

First Presbyterian Church

Serving Christ in Milledgeville

210 S. Wayne Street, Milledgeville, Georgia 31061
478-452-9394; fpchurch@windstream.net; www.fpcmilledgevilleorg
Like us on Facebook



Art by Stushi Art

**Followers of Christ, called to serve our community
and be an actively-engaging light to the world.**

We live into our faith, inspired by our worship, encouraged by our fellowship, empowered by our studies. As a Matthew 25 Congregation, we answer the call to provide food and shelter to those in need. As a More Light Presbyterians Congregation, we provide a safe and affirming worshiping community for LGBTQIA+ persons, celebrating the uniqueness and dignity of each person as they seek a home for their faith and confidence in the promises of God for them.

February 11, 2024
Transfiguration of the Lord

PRELUDE

To God Be the Glory

Christopher Tambling

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are delighted that you have joined us this Lord's Day. If you'd like to learn more about our mission and ministry, we invite you to speak to Rev. Susan. Thank you for being with us!

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

CHORAL INTROIT

Lord, the light of your love is shining

(GTG #192, vs. 1)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Congregation: Every time we encounter beauty, God's perfection shines forth, calling to us.

Leader: God's revelation is a devouring fire, burning away our doubts.

Congregation: The heavens declare God's righteousness, for God is the creator, the redeemer and the judge.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Gloria Burns

MORNING PRAYER

Holy and mighty God, gather us among your faithful ones, the people of your covenant, to stand in the light of your glory and listen for the word of the Lord, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*HYMN 403

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

CALL TO CONFESSION

God is vaster than the night sky, brighter than the sun, and wilder than a tornado. Yet, God loves us enough to come to us in ways that we see and understand, including Jesus Christ. Let us open our hearts to God, confessing the ways that we have fallen short of God's call to love our neighbor and love the Lord. We can do so knowing that our Creator, who is both the Lion of Judah and the sacrificial lamb, listens.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, when we encounter beauty and love and wonder in the world, so often we seek to control it, to contain it. Forgive us for all the ways we seek to pull things under our power, for the ways we fashion the world and put ourselves first. We are selfish, God. We push aside your command to love in order to seek comfort. Heavenly parent, we take this opportunity to acknowledge our lies and our denial, laying bare our hearts and minds before you now.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

CHORAL RESPONSE

Lord, I come to your awesome presence

(GTG #192, vs. 2)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

"Stand up, take your mat and walk." Jesus says to the crippled man he has healed. We, too, are healed. Transformed by Christ's redemption, let us get up and walk together.

Thanks be to God.

GLORIA PATRI

HYMN NO. 581

**Glory be to the Creator, and to the Christ and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end!
Amen, amen**

THE PEACE
ANTHEM

Transfiguration

Mark Schweizer

*After six days, Jesus led Peter, James, and John
high upon a mountain top and was transfigured before them,
and his clothes became dazzling white,
And there appeared with him, Elijah and Moses.
Then came a cloud, overshadowing them,
and there came a voice,
"This is my beloved Son, O listen."*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Our God is the God who appeared to Moses on Mount Sinai and revealed
God's self to Elijah in a "sound of sheer silence" This is the same God in
our midst today. This is the same God who seeks us, who created us, who
loves us. Holy Spirit, move in our hearts and minds that we might hear
your message for us today.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

		Pew Bible Page #
OLD TESTAMENT	2 Kings 2:1-12	OT P 332
PSALM	Psalm 50:1-6	OT P 519
NEW TESTAMENT	2 Corinthians 4:3-6	NT P 180
GOSPEL	Mark 9:2-9	NT P 44

SERMON

Reverend Susan Balfour

THE LORD'S SUPPER

*HYMN 509

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

INVITATION

GREAT THANKSGIVING (see insert)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING



