

First Presbyterian Church

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA



The Lord's Day Morning Worship

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT *LOVE*

December 15, 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*
- *Request prayer*

Prelude—Noel: When, at Bethlehem, God was Born L. C. D’Aquin
Toccata on REGENT SQUARE..... L. Smith

***Preparation for Worship—**The Night Is Turned into Light

*Madlen Salbo, guest vocalist
sung in Arabic*

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

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly, sweetly through the night
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their brief delight

*Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo*

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing,
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

†Call to Worshipfrom Luke 2:10–14

Leader: The angel said to them and now again to us,
“Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy
that will be for all the people

*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: **Today in the town of David a Savior has been born
to you; he is Christ the Lord.**

Leader : This is a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in
cloths and lying in a manger.”

All: **We join the great company of the heavenly host
who appeared with the angel, praising God and
saying,
“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to
men on whom his favor rests.”**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: **And with your spirit.**

Leader: Let us worship God!

***†Hymn of Praise—**Angels, from the Realms of Glory REGENT SQUARE, HYMN #218
Sung by all

†Invocation

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

Advent Candle Lighting and Scripture Reading (Love)

8:30 a.m.

The Wheeler Family (Sanctuary)
Doug & Sissy

The Leverett Family (St. Andrews Hall)
David & Barbara; Luke, Hannah, Sadie

11 a.m.

The Bassali Family (Sanctuary)
Reda & Eman

Response—Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor..... QUELLE EST CETTE, HYMN #230
Sung by all Stanzas 1 & 3

1. Thou who wast rich be - yond all splen - dor, all for love's sake be -
2. Thou who art love be - yond all tell - ing, Sav - ior and King, we
cam - est poor; thrones for a man - ger didst sur - ren - der,
wor - ship thee. Em - man - u - el, with - in us dwell - ing,
sap - phire - paved courts for sta - ble floor. Thou who wast rich be -
make us what thou wouldst have us be. Thou who art love be -
yond all splen - dor, all for love's sake be - cam - est poor.
yond all tell - ing, Sav - ior and King, we wor - ship thee.

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

Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on us.
We are stained by our sins and desperately long to be made clean.
Shepherds and wise men bowed down to worship you,
but we have bowed our hearts to idols of
self-indulgence, money, power, image, and comfort.

Forgive us for calling evil good and good evil.
Forgive us for the evil that is within us, and
forgive us for our passivity and cowardice concerning the evil around us.

We have not been agents of peace, righteousness, and justice.
Forgive us for remaining silent when we should be sharing
the good news of the Savior who has been born to us.
Have mercy on us and work in us, Immanuel our Lord and King. Amen.

Personal Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardoning Grace Luke 1:46–50

My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.
He who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
And his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

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 Ye Merry, Gentlemen GOD REST YE MERRY, 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.*

†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 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.

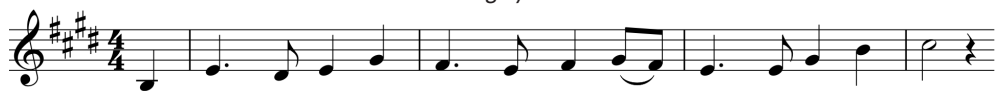
Having been reminded that we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, in response to God’s grace, we gladly extend the peace of the gospel to one another.

Dismissal of Children:

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

*†Hymn of Preparation—All Glory Be to Christ

Sung by all



1. Should noth - ing of our ef - forts stand, no__ le - ga - cy sur - vive,
2. His will be done, his king - dom come, on__ earth as is a - bove,
3. When on the day the great I AM, the__ faith - ful and the true,



un - less the Lord does raise the house, in__ vain the build - ers strive.
who is him - self our dai - ly bread, praise him, the Lord of love.
the Lamb, who was for sin - ners slain, is__ mak - ing all things new.



To you who boast to - mor - row's gain, tell__ me what is your life,
Let liv - ing wat - er sat - is - fy the__ thirst - y with - out price,
Be - hold our God shall live with us and__ be our stead - fast light,



a mist that van - ish - es at dawn, all__ glo - ry be to Christ!
we'll take a cup of kind - ness yet, all__ glo - ry be to Christ!
and we shall ere his peo - ple be, all__ glo - ry be to Christ!



All glo - ry be to Christ our King! All glo - ry be to Christ!



His rule and reign we'll ev - er sing, all__ glo - ry be to Christ!

Scottish Folk Song | D. Kensrue

Old Testament LessonMicah 5:1-5

Page 926 in the pew Bible

Response

Leader: This is the Word of God.

All: Thanks be to you, O God.

1. Chastisement for Sin (v.1)
2. Consolation from God (v. 2)
3. Characteristics of King Jesus (vv. 2-5)
4. Consequence of His Coming (vv. 5-15)

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

†Benediction

Response to Benediction—Shubho l'haw Qolo (The Word Became Flesh)
Madlen Salbo, guest vocalist
sung in Aramaic

Glory be to the Word;
to the Most High who became flesh
Our ears have heard Him
Our eyes have seen Him
Our hands have touched Him

Glory be to the Word, the great mystery
The Almighty God who took our flesh,
Coming to redeem us from the agony of hell
Casting out darkness from our midst

Goodness, love and security is in our homes.
Jesus has come to enrich us forever!

Postlude—Toccata sur Il Est Né.....D. Bédard

We invite you to join us for Evensong Festival of Lessons & Carols
this afternoon at 4:30 & 6:30 p.m.