

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

---

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP | THE LORD'S DAY | MARCH 22, 2026 | 10:45 A.M.

---

## The Announcements

## The Prelude

**\*The Call to Worship..... Psalm 66:1-3a**

Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise! Say to God, "How awesome are Your deeds!"

**\*The Hymn of Praise Psalm 148A..... "From Heaven O Praise the Lord!" (pg.4-5)**

## \*The Prayer of Adoration

**\*The Confession of Faith..... Heidelberg Catechism #21**

Q. What is true faith?

A. True faith is not only a certain knowledge, whereby I hold for truth all that God has revealed to us in His Word, but also an assured confidence, which the Holy Ghost works by the gospel in my heart, that not only to others, but to me also, remission of sin, everlasting righteousness and salvation are freely given by God, merely of grace, only for the sake of Christ's merits

**The Call to Confession..... Ephesians 5:1-4**

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving.

## **The Prayer of Confession**

O eternal God and most gracious Father, we Your unworthy servants do cast ourselves at the footstool of Your grace. By nature, nothing good dwells in us. Our hearts are full of secret pride, anger, impatience, pretending, lying, lust, vanity, profanity, and distrust. We love ourselves and this world too much, and we love You and Your kingdom too little. For the sake of Jesus Christ Your dear Son, have mercy on us. Pardon and forgive us all our sins, and free us from the shame and ruin which is due us for them. Let us know the power of Christ's death killing sin in our mortal bodies, and the virtue of His resurrection in our souls. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

## **The Silent Confession**

### **The Assurance of Pardon .....based on Romans 4:22-5:1**

Abraham's faith was "counted to him as righteousness." But the words "it was counted to him" were not written for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in Him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification. Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **\*The Hymn of Thanksgiving No. 274 ..... "Thine Be the Glory"**

### **~ We Respond to God's Grace with Offerings of Ourselves and Our Needs**

### **The Offering and Encouragement to Give .....Proverbs 3:9-10**

Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

### **The Old Testament Reading.....Exodus 38:21-31**

### **The Great Prayer ..... RE Nathan Bowers**

### **\*The Psalm of Preparation No. 303 ..... "Blessed Jesus, at Your Word"**

**~ God Speaks to Us in His Word ~**

**The Sermon ..... Rev. Jim Richter**

**“Objections Answered” | Rom. 3:1-8 | Pg. 884**

**~ We Respond to God Speaking in His Word ~**

**\*The Hymn of Response No. 598 ..... “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”**

**\*The Benediction**

**\*The Response No. 733 ..... “Doxology”**

## Psalm 148A



1. <sup>1</sup>From heav'n O praise the LORD! On high the LORD O praise!  
 2. <sup>5</sup>O let them glo - ri - fy the LORD's ma - jes - tic name;  
 3. <sup>7</sup>From earth O praise the LORD, you deeps and all be - low,  
 4. <sup>11</sup>Let all the peo - ples praise, and kings of ev - 'ry land;  
 5. The LORD a - lone be praised a - bove the earth and sky!

LORD! . . . . .  
 - fy . . . . .  
 LORD, . . . . .  
 praise, . . . . .  
 praised . . . . .



On high the LORD O praise!  
 the LORD's ma - jes - tic name;  
 you deeps and all be - low,  
 and kings of ev - 'ry land;  
 a - bove the earth and sky!



<sup>2</sup>All an - gels, praise ac - cord; let all his host give praise.  
 when he spoke from on high, they in - to be - ing came.  
 • <sup>5</sup>wild winds that do his word, you clouds, fire, hail, and snow,  
 let all their voic - es raise who judge and give com - mand.  
<sup>14</sup>He for his saints has raised a king to rule on high;



<sup>3</sup>Praise him on high, sun, moon, and star,  
<sup>6</sup>And he ar - ranged where they should stand;  
<sup>9</sup>hills low and high, and ce - dars tall,  
<sup>12</sup>By young and old, by girl and boy,  
 so praise ac - cord, O Is - ra - el;

Praise him on high, sun, moon, and star,  
 And he ar - ranged where they should stand;  
 hills low and high, and ce - dars tall,  
 By young and old, by girl and boy,  
 so praise ac - cord, O Is - ra - el;

sun, moon, and star, <sup>4</sup>you heav'ns a - far, and cloud - y sky.  
 where they should stand by his com - mand can - not be changed.  
 • and ce - dars tall, <sup>10</sup>beasts great and small, and birds that fly.  
 by girl and boy, <sup>13</sup>his name with joy should be ex - tolled.  
 O Is - ra - el, who near him dwell, O praise the LORD!

