

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

August 31, 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*

Prelude—Praeludium in F J. L. Krebs
Fantasy on O For a Thousand Tongues..... J. Pethel

***Preparation for Worship**—Is There Anybody Here Who Loves My Jesus?R. Carter
Johnnie Felder, guest vocalist

†Call to Worship.....from Psalm 97

Leader: The LORD reigns, let the earth be glad;

All: let the distant shores rejoice.

Leader: For you, LORD, are the Most High over all the earth;

All: you are exalted far above all gods.

Leader: Rejoice in the LORD, you who are righteous,

All: and praise his holy name.

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**—Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing NETTLETON, HYMN #457
Sung by all

†Invocation

†The Confession of Faith..... The Westminster Confession of Faith
Christian, what do we believe about the providence of God?

We believe that God, who created everything, also upholds everything. He directs, regulates, and governs every creature, action, and thing, from the greatest to the least, by his completely wise and holy providence. He does so in accordance with his infallible foreknowledge and the voluntary, unchangeable purpose of his own will, all to the praise of the glory of his wisdom, power, justice, goodness, and mercy.
God’s providence reveals his almighty power, unknowable wisdom, and infinite goodness. His providence extends even to the fall and to all other sins of angels and men. These sins are not simply allowed by God, but are bound, ordered, and governed by him in the fullness of his wisdom and power so that they fulfill his own holy purposes. However, the sinfulness still belongs to the creature and does not proceed from God, whose holy righteousness does not and cannot cause or approve sin.

from Westminster Confession of Faith, 5.1 and 5.4

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

Response

Leader: The grass withers, and the flowers fall,

All: But the Word of our God stands forever.

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

Heavenly Father, we humbly confess that we are an anxious, fearful people. We do not trust you as we should and often try to control our circumstances to prevent hardship and pain.
We are slow to seek you in prayer, weak in perseverance, and quick to forget the faithfulness of your power and providence. We try to manipulate and scheme instead of resting in your promises and remembering your love.
Forgive us for the folly of self-preservation and self-trust.
Forgive us for doubting your goodness.
Forgive us for being conformed to this world and for placing our trust in possessions, power, and the wisdom of man.
Renew our minds and hearts that we might walk by faith and not by sight.
By your mercy, keep us steadfastly devoted to Christ and cause us to endure to the end, that we might receive your great salvation.
Through Christ Jesus we pray. Amen.

Personal Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardoning Grace Isaiah 30:15,18

For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel, “In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.” Therefore the Lord waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him.

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.

†Response—His Mercy Is More

Sung by all

1. What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done? Om -
(2. What) pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam? What
(3. What) rich - es of kind - ness He lav - ished on us. His

nis - cient, all - know - ing, He counts not their sum. Thrown
Fa - ther so ten - der is call - ing us home? He
blood was the pay - ment, His life was the cost. We

in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore. Our
wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor. Our
stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford. Our

Chorus

sins, they are man - y, His mer - cy is more. Praise the Lord, His mer - cy is

more. Strong - er than dark - ness, new ev - 'ry morn. Our

sins, they are man - y, His mer - cy is more.

(Repeat Chorus) Ending

2. What more. Praise the more.
3. What

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 Pre-K through 3rd grades exit. 4th and 5th grades remain in the service.
- 11 a.m. Pre-K through K exit. 1st through 5th grades remain in the service.

†**Hymn of Preparation—He Will Hold Me Fast**

Sung by all

Verse



1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
2. Those He saves are His de - light, Christ will hold me fast;
3. For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;



When the tempt - er would pre - vail, He will hold me fast.
Pre - cious in his ho - ly sight, He will hold me fast.
Just - ice has been sat - is - fied; He will hold me fast.



I could nev - er keep my hold through life's fear - ful path;
He'll not let my foot be lost; His prom - is - es shall last;
Raised with Him to end - less life, He will hold me fast



For my love is oft - en cold; He must hold me fast.
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.
'Till our faith is turned to sight, When He comes at last!

Chorus



He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;



For my Sav - ior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

A. Habershon | M. Merker

Old Testament LessonEsther 2:1-18
page 484 in the pew Bible

Response

Leader: This is the Word of God.

All: Thanks be to you, O God.

1. Fallen Systems

2. Fallen Saints

3. Faithful Savior

†Hymn of Response—Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us BRADBURY, HYMN #599

Sung by all

†Benediction

Postlude—ToccataG. Bélier

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.