

First Presbyterian Church

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA



The Lord's Day Morning Worship

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT:
LOVE WITH US

December 14, 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

Prelude—Variations on IN DULCI JUBILO..... D. Bédard

***Preparation for Worship**—O Come, All Ye Faithful arr. D. Wagner
Andrew & Ansley Barnett, handbells

We invite you to use this time to quietly prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

†Call to Worship..... Galatians 4:4-7, John 3:16

Leader: When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through 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.

All: **For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.**

Leader: The Lord Be with you

All: **And with your spirit**

Leader: Let us Worship God!

***†Hymn of Praise**—Good Christian Men, Rejoice IN DULCI JUMILO, HYMN #207
Sung by all

Advent Candle Lighting and Scripture Reading (Love)

8:30 a.m.

The Cook Family (Sanctuary)
Brian & Julia, children Mandie Ruth, Dawson, Knox, Lottie

The George Family (St. Andrews Hall)
Brett & Lauren, children Henry, Bo, Oliver

11 a.m.

The Morris Family (Sanctuary)
Byron Jr. & Lauren, children Emma, Byron III, Naamen, Camilia

Response—Once in Royal David’s City IRBY, HYMN #225
Sung by all *Stanzas 1 & 4*

Once in royal David’s city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle
is our Lord in heav’n above,
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.

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, and forgetting we are your beloved.
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 1 John 4:9-10

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

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—God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen..... HYMN #211
Sung by all Stanzas 1 & 3

God rest you merry, gentlemen,
let nothing you dismay,
remember Christ our Savior
was born on Christmas day,
to save us all from Satan's pow'r
when we were gone astray;

“Fear not, then,” said the angel,
“let nothing you affright;
this day is born a Savior
of a pure virgin bright,
to free all those who trust in him
from Satan's pow'r and might.”

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort
and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort
and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Special Recognition

†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.

Giving As an Act of Worship

Additional Ways to Give

- Online via the app or QR code above
- 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.

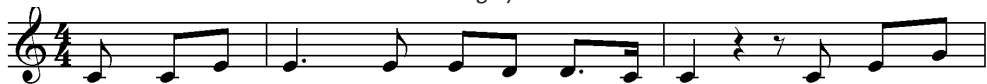
Having been reminded that we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, in response to God's grace, we gladly extend the peace of the gospel to one another.

Dismissal of Children:

- 8:30 a.m. Pre-K through 3rd grade exit.
- 11 a.m. Pre-K and kindergarten exit.

*† Hymn of Preparation—What Love My God

Sung by all



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.

Robinson, Thompson, & Farren

Sermon—When Love Comes to Town.....Dr. John Franks
1 John 4:9-10

1. Personified Love

2. Pursuing Love

3. Personal Love

4. Propitiatory Love

†**Hymn of Response**—Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Sendor.....HYMN #230
Sung by all

†**Benediction**

Postlude—IN DULCI JUBILO.....J. S. Bach

*We invite you to join us for our annual
Evensong Service this evening at 4:30 & 6:30 p.m.*