*God gifted us with free will that we might choose to worship the
Almighty in our words, actions and thoughts. Let us make the
choice now to honor the Word of God by the offering of our tithes,
trusting that our money, freely given, will be a blessing to God
and our neighbors. You may present your offering at the front of
the sanctuary, or if you prefer to contribute electronically, you
can do so using the PayPal QR Code in your bulletin or visit our
website at fpcmilledgeville.org.*



OFFERTORY
*DOXOLOGY

Communion in Christ

Todd Kendall

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

**Almighty, on the mountain top, you instructed Peter, James and John:
“This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” We are listening, God, and
we hear your call to make the world a better place alongside your Holy
Spirit. We offer you these gifts and our hearts alongside them. May they
be blessed to do your bidding.**

BEARING GOD’S WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 12

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Go in Peace. AMEN!

CHORAL BENEDICTION *As we gaze on your kingly brightness* (GTG #192, vs. 3)

*POSTLUDE

Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken Joseph Haydn, arr. Hal H. Hopson



CHURCH STAFF

Pastor, Rev. Susan Balfour, revsebalfour@gmail.com
Children & Youth, vacant
Admin. Asst., Lois Callender, fpchurch@windstream.net
Music Director, Dr. Jennifer Flory, jennifer.flory@gcsu.edu
Organist, Kate Phillips
Treasurer, Joel Burns

OFFICE HOURS

9am ~ 1pm M-Fri.

PASTOR OFFICE HOURS

10am ~ 1pm Tues-Fri.

If you would like to schedule an appt.
with Rev. Susan, please call the office
(478) 452-9394.



MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS

RADIO MINISTRY
WKZR (102.3FM)



Under the Palm
Podcast: [https://
anchor.fm/susan-balfour0](https://anchor.fm/susan-balfour0)



CHURCH FAMILY:

Wesley Applebury, attending seminary in Atlanta, **Columbia Theological Seminary, D. Wesley Applebury, Box 289, 701 S. Columbia Dr., Decatur, GA 30030**

Beth Baarda, ongoing health concerns, at home in hospice care in LaGrange, GA
Nan Carpenter

John Sallstrom, at home recovering from heart valve surgery

Gini Wilkerson, recovering from brain surgery at home

EXTENDED FAMILY:

Nannette Green Allen, childhood friend of Margaret Ivester with serious health issues

Etta Bentley, Jennifer Flory's father's wife, ongoing health concerns

Judy Bledsoe, Mary Lucik's daughter, recovering from car accident

Michael Bledsoe, Mary Lucik's grandson, multiple health concerns

Brittany Caruthers, Sunda Coleman's niece, chemo treatment

Mike Chapman, Sue Bennett's brother, pneumonia

Margret Ellen (Meg) Clark, Margaret Ivester's daughter, ongoing health concerns

Susan Eilers, Mary Lucik's friend, cancer surgery

Don Goggans, Elaine Goggans' son, stage four cancer

Dee Hartmann, Susan Balfour's aunt, health issues

Alonzo Kelly, Craig Callender's father, Stage 4 Melenoma

Elizabeth Knobel, Carolyn Morgan's daughter, cancer stable

PJ Malagisi, former elementary student of Jennifer Flory, traumatic brain injury

Julie Montemayor, Becky Henderson's mother, ongoing health concerns

Mildred Moore, Sunda Coleman's aunt, in hospice care

Ben Morgan, Jenifer Flory's brother, ongoing health concerns

Janie Mullis, Bill Wert's son-in-law's mother, ongoing health concerns

Joanne Murphy, Kathy Carroll's mother, ongoing health issues- at Carlyle House in Macon

Paul Orman, Barbra Orman's husband, undergoing prostrate cancer treatment

Chris Pearson, Sunda Coleman's son, recovering at home; dialysis

Runette Pounds, Sunda Coleman's mother, ongoing health concerns,

Willy Sanders, Sunda Coleman's cousin, ongoing health concerns

Bob Smart, Anne Smart's husband, ankylosing spondylitis

Windy Spaide, Craig Callender's sister, in rehab

Randy Stewart, Haywood Edwards son-in-law, ongoing health concerns

Addie VanOrsdale, family friend of Cissy Lane, kidney failure

Dudley Weathers, Anne Weathers' husband, ongoing health concerns

IN ASSISTED LIVING

George and Nan Carpenter, PO Box 527, Jefferson, GA 30549

Jude Hirsch, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place

Nancy Holbrook, The Dublin Place, 504 Fire Tower Rd, Dublin GA 31021

Eloise Lamb, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place, Milledgeville, GA 31061

