

First Presbyterian Church

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA



CHRISTMAS EVE: CHRIST

December 24, 2025

3 & 5 p.m.

Dear Friends, we warmly welcome you to this worship service and hope that the beauty and majesty of Jesus the Messiah and the wonder of Christmas will richly bless you. Advent season reminds us that Immanuel (God with us) loves us and has come to earth to bring forgiveness of sins, peace, joy, and eternal life to all who trust in Jesus Christ. If you would like more information about our church, or want to know more about salvation in Jesus Christ, please speak to one of our pastors following the service. Or you may contact the church office at 706.262.8900 or churchoffice@firstpresaugusta.org, and a pastor will gladly reach out to you. Merry Christmas!

642 Telfair Street • Augusta, Georgia 30901
706.262.8900 • firstpresaugusta.org

Leading the Services
Dr. John Franks, 3 p.m.
Rev. John Barrett, 5 p.m.
Pre-K and older remain in the service.

***Prelude**—Christmas Carol Medley
Brass, organ, and percussion

Christmas Video

Preparation for Worship—While By the Sheep, We Watched at Night.....HYMN #215
Infant Holy, Infant LowlyHYMN #216
Cherub Choir

†The Call to Worshipfrom Luke 1-2

Leader: The Angel said to Mary:
“Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end. The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.”

With Mary, we rejoice saying:

All: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

Leader: With Zechariah, we bless God saying:

All: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David.

Leader: With the Angels, we praise God saying:

All: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!

Leader: With Simeon, we bless God saying:

All: Our eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Leader: Let us worship God!

***†Carol of Praise**—O Come, All Ye FaithfulADESTE FIDELIS, HYMN #208
Sung by all

†Invocation

Advent Candle Lighting (Christ)

3 p.m. The Stone Family
Will and Rebecca; Elle, Walker

5 p.m. The Massucco Family
Bobby and Kelly; Sophia, Charlotte, Emily

We light the Advent candles and read Scripture in celebration of our Savior's birth. The three purple candles represent Hope, Peace, and Love, and the pink candle represents the Joy that is ours because of Christ's coming into the world and into our hearts and lives. The white candle in the center of the wreath is lit on Christmas Eve and represents the birth of Jesus. This tradition, dating back to A.D. 600, reminds us that the center of the Church and the center of our Christmas celebration is Christ Jesus.

†Advent Response—Good Christian Men, RejoiceIN DULCI JUBILO, HYMN #207
Sung by all

**Good Christian men, rejoice,
With heart, and soul, and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door,
And man is blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!**

**Good Christian men, rejoice,
With heart, and soul, and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
To gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!**

Advent Scripture Readings

Isaiah 11:1-10

3 p.m. Mary Margaret Weaver

5 p.m. Naamen Morris

*There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.
And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.*

*The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;
and a little child shall lead them.*

*The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.*

*The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.*

*They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.*

*In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall
the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.*

Matthew 1:18–25

3 p.m. Charlie House

5 p.m. Emmy Collier

*Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been
betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the
Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame,
resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the
Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as
your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit”.*

*“She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their
sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:*

*“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel”*

*(which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord
commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And
he called his name Jesus.*

Prayer and Offering

†Carol—Infant Holy, Infant LowlyW ZLOBIE LEZY, HYMN #216
Sung by all

Homily—The Greatest Story Ever Told.....Dr. Michael Hearon
Revelation 21:1-5, 22:1-5
page 1233 in the pew Bible

†Carol—Joy to the WorldANTIOCH, HYMN #195

Sung by all

The Lighting of the Candles—O Holy NightA. Adam

*Melissa Schultz, 3 p.m.
Tacy Fleury, 5 p.m.*

†Carol—Silent Night.....STILLE NACHT, HYMN #210

Sung by all

Stanzas 1, 3, & 4

Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
'Round yon virgin mother and child,
Holy infant so tender and mild.
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light.
Radiant beams from thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace.
Jesus, Lord at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

Silent night! Holy night!
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels, let us sing
Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born!

†Benediction *(Please lift hands)*

Postlude—Symphony No. 5, *Toccata* C.M. Widor

December 28, 2025

Morning Services
8:30 & 11 a.m.

No Sunday School

No Evening Service

January 4, 2026

Morning Services
8:30 & 11 a.m.

Evening Service
6 p.m.