

First Presbyterian Church

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT *HOPE*

December 1, 2024

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

Prelude—Savior of the Nations, ComeJ. S. Bach

*Savior of the nations, come,
Virgin's Son, make here your home.
Marvel now, O Heav'n and Earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth.*

*From the Father forth he came
And returned hence to the same.
Captive leading death and hell—
High the song of triumph swell!*

*Praise to God the Father sing,
Praise to God the Son, our King,
Praise to God the Spirit be
Ever and eternally.*

Toccata on VENI EMMANUEL P. Long

***Preparation for Worship—O Children, Come..... K. Getty, arr. P. Campbell**

Canterbury Choir

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

†Call to Worship.....from Romans 15:8-13

Leader: Christ became a servant of his people in order to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm his promises, and in order that we might glorify God for his mercy.

All: Therefore we praise you O God among the nations and sing to your name.

Leader: Rejoice, you his people, praise the Lord and extol him.

All: Jesus the root of Jesse has come. He rules over the nations and in him we have hope.

Leader: May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing,

All: so that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may abound in hope.

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—O Come, O Come, Emmanuel VENI EMMANUEL, HYMN #194
Sung by all**

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

†Invocation

Advent Candle Lighting and Scripture Reading (Hope)

8:30 a.m.

The Bardoner Family (Sanctuary)
James and Meredith; Daniel, Eli, Maggie

The Coleman Family (St. Andrews Hall)
Josh and April; Simon, Israel, Josey, Kiersten

11 a.m.

The Statema Family (Sanctuary)
Marlin and Sharon

†Response—O Little Town of Bethlehem..... ST. LOUIS, HYMN #201
Sung by all *stanzas 1 & 4*

O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie;
above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by:
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

O holy child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in;
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.

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

**God of Mercy,
in Jesus Christ you came among us
as light shining in darkness.
We confess that we have not welcomed the light
or trusted good news to be good.
We have closed our eyes to your glory in our midst,
expecting little, and hoping for less.
Forgive our doubt, and renew our hope,
so that we may receive the fullness of your grace
and live in the truth of Christ the Lord.
We have closed our eyes to our besetting sins.
Forgive our pride, vanity, lust, selfishness, and indifference.
We have closed our eyes to the needs around us.
Forgive our apathy towards the poor. We have not sought justice; we have not
fought for peace.
Forgive us Gracious God, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Personal Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardoning Grace Psalm 130:4-5, 7-8

If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O LORD, who could stand?
But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared. O
Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing
love and with him is full redemption. He himself will redeem
Israel from all their 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—The First Noel

Sung by all

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
born is the King of Israel.

Now let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood our life hath bought.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
born is the King of Israel.

*Noël is “Christmas” in
French. Noel can also
mean good news, coming
from the French phrase
bonnes nouvelles (“good
news”).*

†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.*

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

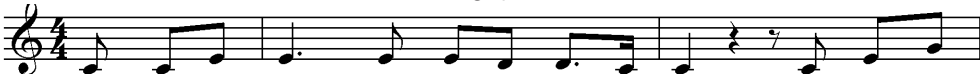
*With grateful hearts for
God’s extravagant mercy
and blessing, we joyfully
present our offerings to
the Lord for the ministry
of our church and
community.*

Dismissal of Children:

- 8:30 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—Born a Child and Yet a KingDr. Michael Hearon
Isaiah 9:1-7

1. Gloom (vv. 1-2)

2. Glory (vv. 3-6)

3. Grace (vv. 6-7)

†Hymn of Response—Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus.....HYFRYDOL, HYMN #198
Sung by all

†Benediction

Postlude—Toccata on HYFRYDOL..... D. Lasky

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