

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

September 21, 2025

8:30 & 11 a.m.

Welcome!

We are so glad you are worshipping 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

*The sanctuary flowers are given in thanksgiving for the life of Dewey Cave, Jr.,
born 100 years ago last Sunday, September 14, 1925.
He was an Elder, a godly leader, and an honest man. Pr. 20:7*

Prelude—Partita on *The God of Abraham Praise*.....J. Weber

***Preparation for Worship**—The Gift of Love H. Hopson
Youth Choir

Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love; my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess,
But not be giv'n by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit come, our hearts control, sour spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide ev'ry deed. By this, we worship and are freed. Amen.

†Call to Worship from Psalm 18

Leader: The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my
shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

**All: I called to the LORD, who is worthy of praise,
and I have been saved from my enemies.**

Leader: The LORD lives! Praise be to my Rock!
Exalted be God my Savior!

**All: Therefore I will praise you, LORD, among the
nations; I will sing the praises of your 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**—The God of Abraham Praise LEONI, HYMN #34
Sung by all Stanzas #1, 2, 3, 6

†Invocation

Q. 1 What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.
He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.
Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life, and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

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.

Old Testament Lesson.....Jonah 3
page 921 in the pew Bible

Response

Leader: The grass withers, and the flower fades,

All: But the Word of our God stands forever.

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

**Gracious Savior and King,
We are the Body of Christ and you prayed that we would be one.
Your new commandment calls us to love one another as you have loved us.
You said our love for one another would prove the beauty and validity of our Christianity.**

**Yet, we continually fail in this, and often, we don't seem to care.
We talk about one another and spread gossip. We are contentious and fault-finding. We are quick to speak and slow to listen. We spread mistruths and speak half-truths. We defend and speak truth, but we do so with arrogance, harshness, and disrespect.**

**We treat as enemies, Christian brothers and sisters, with whom we disagree.
We allow the devil to divide us and grow hostility in our hearts toward your sons and daughters. We choose winning arguments over winning back our brother and sister into loving relationship. We are zealous to be right, but apathetic to pursuing peace and unity with one another. We are arrogant, judgmental and uncharitable in our thoughts about and words to one another. We mistrust, attribute motives, disrespect and even dehumanize those who don't agree with us.**

Please Father, forgive us! This is not the way of Jesus, nor the heart transformed by grace. Work your grace so deeply into our hearts by your Spirit, that we would love as Jesus loved, speak as he spoke, care as he cared, and serve as he served. Exchange our hard and hateful hearts for his tender heart of kindness and mercy. Purify our hearts, minds, and speech that we might display the good and pleasant unity you died to create. In the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Personal Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardoning GraceRomans 5:19–21

For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.
The law was brought in so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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—Christ We Do All Adore Thee

Sung by all

Christ, we do all a - dore thee, and we do praise thee for - ev - er;

Christ, we do all a - dore thee, and we do praise thee for - ev - er;

for on the ho - ly cross hast thou the world from sin re - deem - ed.

Christ, we do all a - dore thee, and we do praise thee for - ev - er.

rall.
(instrumental) Christ, we do all a - dore thee.

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.

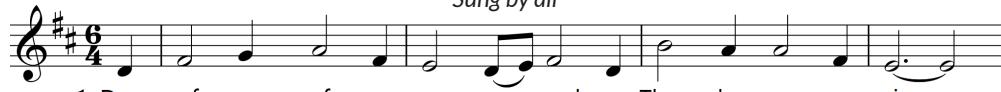
Having been reminded
that we have peace with
God through our Lord
Jesus Christ, in response
to God's grace, we gladly
extend the peace of the
gospel to one another.

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—Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul**

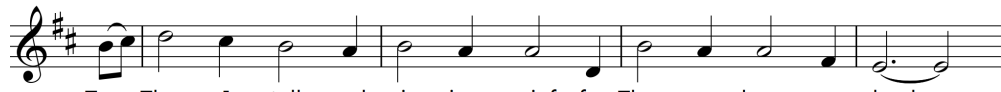
Sung by all



1. Dear ref - uge of my wea - ry soul, on Thee, when sor - rows rise,_
2. But oh! When gloom - y doubts pre - vail, I fear to call Thee mine;_
3. Hast Thou not bid me seek Thy face, and shall I seek in vain?_
4. Thy mer - cy seat is o - pen still, here let my soul re - treat;_



On Thee, when waves of trou - ble roll, my faint - ing hope re - lies._
The springs of com - fort seem to fail, and all my hopes de - cline._
And can the ear of sov - 'reign grace be deaf when I com - plain?_
With hum - ble hope at - tend Thy will, and wait be - neath Thy feet. _



To Thee I tell each ris - ing grief, for Thou a - lone can heal;_
Yet gra - cious God, where shall I flee? Thou art my on - ly trust;_
No, still the ear of sov - 'reign grace at - tends the mourn - er's prayer;
Thy mer - cy seat is o - pen still, here let my soul re - treat;_



Thy Word can bring a sweet re - lief for ev - ery pain I feel. _
And still my soul would cleave to Thee, though pros - trate in the dust. _
O may I ev - er find ac - cess to breathe my sor - rows there. _
With hum - ble hope at - tend Thy will, and wait be - neath Thy feet. _

A. Steele | M. Merker

Old Testament Lesson Esther 4:1-9
page 486 in the pew Bible

Response

Leader: This is the Word of God.

All: Thanks be to you, O God.

1. Mordecai’s Remorse (Experiencing Tragedy) (vv. 1-2, 6-8)
2. Esther’s Response (Responding to Tragedy) (vv. 4-9)
3. Corporate Repentance (Purpose of Tragedy) (v. 3)

†Hymn of Response—A Mighty Fortress Is Our God.....EIN FESTE BURG, HYMN #92

Sung by all

†Benediction

Postlude—Praeludium in G MajorJ. 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.