# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP | THE LORD'S DAY | DECEMBER 24, 2023 | 10:45 A.M.

#### The Announcements

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

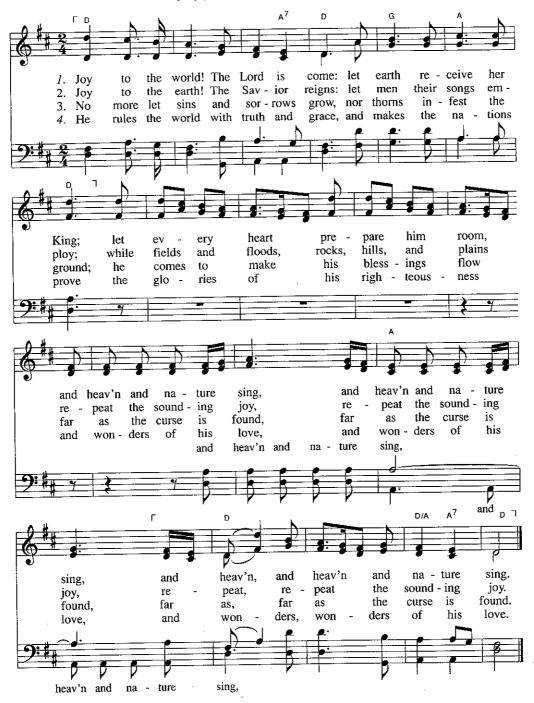


- \*The Call to Worship
- \*The Hymn of Praise No. 195....."Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"
- \*The Prayer of Adoration
- \*The Confession of Faith ......The Westminster Larger Catechism Nos. 38, 39 & 41
  - Q. Why was it required that the mediator should be God?
  - A. It was required that the mediator should be God, that He might sustain and keep the human nature from sinking under the infinite wrath of God, and the power of death; give worth and efficacy to His sufferings, obedience and intercession; and to satisfy God's justice, procure His favor, purchase a peculiar people, give His Spirit to them, conquer all their enemies, and bring them to everlasting salvation.
  - Q. Why was it required that the mediator should be man?
  - A. It was required that the mediator should be man, that He might advance our nature, perform obedience to the law, suffer and make intercession for us in our nature, have a fellow-feeling of our infirmities; that we might receive the adoption of sons, and have comfort and access with boldness unto the throne of grace.
  - Q. Why was our mediator called *Jesus*?
  - A. Our mediator was called Jesus, because He saves His people from their sins.

with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

#### Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Ps. 98:4



Based on Psalm 98 Isaac Watts, 1719 ANTIOCH C.M.rep. George Frederick Handel, 1742 Arr. by Lowell Mason, 1836

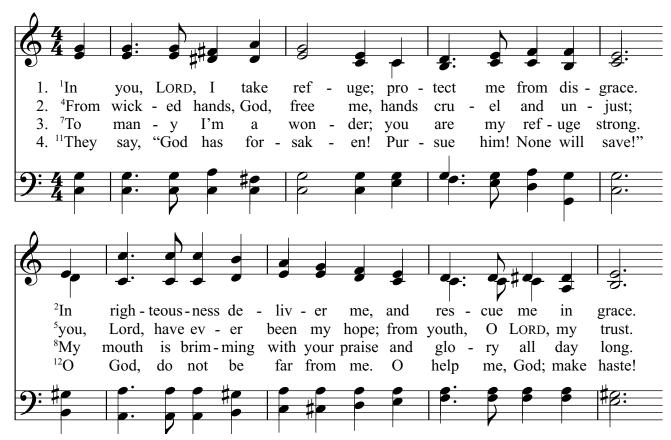
#### The Confession of Sin

Almighty, eternal God and Father, we confess and acknowledge unto You that we were conceived in unrighteousness and are full of sin and transgression all our life. We do not fully believe Your Word nor follow Your holy commandments. Remember Your goodness, we beseech You, and for Your Name's sake be gracious unto us, and forgive us our iniquity which, alas, is very great. Amen.

#### The Silent Confession

Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

\*The Psalm of Thanksgiving No. 71....."In You, LORD, I Take Refuge"





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.

#### The Offertory

The Great Prayer ..... Elder Nathan Bowers

\*The Psalm No. 80 ....."Great Shepherd Who Leadest Thy People" (p. 4)



- 5. The branch of thy planting is burned and cut down, brought night to destruction because of thy frown; the man of thy right hand with wisdom endue, the son of man strengthen thy pleasure to do.
- 6. When thou shalt revive us thy name we will praise, and nevermore turning, depart from thy ways;
  O Lord God Almighty, in mercy restore, and we shall be saved when thy face shines once more.

The Sermon	Rev. Ryan Biese	
"Belonging"   John 15:1-6   p. 848   <i>Light Shines</i>	in the Darkness No. 91	
SERMON NOTES		
I. <u>Introduction</u> A. The Focus of Chapter 14		
B. The Focus of Chapter 15		
II. Main Argument A. The True Vine (v. 1)  1. Metaphor for Israel		
2. The True Vine and True Israel		
B. Removing the Fruitless (vv. 1b-2, 6)  1 The Work of the Father		

2. Branches Cut Off

3. The True Branches

1. Comfort

C. Nurturing the Flawed and Fruitful (vv. 2-4)

4. Fruitful People	
III. Conclusion	
*The Hymn of Commitment No. 221"L *The Benediction *The Response No. 735"Tl	
Glory be to the Father, And to the Son, And to the Holy Gho. As it was in the beginning, Is now, and ever shall be: World without end. Amen. Amen.	st;

2. Fruit

3. Pruning

#### 221

#### Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. Is. 11:1



## 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



The FPFO Sermon Podcast | will be moving to a new platform in 2024. Please subscribe!



#### ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 24, 2023 + Evening worship continues tonight at 6:00; come and answer God's call to worship

start of evening worship, so if there are any hymns you would like to sing that we have not yet sung this year, be ready with your requests!

Him at the close of the Lord's Day. We will have our usual hymn sing prior to the

- +Some of the young pianists in the congregation will be offering the prelude for evening worship tonight. You may wish to arrive earlier than normal to hear them.
- + 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.
- +Offerings for 2023 must be given online, received by the church office, or postmarked by Dec. 31, 2023 in order to be credited for this year. + Midweek Activities and Sunday School classes will resume the week of Jan 7, 2024.
- + The combined youth & young adults Sunday school class will survey the "minor prophets" beginning January 7.

#### 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

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	a check to the charch office, of office.
	a check to the church office, or online: FPFU.org/give.

THO WEEKLY ACTIVITIES SETTEMBLE		
The Lord's Day	Wednesday	
9:20 a.m. Fellowship Time	9:00 a.m. Ladies' Prayer Meeting	

- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 5:55 p.m. Covered-Dish Supper
- 10:45 a.m. Morning Worship 6:30-7:15 p.m. Prayer Meeting
- 5:00 p.m. Sermon Broadcast 6:30 p.m. Children's Singing Class
- **WAAK 94.7 FM** 6:00 p.m. Evening Worship
- (excluding First Sundays) 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.

Dec. 31 H. Rowan & C. Rowan

Nursery Dec. 24: E. Wilson & T. Keller