



A light of Christ actively engaging the world.

*First
Presbyterian
Church*
OF MILLEDGEVILLE, GEORGIA



210 S. Wayne St.
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www.fpcmilledgeville.com

Inspired by Scripture, guided by Spirit, and nourished by our life together, we seek to be a reflection of God's radical grace. We believe God's love models a world without walls; therefore, we provide a safe and affirming home where you are welcomed exactly as you are. No matter the color or your skin, who you love, your gender, or the unique ways your mind and body work, you have a place here. Following the way of Jesus and empowering one another to grow in faith, we commit to feeding the hungry, caring for those in need, and working for justice and peace in our community and the world—living out our confidence in the promises of God.

October 18, 2026
21st Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

Sweet Hour of Prayer

Robert J. Hughes

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made.

Congregation: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

CHORAL INTROIT

Rock of ages, cleft for me

GTG #438, vs. 1

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Sovereign God invites us to gather in reverence and truth.

Congregation: We come to worship the One who forms the light and creates all things.

Leader: In a world of competing powers and temporary rulers, God's dominion alone endures.

Congregation: We offer our hearts and our lives to the Living God whose image we bear.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sovereign God, you rule over the nations and claim every corner of creation as your own. In the noise of human empires and competing loyalties, quiet our restless minds and steady our devotions. Clear our vision of all counterfeit claims of authority, that we may recognize your indelible imprint upon our lives and render to you the worship, trust, and service that belong to you alone, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN 331**

God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Righteous God, we confess that we have compartmentalized our lives, giving the world our greatest energy while offering you only what remains. We have bowed to the false gods of power, wealth, and partisan triumph, forgetting that you alone are Lord. We have treated our neighbors as demographic tools or political opponents, failing to honor your sacred image in every person. Forgive our divided hearts, release us from our captivity to earthly empires, and restore us to the wholeness and freedom for which you created us, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE

Not the labors of my hands

GTG #438, vs. 2

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Thus says the Lord who created you: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine."

Congregation: God blots out our transgressions and remembers our sins no more.

Leader: In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven, reclaimed, and set free to live in grace.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

***GLORIA PATRI**

***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**

Leader: The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

**At this time young children may depart for the nursery.*

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

ANTHEM

From the Rising of the Sun

Gore Ouseley,
arr. Crawford R. Thoburn

*From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same,
my name shall be great among the Gentiles,
and in every place, incense shall be offered up unto my name:
thus saith the Lord.*

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 45:1–7

OT 674

NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 22:15–22

NT 24

SERMON

Whose Image Do We Bear?

SEALING THE WORD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

***HYMN 482** *Baptized in Water*

PRESENTATION

PROFESSION OF FAITH **Apostles' Creed**

*I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
the Creator of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.*

*He descended into hell.
The third day He arose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from
whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.*

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

THE BAPTISM

WELCOME

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (pg 35 in hymnal)

INVITATION TO OFFERING



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

Be Thou With Me

J. S. Bach, arr. Noel Rawsthorne

***DOXOLOGY**

***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 DEDICATION**

Sovereign God, we bring these offerings not as a tax paid to a distant ruler, but as a joyful sign of our whole lives dedicated to you. Use these gifts to feed the hungry, comfort the afflicted, and bear witness to your reign of justice and peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BEARING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN 757**

Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

While I draw this fleeting breath

GTG #438, vs. 3

***POSTLUDE**

Sortie Triomphale

Reginald W. Martin

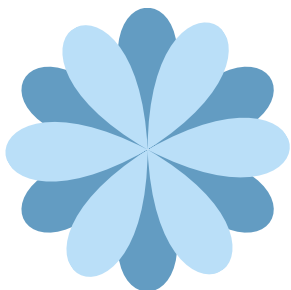
****At these times the congregation is invited to rise in body or in spirit.***

Liturgy written by the Reverend Marianne B. Turner. All music used by permission. CCLI License # 2910879 and streaming license # 23024105.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please share your ancestors' information with us ahead by October 20 for inclusion in the All Saints' Day remembrance. Call or text the church office, send an email, or drop by to let Jessica know where your loved ones are buried so she can add them to the list.
- This morning we are privileged to administer the Sacrament of Baptism to Henry Ethan, son of Nina & Philip Sligar.
- Next Sunday is Sandwich Squad day! The sign up sheet is in the fellowship hall.
- FPC and Kiwanis Club of Milledgeville have adopted the Little Free Library at The Depot! There is a box for book donations in the church entrance near the bulletins. Donations of children's books are especially encouraged.

We will celebrate Reformation Sunday next Sunday, October 25. All are invited to wear red, symbolizing the fire and guidance of the Holy Spirit throughout the church's ongoing renewal.