Maryanne Morris, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place

Jackie Northington, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place, Ste 3303

Suzy Smith, Savannah Court 1061 Willow Run Rd., Unit 4, Greensboro GA 30642

LIMITED MOBILITY

Martha Chappell

Helen Danuser

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH: February 11- February 18

Today 9:30 Sunday School
10:15 Children's Sunday School
10:15 Crochet Sunday School
11:00 Worship with communion
12:00 Pancake Brunch Youth Fundraiser
5:00 PW Bible Study

Monday **6:30 PFLAG**
7:00 MSG

Tuesday 9:30 Food Pantry
11:00 PW Bible Study
12:00 Kiwanis

Wednesday **5:30 Ash Wednesday joint service and dinner**

Saturday **1:30 Family Fun Hike at Selma Erwin**

Sunday 9:30 Sunday School
10:15 Children's Sunday School
10:15 Crochet Sunday School
11:00 Worship
12:00 Youth Group
1:30 Homeless Awareness Club

Offerings in February	\$4,877.00
Anticipated February expenses:	\$19,736.00
(Monthly expenditures may exceed anticipated amounts)	



Join us for worship in-person, online at Facebook Live or on the radio at 102.3 WKZR radio every week.

Sunday: 9:30AM **Zoom Sunday School Class**, we are studying *The Collected Sermons of Walter Brueggemann*
www.Zoom.com, Meeting ID: 871 5078 2729
Passcode: 881336

Fellowship Sunday School Class, studying *Contrarians Guide to Knowing God: Spirituality for the Rest of Us* by Larry Osborne, Meeting in the Parlor Room

10:15AM **Children's Sunday School Class**, Feasting on the Word curriculum, singing, crafts and stories, meeting in the Fellowship Hall

Crochet Sunday School Class, learn to crochet while exploring your faith. A unique take on Sunday School, Meeting in the library

Wednesday: 6:30PM **Wednesday Night Potluck and Bible Study**, *The Other Evangelicals, A Story of Liberal, Black Progressive, Feminist and Gay Christians and the Movement That Pushed Them Out*, Meeting in the Fellowship Hall

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you

Congregation: And also with you

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is truly right and our greatest joy...

... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the celestial choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, Holy, Holy

552

Capo 3: (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (D)
F C F B^b C F

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of the
2 Bless - ed is he who comes in the

(A) (D/F#) (F#m) (G) (A) (Bm)
C F/A Am B^b C Dm

pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

(G) (D) (A) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (Dsus) (D)
B^b F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F

full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text

MUSIC: American folk melody; adapt. Marcia Pruner, 1980; arr. Richard Proulx, 1984

Music Adapt. © 1980 Church Pension Fund

Music Arr. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc.


LAND OF REST

According to Christ's commandment: We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory...


SERVICE MUSIC

553 Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen

Capo 3: (D) (A) (D) (G)(A) (D) (A) (D/F#)(F#m)
F C F B^b C F C F/A Am



(G) (A)(Bm) (G) (D) (A)(Bm) (Em7) (A)(Dsus)(D)
B^b C Dm B^b F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F



Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text

MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Richard Proulx, 1984

Music Arr. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc.

