

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fort Oglethorpe, Ga. | [www.FPFO.org](http://www.FPFO.org) | 706.866.2521 | 1 Harker Road

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THE ORDER OF WORSHIP | THE LORD'S DAY | APRIL 30, 2023 | 10:45 A.M.

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## The Welcome and Announcements

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



**The Introit..... "O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing!" (Trinity Hymnal No. 272)**

**The Call to Worship**

**\*The Prayer of Adoration**

**\*The Confession of Faith .....The Westminster Larger Catechism No. 14**

Q. How does God execute His decrees?

A. *God executes His decrees in the works of creation and providence, according to His infallible fore-knowledge, and the free and immutable counsel of His own will.*

~ **God Calls His People to Confess Their Sins** ~

**The Law of God .....Romans 12:1-2**

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

**The Confession of Sin**

*O God of grace, you have placed my sin upon my substitute, and have given his righteousness to my soul. But in my Christian walk I am still in rags: my best prayers are stained with sin; my confessions of wrong are so many aggravations of sin; my receiving the Spirit is tainted with selfishness. I need to repent of my repentance. I need my tears to be washed. I am always going into the far country, and always returning home as a prodigal, always saying, "Father, forgive me," and you are always bringing forth the best robe. Thank you for the steadfastness of your mercy and faithfulness. Grant me never to lose sight of the exceeding sinfulness of sin, the exceeding righteousness of salvation, the exceeding glory of Christ, the exceeding beauty of holiness, and the exceeding wonder of grace through Jesus Christ.*

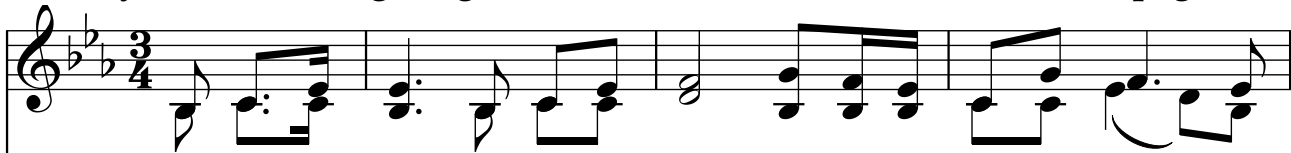
# The Silent Confession

~ God Answers His People and Speaks in the Scripture ~

## The Assurance of Pardon.....Ephesians 1:7

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace.

## \*The Hymn of Thanksgiving....."In Christ Alone" (pages 2-3)



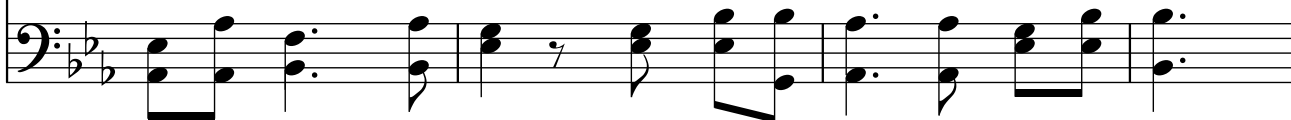
1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, he is my light, my strength, my  
2. In Christ a - lone! Who took on flesh, full - ness of God in help - less  
3. There in the ground his bod - y lay, light of the world by dark - ness  
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death: this is the pow'r of Christ in



song; this cor - ner - stone, this sol - id ground, firm through the  
babe! This gift of love and righ - teous - ness, scorned by the  
slain; then burst - ing forth in glo - rious day, up from the  
me. From life's first cry to fin - al breath, Je - sus com -



fierc - est drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
ones he came to save. 'Til on that cross as Je - sus died,  
grave he rose a - gain! And as he stands in vic - to - ry,  
mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,



when fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease! My com - for -  
the wrath of God was sat - is - fied; for ev - 'ry  
sin's curse has lost its grip on me; for I am  
can ev - er pluck me from his hand; 'til he re -

ter, my all in all— here in the love of Christ I stand.  
sin on him was laid— here in the death of Christ I live.  
his and he is mine— bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.  
turns or calls me home— here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

**The Offering .....2 Corinthians 9:6-7**

The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

**The Great Prayer**

**\*The Psalm No. 118 .....“O Thank the LORD for All His Goodness” (pages 4-5)**

*May be sung in unison*

1. <sup>1</sup>O thank the LORD for all his good - ness: his love en - dures for -  
2. <sup>5</sup>I sought the LORD in my af - flic - tion; he an - swered me and  
3. <sup>8</sup>Far bet - ter is the LORD for ref - uge— bet - ter than put - ting  
4. <sup>12</sup>Tho' na - tions swarmed like bees a - round me, quick - ly, like thorns a -

ev - er - more! <sup>2</sup>Let Is - r'el say in joy - ful cho - rus: "His  
set me free. <sup>6</sup>The LORD is on my side; I fear not— what  
trust in men. <sup>9</sup>Far bet - ter is the LORD for ref - uge— bet -  
flame, they died. For in the LORD's name I de - stroyed them; <sup>13</sup>when

love en - dures for - ev - er - more!" <sup>3</sup>O house of Aa - ron, join your  
harm can man do un - to me? <sup>7</sup>The LORD is on my side to  
ter than trust - ing in a prince. <sup>10</sup>On ev - 'ry side the na - tions  
I was crushed the LORD gave aid. <sup>14</sup>He has be - come my great sal -

