

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

December 28, 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—From Heaven Above to Earth I Come J. Pachelbel
See Hymn 220 to reflect on the lyrics

Masters in This Hall arr. A. Giamanco

Masters in this hall, hear ye news today.
Brought from over sea, and ever you I pray:

Nowell! Nowell! Nowell!
Nowell, sing we clear!
Helped are all folk on earth,
For born is God's son so dear.

Nowell! Nowell! Nowell!
Nowell, sing we loud!
God today hath poor folk raised
And cast down the proud.
This is Christ the Lord, masters be ye glad!
Christmas is come in, and no man should be sad!

***Preparation for Worship**—Infant Holy, Infant Lowly Hymn #216
(Andy Reid, piano)

We invite you to use this time to quietly prepare your hearts and minds for the worship of our triune God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

†Call to Worship.....from Saint Augustine of Hippo (AD 354-440)

Leader: Let Sinners rejoice

All: For their Savior is born

Leader: Let the just rejoice,

All: For their Justifier is born.

Leader: Let the sick and infirm rejoice,

All: For their Great Physician is born.

Leader: Let the captives rejoice,

All: For their Redeemer is born.

Leader: Let slaves rejoice,

All: For their Master is born.

Leader: Let free men rejoice,

All: For their Liberator is born.

Leader: Let All Christians rejoice,

All: For Jesus Christ is born.

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.

†Invocation

†Confession of Faith.....Adapted from the Belgic Confession, Articles 17-18

We believe that our good God,
by marvelous divine wisdom and goodness,
seeing that Adam and Eve had plunged themselves into both
physical and spiritual death
and made themselves completely miserable,
set out to find them,
though they, trembling all over, were fleeing from God.
And God comforted them,
promising to give them his Son,
born of a woman,
to crush the head of the serpent, and to make them blessed.

We confess that God fulfilled the promise
made to the early fathers and mothers
by the mouth of the holy prophets
when he sent the only and eternal Son of God
into the world at the time appointed.
The Son took the “form of a slave”
and was made in “human form,”
truly assuming a real human nature,
with all its weaknesses, except for sin;
being conceived in the womb of the blessed virgin Mary
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
In this way Christ is truly our Immanuel—
that is: “God with us.”

†Response—Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence PICARDY, HYMN #193
Stanzas 1&4

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly minded,
for, with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.

At His feet the six-winged seraph,
cherubim with sleepless eye,
veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
“Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, Lord Most High!”

Corporate Confession of Sin—XX

Sung by all

(please kneel if able to do so)

Almighty and eternal God, you sent your only-begotten Son to reconcile the world to yourself.

We earnestly ask you to transform our hearts to deeply love and adore our Savior and King,

even our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.

Lift from our hearts the oppressive gloom of sin, so that we may celebrate the arrival of Christ with fitting joy.

Forgive us for our attraction to a godless world that does not know Christ. Forgive us for our pride, selfishness, hatred, and greed.

Forgive us for our failure to seek and establish your peace on earth.

Forgive us for not joining our Savior in bringing good news to the poor, sight to the blind, freedom to captives, and good news of salvation to lost people.

We ask you to grant us the gift of sincere repentance,

and we ask you to help us walk in the light. Through Christ our Lord we pray, Amen.

Personal Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardoning GraceGalatians 3:13-14

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree”— so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

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—On Christmas Night All Christians SingSUSSEX CAROL, HYMN #227 *Sung by all*

On Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring;
on Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring:
news of great joy, news of great mirth,
news of our merciful King’s birth.

When sin departs before His grace,
then life and health come in its place;
when sin departs before His grace,
then life and health come in its place;
angels and men with joy may sing,
all for to see the newborn King.

Then why should men on earth be sad,
since our Redeemer made us glad?
Then why should men on earth be sad,
since our Redeemer made us glad,
when from our sin He set us free,
all for to gain our liberty?

All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night;
all out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night:
“Glory to God and peace to men,
now and forevermore. Amen.”

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 & 11 a.m. Pre-K through and older remain in the service.

†Hymn of Preparation— Go, Tell It On The Mountain

Sung by all

(Ref.) Go, tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born. *Fine* ¹

1. While shep- herds kept their watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, be -
2. The shep- herds feared and trem- bled when, lo! a - bove the earth rang
3. Down in a low - ly man - ger our hum - ble Christ was born, and

hold, through - out the heav - ens there shone a ho - ly light.
out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn. *D.C.*

Spiritual

New Testament Lesson Romans 8:8-28
page 1122 in the pew Bible

Response

Leader: This is the Word of God.

All: **Thanks be to you, O God.**

Sermon—God Is Truly With Us Dr. Ken McHeard
Romans 8:8-28

1. The Spirit of Life (vv. 8-11)

2. The Spirit of Adoption (vv. 12-17)

3. The Spirit of Intercession (vv. 26-28)

†**Hymn of Response**—O Little Town of Bethlehem St. Louis, Hymn #201
Sung by all

†**Benediction**

Postlude— TOCCATA SUR II EST NÉ..... D. Bédard