LAND OF REST

...Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty 403

1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me
 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so
 3 Speak, O Lord, and I will hear thee; let thy will be

en - ter there, where my soul in joy - ful du - ty
 un - to me; where we find thee and a - dore thee,
 done in - deed; may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee,

waits for God who an - swers prayer; O how bless - ed
 there a heaven on earth must be; to my heart O
 while thou dost thy peo - ple feed. Here of life the

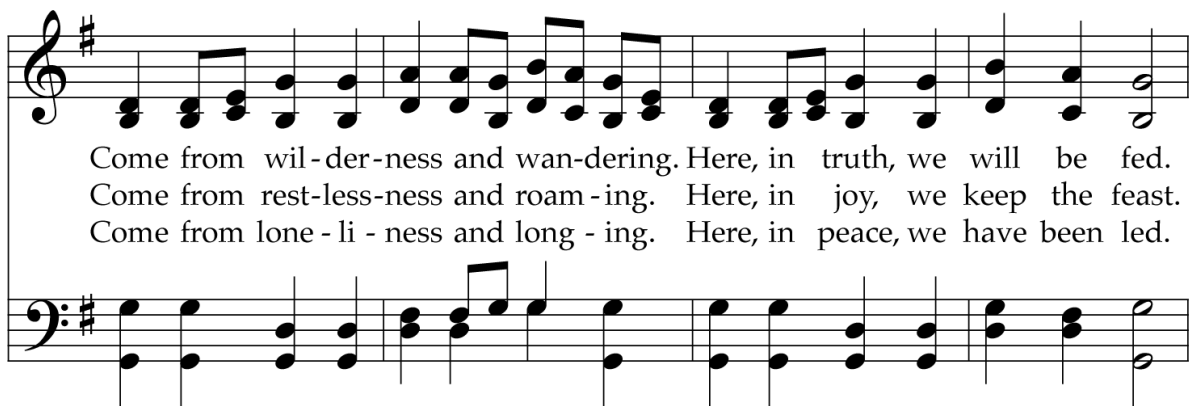
is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace.
 en - ter thou; let it be thy tem - ple now.
 foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

In the first stanza "Zion" is not a general synonym for Jerusalem but a reference to the part of the city where the Temple stood. It prepares the way for the interior temple of the heart in stanza two. The pre-existing tune is by a prominent German Reformed hymnwriter.

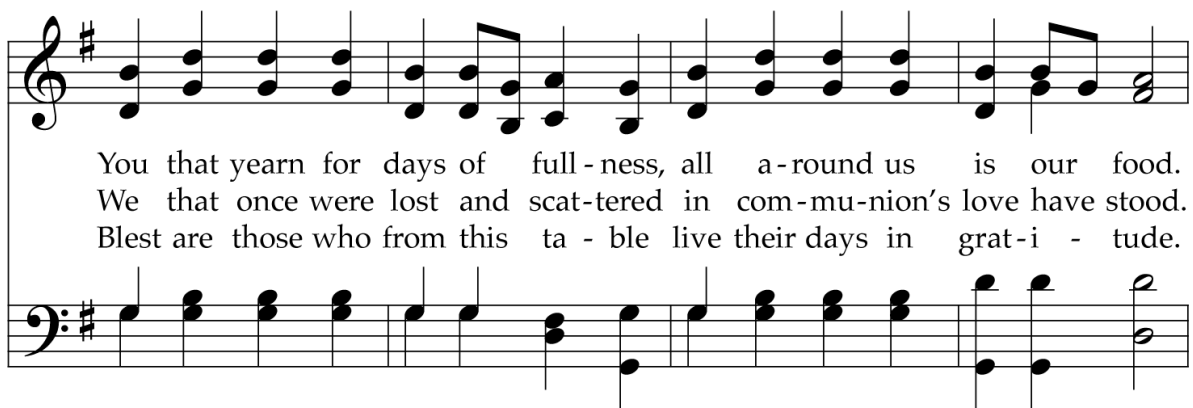
All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly 509



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.
 2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang - ers, seek - er, be a wel - come guest.
 3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er; Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil - der - ness and wan - der - ing. Here, in truth, we will be fed.
 Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
 Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here, in peace, we have been led.



You that yearn for days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.
 We that once were lost and scat - tered in com - mu - nion's love have stood.
 Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
 In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
 Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
 We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is