*Book of Psalms for Worship, 2009*

ST. CATHERINES 6.6.6.6.4.4.4.4.  
 Horatio R. Palmer

## Sermon Outline

### Objections Answered: Romans 3:1-8

In Romans 1, Paul has expressed his eagerness to preach the Gospel to people in Rome because it is the power of God for salvation, for in it the righteousness of God is revealed to those who respond with faith. Paul knows that we have a desperate need for the Gospel because God's wrath rests upon all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men. In Romans 2, Paul has made it clear no one by their own self-seeking righteousness, or special status can escape the righteous judgment of God for their sin. There must be a response of faith to the Gospel from the heart by the Holy Spirit in order to be counted righteous by God. In Romans 3:9-20, Paul will bear down on the fact that all people, whether Jew or Gentile, are unrighteous in themselves and liable to God's righteous judgment. Then in Romans 3:21-31 Paul will explain the wonderful news of what God has done through Christ to justify (count righteous) those who receive Him by faith. **But before getting to that Good News, now in Romans 3:1-8, Paul pauses to address some anticipated objections to what he has said in Chapter 2.**

**Question # 1:** What advantage has the Jew, and what is the value of circumcision, in light of what Paul has written in chapter 2? (Vs. 1-2)

**Answer:** Much, especially that the oracles (Word) of God was entrusted to them. (Cf. Romans 9:1-5)

**Question/ Objection # 2:** (Questioning God's covenant faithfulness to the Jews):

Does/Doesn't the faithlessness of Jewish sinners nullify the faithfulness of God? (Vs. 3-7)

**Answer:** No, some Jews' faithlessness does not mean God is unfaithful to His covenant purposes and promises. (Cf. Romans 9:6f- Romans 11)

**Question/ Objection # 3a:** (Questioning God's righteousness in judging men's sin.)

Does/Doesn't the fact that our unrighteousness serves to display the righteousness of God make it unrighteous for God to judge us?

**Answer:** By no means! For then God would not be just to judge the world (Gentiles).

**Question/Objection # 3b:** (Personalizing questioning God's righteousness in judging our sin.) But if through my lie God's truth abounds to His glory, why am I still being condemned?

**Answer:** None given, but see Answer to 3a above.

**Question/Objection #4:** **If our sin brings forth good (God's grace), why not sin more so more good (grace) may come? This is the basis for antinomianism.**

**Answer:** **Paul says he was accused of teaching this, but it is slander and those who do allege this about him should be condemned. He will later address this in Romans 6.**

**Applications:**

**Value a Christian heritage of the Word and Church. Depend on God's faithfulness.**

**Don't fall for objections without careful thought and prayer**

**Be prepared to answer objections to our holy faith.**

"We are totally depraved is a truth which no one ever truly learned by only being told it."

"The gospel affords no hope but to those whose hearts are contrite and broken by a conviction of sin; for while we feel not our malady, we cannot prize, or rightly apply to the only Physician."

"Everyday draws forth some new corruption which before was little observed, or at least discovers it in a stronger light than before. Thus by degrees they are weaned from leaning to any wisdom, power, or goodness in themselves; they feel the truth of our Lord's words, 'without me ye can do nothing.'" John 15:5

Excerpts from letters by John Newton

---

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MARCH 22, 2026

---

Announcements are due 5:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and must be emailed to [office@fpfo.org](mailto:office@fpfo.org).

- ❖ The annual FPFO brunch will be on Sunday, April 5, 2026 at 9:30 am, and there will be no Sunday school. Bring a dish to share and please sign up in the fellowship hall.
- ❖ Operation Christmas Child collection for March is water bottles & toothbrushes.

### 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 during the offering in worship, mailing a check to the church office, or online: [FPFO.org/give](https://FPFO.org/give)

To submit prayer requests, please email the church office or call 706-866-2521.

### FPFO Weekly Activities Schedule

#### The Lord's Day

#### Wednesday

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)

5:55 p.m. Covered-Dish Supper

6:30-7:15 p.m. Prayer Meeting

**Children are welcome in worship, but nursery is also available for children 3 and under.**

Nursery: Mar. 22: E. Wilson & L. Murphy    Mar. 29: L. Bible & A. Wilson