Flowers on the communion table today are dedicated to the glory of God and in honor of the Sligar family on the occasion of Henry's baptism.



**Join us for worship in-person or online
on Facebook Live every week.**

9:45 AM Engage Sunday School Class (meets in upstairs classroom), studying PC(USA) Engage Discipleship curriculum.

9:45 AM Bible Sunday School Class (meets in the Betty Newton Campbell parlor), doing an intensive study of the Book of Jeremiah. Please contact Joel Burns joelburns@gmail.com if you are interested in attending via Zoom.

9:45 AM Fellowship Sunday School Class (meets in the library) studying *God In Pain* by Barbara Brown Taylor.

9:45 AM Children's Sunday School Class, (meets in the Craft Room upstairs) singing, crafts and stories, & **Youth Sunday School Class** (meets in youth room upstairs) exploring *Faith Questions*.

12:00 PM Youth Group (Youth Room)

Wednesday: 6:30PM Wednesday Night Potluck and Bible Study, (meeting in the Fellowship Hall), reading *Liberating the Gospels: Reading the Bible with Jewish Eyes* by John Shelby Spong . Potluck at 6:30 and study at 7:00.



MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS



Church Staff

Pastor, Rev. Mari Turner (in office every Wednesday) revmariturner@gmail.com

Children & Youth, vacant

Administrative Assistant, Jessica McQuain

Music Director, Dr. Jennifer Flory, jennifer.flory@gcsu.edu

Organist, Kate Phillips

Treasurer, Joel Burns

Church Phone (478) 452-9394, **Cell** (478) 443-5203

Email: milledgevillepcusa@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS

9am ~ 1pm Mon-Thur.



@fpcmilledgeville



First Presbyterian Church of
Milledgeville, GA

Greeters

Oct. 18: Susan McGill & Becky Humphrey

Oct. 25: Charles Burrell & Anne Smart

Nursery Volunteers

Oct. 18: Charles Burrell/Nancy Miller

Oct. 25: Joel Burns/Susan McGill

Liturgist

Oct. 18: Glory Nwankonta

Oct. 25: Cecelia Odihe



Offerings in October \$ 9,292
Anticipated October expenses: \$ 18,242
(Monthly expenditures may exceed anticipated amounts)

This week at our church:

October 18-25

Today

9:45 Sunday School

10:40 Fellowship

11:00 Worship

12:00 Youth group

5:00 Elder Training

Monday

7:00 PATH/Oconee Recovery Coalition

7:00 Milledgeville Singers Guild

Tuesday

9:00 Samaritan's Ministry

9:30 Food Pantry

12:00 Kiwanis

5:30 In Our Best Interest celebration

7:30 NA Meeting

Wednesday

10:00 Mug with Mari

6:30 Potluck & Study

Thursday

7:30 NA Meeting

Saturday

9:00 Session retreat

7:30 NA Meeting

Sunday

9:45 Sunday School

10:40 Fellowship

11:00 Worship

12:00 Sandwich Squad

12:30 Youth group

5:00 Elder Training



Prayer List



CHURCH FAMILY:

Harry Beck, recovering from surgery
Debbie Lamsma, dealing with Parkinson's
Bob Smart, Anne Smart's husband, ongoing health concerns
Louise Sallstrom, ongoing health concerns
Ellen Thompson, ongoing medical issues
Laura King, recovering from a fall

EXTENDED FAMILY:

Lindsey Jones, friend of Gini Wilkerson, awaiting medical diagnosis
Bob Bray, Ann Hotchkiss' friend with a heart blockage, and his care team at Emory
Don Lucik, Mary Lucik's son, in the hospital
Oscar Jude Hall, Gini Wilkerson's nephew, born prematurely
Ron Bracewell, Joy Bracewell's father, ongoing with health issues
Darryl Allen, Andrew Allen's father, ongoing health concerns
Nannette Green Allen, childhood friend of Margaret Foster with serious health issues
Kathie Bishop, Mari Turner's mother, in memory care
Elizabeth Knobel, Carolyn Morgan's daughter, ongoing health concerns
Charles Morgan, Jennifer Flory's father, ongoing health concerns
Joanne Murphy, Kathy Carroll's mother, health issues—at Carlyle House in Macon
John J. Murphy, Kathy Carroll's father, recovering from kidney operation
Renee Pearson, Sunda Coleman's daughter-in-law, at home with health concerns
Randy Stewart, Haywood Edwards' son-in-law, ongoing health concerns
Ike Thomas, ongoing cancer treatments
Dudley Weathers, Anne Weathers' husband, at home in hospice care
Wayne Woodward, Ruby Werts' brother, diagnosed with Parkinson's

IN ASSISTED LIVING:

