

First Presbyterian Church

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA

COMMENDING THE GREATNESS OF GOD IN JESUS CHRIST
TO ALL PEOPLES AND ALL GENERATIONS



The Lord's Day Morning Worship

Ascension Sunday

He said to them... But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

Acts 1:7-11

June 1, 2025

8:30 & 11 a.m.

Welcome!

We are so glad you are worshiping with us today! We'd like to get to know you better, so please visit the Welcome Desk located in the Commons.



Scan the QR code to:

- Let us know you are a guest
- Find out more about First Pres
- Request prayer

Reflection for Prelude

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne.
Alleluia! His the triumph, his the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of every nation has redeemed us by his blood."

Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now.
Alleluia! He is near us; faith believes, nor questions how.
Tho' the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise, "I am with you evermore"?

Alleluia! Bread of heaven, here on earth our food, our stay.
Alleluia! Here the sinful flee to you from day to day.
Intercessor, Friend of sinners, earth's Redeemer, hear our plea
where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

*Preparation for Worship—Christ, Above All Glory SeatedHYMN TO JOY
Scott Thomsen, vocalist

Christ, above all glory seated, King triumphant, strong to save!
Dying, you have death defeated, buried, you have spoiled the grave.
You have gone where now is given what no mortal might could gain,
on th'eternal throne of heaven in your Father's pow'r to reign.

Then will kingdoms all adore you, heav'n above and earth below,
while the depths of hell before you trembling and defeated bow.
We will praise you, Lord and Savior, and implore your grace and love;
hear our pray'r and help us always seek the things that are above.

Lord, when you again in glory on the clouds of heav'n shall shine,
we, your church, shall stand before you, brought from all the days of time.
In your faithfulness confiding, Jesus, we shall all adore:
praise and glory, thanks and honor, pow'r and strength forevermore!

†Call to Worshipfrom Colossians 3

Leader: Since, then, you have been raised with Christ,

All: The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.

Leader: set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.

All: For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Leader: Let us worship God!

The one true God graciously invites us into his presence to worship him in spirit and in truth, and we eagerly respond in faith. This begins a dialogue which will continue to the end of the service as God initiates with us, and we respond to him.

*†Hymn of Praise—Hail the Day that Sees Him RiseLLANFAIR, HYMN #290
Sung by all Stanzas 1, 2, 4

†Invocation

† Indicates the congregation standing. *Ushers may seat worshipers at this time.

†The Confession of Faith The Heidelberg Catechism

Q. 46 What do you mean by saying, “He ascended to heaven”?

First published in 1563, the Heidelberg Catechism has been used by Christians around the world ever since. The Catechism summarizes the major teachings of Holy Scripture in one hundred and twenty-nine memorable questions and answers.

A. That Christ, while his disciples watched, was taken up from the earth into heaven and remains there on our behalf until he comes again to judge the living and the dead.

Q.49 How does Christ's ascension to heaven benefit us?

A. First, he is our advocate in heaven in the presence of his Father. Second, we have our own flesh in heaven as a sure pledge that Christ our head will also take us, his members, up to himself. Third, he sends his Spirit to us on earth as a corresponding pledge. By the Spirit's power we seek not earthly things but the things above, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand.

*†**Response**—A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing LASST UNS ERFREUEN, HYMN #289
Sung by all *Stanzas 1, 2, 4*

**A hymn of glory let us sing;
new songs thro'out the world shall ring:
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Christ, by a road before untrod,
ascendeth to the throne of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia!**

**“Again shall ye behold him so
as ye today have seen him go,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
in glorious pomp ascending high,
up to the portals of the sky.”
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia!**

**The holy apostolic band
Upon the Mount of Olives stand;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
and with his followers they see
Jesus' resplendent majesty.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia!**

