

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP | THE LORD'S DAY | FEBRUARY 18, 2024 | 10:45 A.M.

***The Call to Worship**

***The Psalm of Praise No. TH53... "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" (Psalm 103)**

***The Prayer of Adoration**

The Confession of FaithThe Westminster Shorter Catechism No. 33

Q. What is Justification?

A. *Justification is an act of God's free grace, wherein He pardons all our sins, and accepts us as righteous in His sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone.*

The Call to Confession.....Psalm 119:97-98

Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day. Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me.

The Confession of Sin

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgement. Work true repentance within us by your Holy Spirit, and strengthen us to walk in obedience to your holy Word and will, and grant us grace to grow more and more into the likeness of your blessed Son, our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

The Assurance of PardonIsaiah 43:25

I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.

***The Hymn of Response No. 186 "One There Is Above All Others"**

The Offering & Encouragement to GiveHebrews 12:28-29

Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

The Old Testament ReadingGenesis 1

The Great PrayerElder Emeritus David Bosshardt


***The Psalm No. 24 "The Earth and the Riches" (pp. 2-3)**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty


Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. Ps. 103:1, 2



1. Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won - drous - ly
 3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy work and de -
 4. Praise to the Lord, who with mar - vel - ous wis - dom hath
 5. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy
 reign - eth, shel - ters thee un - der his wings, yea, so
 • fend thee! Sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy here
 made thee, decked thee with health, and with lov - ing hand
 dore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with



health and sal - va - tion! All ye who hear, now to his
 gent - ly sus - tain - eth! Hast thou not seen how thy de -
 • dai - ly at - tend thee; pon - der a - new what the Al -
 guid - ed and stayed thee. How oft in grief hath not he
 prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his



tem - ple draw near, join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion.
 sires e'er have been grant - ed in what he or - dain - eth?
 • might - y will do, if with his love he be - friend thee.
 brought thee re - lief, spread - ing his wings to o'er - shade thee!
 peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for - e'er we a - dore him.

One There Is, above All Others

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There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. Prov. 18:24

1. One there is, a - bove all oth - ers, well de - serves the name of Friend;
 2. Which of all our friends, to save us, could or would have shed his blood?
 3. When he lived on earth a - bas - ed, "Friend of sin - ners" was his name;
 4. Could we bear from one an - oth - er what he dai - ly bears from us?
 5. O for grace our hearts to soft - en! Teach us, Lord, at length to love;

his is love be - yond a broth - er's, cost - ly, free, and knows no end.
 But our Je - sus died to have us rec - on - ciled in him to God.
 • Now a - bove all glo - ry rais - ed, he re - joice - es in the same;
 Yet this glo - rious Friend and Broth - er loves us though we treat him thus:
 we, a - las! for - get too of - ten what a Friend we have a - bove:

They who once his kind - ness prove find it ev - er - last - ing love.
 This was bound - less love in - deed; Je - sus is a Friend in need.
 • still he calls them breth - ren, friends, and to all their wants at - tends.
 though for good we ren - der ill, he ac - counts us breth - ren still.
 but when home our souls are brought, we will love you as we ought.

1. ¹The earth and the rich - es that in it are stored, The
2. ⁵Yes, he from the LORD shall a bless - ing ob - tain, And

world and its dwell - ers be - long to the LORD. ²For
from God his Sav - ior he'll righ - teous - ness gain. ⁶Thus

He is the One who first caused it to stand, And
look - ing to Him is a whole bless - ed race; All

up from the seas He es - tab - lished the land.
those who, like Ja - cob, are seek - ing Your face.

³O who can the path to the LORD's mount as -
⁷O gates, lift your heads! An - cient doors, lift them

and? And who in the place of His ho - li - ness
high! The great King of glo - ry to en - ter draws

stand? ⁴The man of pure heart and of hands with - out
nigh! ⁸O who is the King that in glo - ry draws

stain, Who swears not to i - dols nor wor-ships what's vain.
near? The LORD, might-y LORD of the bat - tle, is here!

3. ⁹O gates, lift your heads! An - cient doors, lift them

high! The great King of glo - ry to en - ter draws

nigh! ¹⁰This great King of glo - ry, O who can He

be? The LORD God of hosts, King of glo - ry is He!

