **9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study Begins**
- The Lord’s Day, Jan. 5**                **Sunday School Resumes;**
- Wednesday, Jan. 15**                **6:30 p.m. Stated Session Meeting & WIC Meeting**
- Saturday, Jan. 18**                      **Ladies Tea**
- The Lord’s Day, January 26**        **Dr. Dennis Johnson Preaching in AM & PM Worship**

<sup>1</sup>Praise Je - ho - vah, all ye na - tions, all ye peo - ple praise pro - claim;

<sup>2</sup>for his grace and lov - ing - kind - ness O sing prais - es to his name.

For the great - ness of his mer - cy con - stant praise to him ac - cord;

ev - er - more his truth en - dur - eth; hal - le - lu - jah, praise the Lord!