Corporate Confession of Sin *(please kneel if able to do so)*

**Beloved Savior,
We, your chosen people, have received blessing upon blessing
from your gracious hand.
In your great love, you created us and gave yourself for us.
You have provided for us, protected us, and preserved us.
What more could you possibly do for us?
Shamefully, we do not regard your deeds
and we fail to acknowledge your mighty works.
We should be producing fruits of righteousness in response to your love,
but we live self-centered lives of overindulgence.
We call evil good and good evil.
We do the works of darkness, instead of walking in the light of your truth.
We are wise in our own eyes; we are foolish and arrogant.
We do not practice justice and mercy.
We reject your Law and despise your holy Word.
Lord of Hosts, you are exalted in your righteousness and holy in your justice.
We deserve your wrath and judgment. Please forgive us.
Remember your covenant with us and do not treat us as our sins deserve.
Through Christ we pray, Amen.**

Personal Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardoning Grace Ephesians 2:4-7

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

Having confessed our sins, the minister declares a gospel promise assuring that God forgives us because Christ has fully atoned for all the sins of those who truly repent. Divine mercy frees us from our guilt and shame.

Doxology OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise
him all crea-tures here be - low. Praise him a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host. Praise Fa - ther, Son and
Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

The word "doxology," coined in the 17th century, is a combination of the words "glory" and "word." A doxology is a "word of glory," a hymn of praise to the Triune God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit), who is one divine nature in three persons.

Summer Missions Commissioning Prayer

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Offering

Additional Ways to Give

- Online via the app or QR code on the front of the bulletin
- Text "Give \$" followed by the gift amount to 706.550.6813
- Mail checks to 615 Telfair Street, Augusta, Georgia, 30901

With grateful hearts for God’s extravagant mercy and blessing, we joyfully present our offerings to the Lord for the ministry of our church and community.

†**Passing of The Peace**

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

*Having been reminded
that we have peace with
God through our Lord
Jesus Christ, in response
to God's grace, we gladly
extend the peace of the
gospel to one another.*

Dismissal of Children:

- 8:30 and 11 a.m. – Pre-K and Kindergarten exit.

†**Hymn of Preparation—What Love My God**

Sung by all

VERSE

1. What love, my God, could bring You down to earth? What king would
2. What love, my God, would send the Way of Life to walk the
3. What love, my God, could hold You to the tree to bear that
4. What love, my God, so gra-cious and ex-treme was strong e -

take a low and lone-ly birth? Yet to this dark and bro-ken
road re-ject-ed and de-spised, that You might know the weak-ness
o-ver-whelm-ing debt for me? The Son of heav-en leaves the
nough to come and fight for me, to go through hell and down in -

place You came to sleep be-neath the stars that You had made.
I pos-sess and be my rock of strength and right-eous ness?
Fa-ther's side, the Heal-er bleeds, the Life was made to die.
to the grave and raise me up to see You face to face?

CHORUS

O Your love, my God, like a flood as heav-en o-pened up pour-ing
out on us. O praise the King who came to the
world in His love like a might-y flood.

M. Farren | J. Robinson | R. Thompson

New Testament Lesson **John 15:12-17**
page 1072 in the pew Bible

Response

Leader: This is the Word of God.

All: Thanks be to you, O God.

- ### 1. The Essence of Friendship (vv. 12–13)

- ## 2. The Experience of Friendship (vv. 14–15)

- ### 3. The Enhancement of Friendship (vv. 16–17)

†Hymn of Response—Jesus! What a Friend For Sinners!..... HYRFYDOL, HYMN #498
Sung by all Stanzas #1, 2, 3, 5

†Benediction

Postlude—Fugue in G Major J. S. Bach

We encourage you to join us again for corporate worship this evening at 6 p.m.!

Psalm 92 reminds us that it is good to declare God's steadfast love in the morning, and his faithfulness by night. Bookending the Lord's Day in morning and evening worship offers numerous benefits. It helps guard the entire day for spiritual refreshment and rest. Additionally, those who prioritize evening worship receive double the means of grace, joy and spiritual nourishment, including God's Word, prayer, praise, fellowship, and feasting at the Lord's table.