voic - es: “His love en - dures for - ev - er - more!” <sup>4</sup>Let all who  
 help me; the LORD, my help - er, will a - vail. I look up -  
 hound - ed, but in God’s name I cut them off. <sup>11</sup>On ev - ’ry  
 va - tion, my strength, my song; the LORD we bless. <sup>15</sup>Glad songs of

fear the LORD de - clare it: “His love en - dures for - ev - er - more!”  
 on my foes in tri - umph; those hat - ing me will not pre - vail.  
 side I was sur - round - ed, but in the LORD I cut them off.  
 vic - t’ry and sal - va - tion dwell in the tents of righ - teous - ness.

6. <sup>19</sup>Open to me the gates of justice;  
 open the gates of righteousness,  
 that I may enter them with gladness  
 and show the LORD my thankfulness.  
<sup>20</sup>This is the gate the righteous enter,  
 the gateway of the LORD our God.  
<sup>21</sup>You have become my great salvation;  
 you answered me and made me glad.

7. <sup>22</sup>The stone the builders had rejected  
 now has become the cornerstone.  
<sup>23</sup>How marvelous to us this wonder;  
 this is the work of God alone!  
<sup>24</sup>This is the day, the LORD has made it!  
 Be glad in it, rejoice, and bless.  
<sup>25</sup>Save us, we pray, O LORD! Hosanna!  
 O LORD, we pray, give us success.

**The Sermon** ..... **Pastor Ryan Biese**

“Plotting & Predestination” (2) | John 11:49-57 | *Light in the Darkness* No. 64 | p. 844

**SERMON NOTES**

**I. Introduction**

**II. Main Argument**

**A. Prophetic Proposal (vv. 49-50)**

1. Decisive Action: How has the Sanhedrin responded to Jesus so far?

2. Simple Math
  - a. How is Caiaphas thinking?

b. **Application: *God overthrows the plans of the wicked.***

## **B. Substitute Prepared (vv. 51-53)**

1. Substitutionary Atonement (v 51)
  - a. How is it Caiaphas can speak out of his dark, twisted, cynical heart and yet speak the truth?
  
  - b. What is prophesied of the Lord Jesus Christ?

## 2. Nations Gathered (v. 52)

a. How would the Jews have understood *children of God scattered*?

b. How does this language recall the prologue to John's Gospel?

c. How is this sort of language especially meaningful to people like us?

## 3. Conspiracy (v. 53):

a. What will take place when Jesus appears before the Jewish High Court?

b. **Application: *The Lord frustrates the plans of the wicked.***

## **C. Passover Feast (vv. 54-57)**

### 1. The Disciples Persevere (v. 54)

a. How do the disciples respond to the threat and danger to Jesus' life and their own place in His ministry?

b. How does Jesus demonstrate His sovereignty?

c. What is noteworthy about the disciples' conduct here?

d. **Application:** *Do not be willing to endure only a little danger or discomfort or adversity for Christ's sake.*

2. Converging on Jerusalem (v. 55)

a. What was required of the Jews during Passover feast

b. What did Passover memorialize; how is that significant to the work and mission of Christ?

c. Why does Jesus not purify Himself like everyone else?

d. How does this offer assurance and comfort to people like us?

3. Futile Searching (vv. 56-57)

a. What are the people wondering

b. What obligations has the Jewish Senate imposed on all the people?

**III. Conclusion**

~ God's People Respond in Praise ~

\*The Hymn of Commitment No. 263 ..... "Lift High the Cross"

~ God Blesses His People ~

\*The Benediction

\*The Response No. 735 ..... "The Gloria Patri"

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR APRIL 30, 2023

- + The deacons have requested food and drinks no longer be brought into the auditorium. Tables and chairs are provided in the fellowship hall.
- + Starting in May 3, the Kindergarten & Elementary Midweek Program will focus on singing. Elder Davis will lead the children in learning to sing hymns and songs about Bible truths and Bible stories.
- + The Session and WiC will meet on May 10 starting at 6:30 p.m. There will be no prayer meeting or children's activities on that date. Supper and Youth/Young Adult activities will continue as normal.
- + The start of any renovations has been postponed until at least October. If you did not receive the letter from the Session offering further explanation of this matter, please email the church secretary: [office@fpfo.org](mailto:office@fpfo.org).

### 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)

*It costs to be a real Christian, according to the Bible. There are enemies to be overcome, battles to be fought, sacrifices to be made, Egypt to be forsaken, a wilderness to pass through, a cross to be carried, a race to be won. Conversion is not putting a person in an arm-chair and taking them easily to heaven. It is the beginning of a mighty conflict, in which it costs much to win the victory. - J. C. Ryle*

### FPFO Weekly Activities Schedule

#### The Lord's Day

9:30 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  
6:45-7:30 p.m. Prayer Meeting  
6:30-7:30 p.m. KidsQuest (children)  
6:45-7:30 p.m. Classes & Studies  
*The Gospel of John*  
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 April 30: E. Tuggle & A. Wilson

May 7: M.L. Wilson & C. Rowan