

First Presbyterian Church

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA



VISION & VALUES

*Every Member
Commending the Greatness of God
through Worship*

January 7, 2024

8:30 & 11 a.m.

706.262.8900 • firstpresaugusta.org

COMMENDING THE GREATNESS OF GOD IN JESUS CHRIST
TO ALL PEOPLES AND ALL GENERATIONS

Prelude—Three Epiphany PreludesR. Hobby
As with Gladness Men of Old (Hymn #226)
Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning (Hymn #206)
Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesus, Lord, to you we raise,
Manifested by the star
To the Magi from afar,
Branch of royal David's stem,
In your birth at Bethlehem.
Anthems be to you addressed,
God in man made manifest.

Grant us grace to see you, Lord,
Mirrored in your holy Word.
May our lives and all we do
Imitate and honor you
That we all like you may be
At your great epiphany
And may praise you, ever blest,
God in man made manifest.

***Preparation for Worship—We Three Kings**.....J. Hopkins
Sung in Chinese; Sophia Tian, guest soloist

We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star.

Born a King on
Bethlehem's plain,
Gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
Over us all to reign.

*O star of wonder, star of light,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.*

Glorious now behold him arise;
King and God and sacrifice:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Sounds through the earth and skies.

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

†Call to Worship Psalm 100

Leader: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

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: Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him, and praise his name.

All: For the LORD is good, and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Leader: Let us worship God!

***†Hymn of Praise—As with Gladness Men of Old**DIX, HYMN #226
Sung by all Stanzas #1, 2, 5

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

†Invocation

Old Testament LessonExodus 19:2-6, 9-13, 14-22
page 71 in the pew Bible

The Sacrament of Baptism

8:30 a.m.Anne Everett Evans
daughter of Natalie and Will Evans

Madeline Faye Ann Bussey
daughter of Meg and Wes Bussey

Covenant Prayer for Children 11 a.m.

†Response—Jesus Loves Me

Sung by all

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Jesus loves me, this I know, | <i>Yes, Jesus loves me,</i> |
| For the Bible tells me so. | <i>Yes, Jesus loves me,</i> |
| Little ones to him belong; | <i>Yes, Jesus, loves me,</i> |
| They are weak, but he is strong. | <i>The Bible tells me so.</i> |

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

**God of everlasting love,
we confess that we have been unfaithful
to our covenant with you and with one another.
We have worshiped other gods: money, power, greed, and convenience.
We have served our own self-interest
instead of serving only you and your people.
We have not loved our neighbor as you have commanded,
nor have we rightly cared for ourselves.
Forgive us, gracious God,
and bring us back into the fullness
of our covenant with you and one another.
Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Personal Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardoning Grace Psalm 65:1-4

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall vows be performed. O you who hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come. When iniquities prevail against me, you atone for our transgressions. Blessed is the one you choose and bring near, to dwell in your courts! We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, the holiness of your temple!

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—Joyful, Joyful

Sung by all

| | |
|--|---|
| Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love. Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, Op'ning to the sun above. | Melt the clouds of sin and sadness. Drive the dark of doubt away! Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day! |
|--|---|

†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.

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.



NEW HERE?

Scan the QR code to:

- Let us know you are a guest
- Find out more about First Pres
- Request prayer

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.

Dismissal of Children:

- 8:30 & 11 a.m. Pre-K through 4th grade exit.

†Hymn of Preparation—Come, People of the Risen King
Sung by all

1. Come, peo - ple of the ris - en King, who de - light to bring Him
2. Come, those whose joy is morn - ing sun, and those weep - ing through the
3. Come, young and old from ev - 'ry land, men and wom - en of the

praise; Come all, and tune your hearts to sing to the Morn - ing Star of
night; Come, those who tell of bat - tles won, and those strug - gling in the
faith; Come, those with full or emp - ty hands, find the rich - es of His

grace. From the shift - ing shad - ows of the earth, we will lift our eyes to
fight. For His per - fect love will nev - er change, and His mer - cies nev - er
grace. O - ver all the world His peo - ple sing, shore to shore we hear them

Him, where stead - y arms of mer - cy reach to__ gath - er chil dren in.
cease, but fol - low us through all our days with the cer - tain hope of peace.
call, the truth that cries through ev - 'ry age: "Our__ God is all in all."

Refrain

Re - joice! Re - joice! Let ev - 'ry tongue re - joice! One heart, one

voice, O, church of Christ, re - joice! church of Christ, re - joice!

©2007 ThankYou Music

New Testament Lesson Hebrews 12:18-29
page 1197 in the pew Bible

Response

Leader: This is the Word of God.

All: Thanks be to you, O God.

Sermon—The Superiority and Grace of New Covenant Worship.....Rev. John Franks

- 1. New Covenant Reality (vv. 18-24)
- 2. New Covenant Responsibility (vv. 25-29)

†Hymn of Response—Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

Sung by all



1. Let us love_ and sing___and won - der; let us praise the Sav - ior's name.
2. Let us love_ the Lord___who bought us, pit - ied us___when en - e - mies,
3. Let us won - der, grace___and jus - tice join and point_ to mer - cy's store.



He has hushed the law's___loud thun - der; He has quenched Mount Si - nai's flame.
called us by___ His grace___and taught us, gave us ears___ and gave___ us eyes.
When through grace in Christ___ our trust_ is, just-ice smiles___ and asks___ no more.



He has washed us with His blood,___ He has washed us with His blood,
He has washed us with His blood,___ He has washed us with His blood,
He who washed us with His blood,___ He who washed us with His blood,



___ He has washed us with His blood;___ He has brought us nigh to God.____
___ He has washed us with His blood;___ He pre - sents our souls to God.____
___ He who washed us with His blood;___ Has se - cured our way_ to God.____

Laura Story | Six Steps Music

†Benediction

†Response to Benediction—Make Me a Blessing B. Wilson, G. Schuler

Sung in Chinese; Sophia Tian, guest soloist

Make me a blessing; make me a blessing.
Out of my life may Jesus shine.
Make me a blessing, O Savior, I pray.
Make me a blessing to someone today.

Postlude—March of the Magi..... G. Bizet

We invite you to join us for worship this evening at 6 p.m.