SERMON NOTES

I. Introduction

II. Main Argument

A. Perseverance in Absence (vv. 4-6)

1. Protection

2. Indifference

B. Joy of Departure (v. 7)

1. Irony

2. Blessing

C. The Spirit’s Work in the World (v. 8)

1. Uniqueness

2. Prosecutor

3. Conviction

4. Worthwhile

III. Conclusion

- *The Hymn of Commitment.....“O Church, Arise” (pp. 6-7)
- *The Benediction
- *The Response No. 735“The Gloria Patri”

The Reading of Holy Scripture:

an element of worship

This Lord’s Day we have added an additional reading of Scripture as an element in our morning worship. Our worship service is already filled with Bible readings and likewise we are committed to consecutive expository preaching through whole biblical books.

In that way, each of the Scripture readings in our worship at this point serves the agenda of the liturgy, which is an important aspect of Reformed worship. However, we also believe it is important to allow the Scripture to speak for itself. We confess in our Larger Catechism (WLC 155):

The Spirit of God makes the reading, but especially the preaching of the Word, an effectual means of enlightening, convincing, and humbling sinners; of driving them out of themselves, and drawing them unto Christ; of conforming them to His image, and subduing them to His will; of strengthening them against temptations and corruptions; of building them up in grace, and establishing their hearts in holiness and comfort through faith unto salvation.

While the *preaching* of the word is the primary way in which God’s Spirit works to convert sinners and conform the saints to the image of Christ, that does not mean the public reading of Scripture is not important. The Apostle Paul charged Timothy, “*devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, and to teaching*” (1 Timothy 4:13).

While we believe there is ample public exhortation and teaching in the life of First Presbyterian Church, Session has added an additional public reading of Scripture to our worship in order to fulfill this apostolic mandate.

This Lord’s Day we begin reading through the book of Genesis in the morning worship service and we will continue reading through First Corinthians in evening worship. May God add His blessing to the reading of His Word and grant His Spirit to speak to us in the Scripture.

O Church, Arise

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• 1. O church, a - rise and put your ar - mor on; Hear the
 • 2. Our call to war, to love the cap - tive soul, But to
 • 3. Come, see the cross where love and mer - cy meet, As the
 • 4. So Spir - it, come, put strength in ev - 'ry stride, Give

call of Christ our cap - tain; For now the weak can say that
 rage a - gainst the cap - tor; And with the sword that makes the
 Son of God is strick - en; Then see His foes lie crushed be -
 grace for ev - 'ry hur - dle, That we may run with faith to

they are strong In the strength that God has giv - en. With shield of
 wound - ed whole We will fight with faith and val - or. When faced with
 neath His feet, For the Con - quer - or has ris - en! And as the
 win the prize Of a ser - vant good and faith - ful. As saints of

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faith and belt of truth We'll stand a - gainst the dev - il's lies; An arm - y
 trials on ev - 'ry side, We know the out - come is se - cure, And Christ will
 stone is rolled a - way, And Christ e - merg - es from the grave, This vic - t'ry
 old still line the way, Re - tell - ing tri - umphs of His grace, We hear their



bold whose bat - tle cry is "Love!" Reach - ing out to those in dark - ness.
 have the prize for which He died - An in - her - i - tance of na - tions.
 march con - tin - ues till the day Ev - 'ry eye and heart shall see Him.
 calls and hun - ger for the day When, with Christ, we stand in glo - ry.



ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY 18, 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; please be ready with your requests. The Lord's Supper will be observed as part of evening worship today
- + Elder Training will commence today at 4:00 p.m. the training itself is open to any member of the church who is interested in learning more about the life and work of the Church. Attendance is mandatory for all FPFO elders and elder-candidates. Please contact Pastor Ryan for more information.
- + 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.
- + There will be a joint baby shower for Andra van der Merwe and Natalie Schoeffler on February 24 at 11:00 a.m. Andra is having a baby girl and Natalie a baby boy. There is a refreshments sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall.

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.

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: Feb. 18: H. Rowan & C. Rowan

Feb 25: ML Wilson & L. Bible