Jude Hirsch, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place
Laura King, The Cottages of Milledgeville, 1010 Fernwood Drive
Maryanne Morris, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place
Runette Pounds, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place
Louise Sallstrom, The Cottages of Milledgeville, 1010 Fernwood Drive
Suzy Smith, The Oaks Peake, 400 Foster Rd., A2, Macon, GA 31210

331 God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

(optional)

1 God of the a - ges, whose al-might - y
 2 Thy love di - vine hath led us in the
 3 From war's a - larms, from dead - ly pes - ti -
 4 Re - fresh thy peo - ple on their toil-some

hand leads forth in beau - ty all the star-ry band
 past. In this free land by thee our lot is cast.
 lence, be thy strong arm our ev - er sure de-fense.
 way. Lead us from night to nev - er-end-ing day.

of shin - ing worlds in splen - dor through the skies,
 Be thou our rul - er, guard - ian, guide, and stay:
 Thy true re - li - gion in our hearts in - crease.
 Fill all our lives with love and grace di - vine,

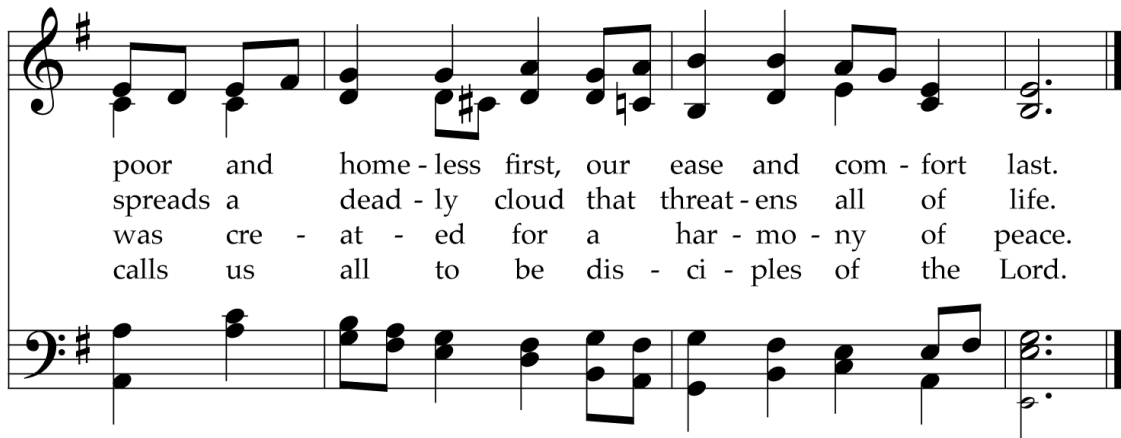
our grate - ful songs be - fore thy throne a - rise.
 thy word our law, thy paths our cho - sen way.
 Thy boun - teous good - ness nour - ish us in peace.
 and glo - ry, laud, and praise be ev - er thine.

This hymn was generated by 19th-century centennial celebrations: the words by the Declaration of Independence and the music by the adoption of the United States Constitution. Despite these origins, no specific nation is mentioned in this hymn of praise and prayer for peace.

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

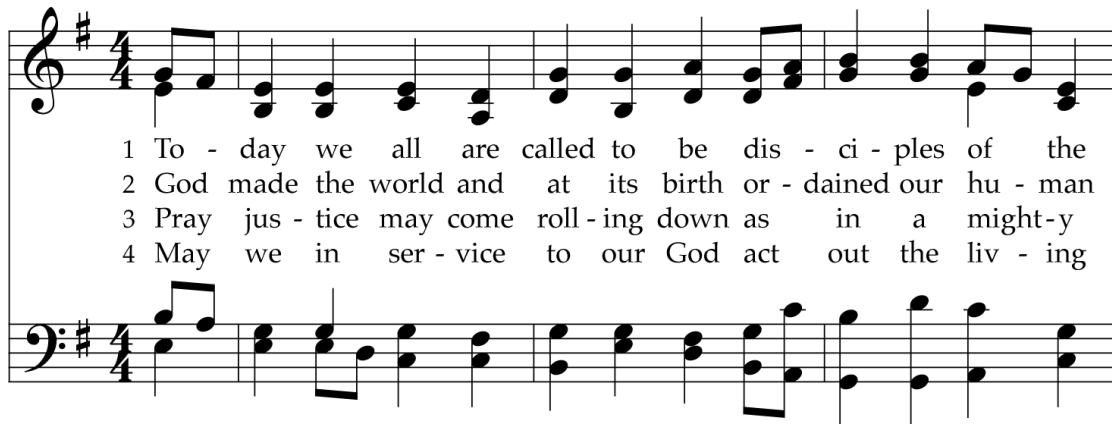


thirst, make love and peace our fast, to serve the
 proud; we sow not peace but strife. Our dis - cord
 store an earth where con - flicts cease, a world that
 we give thanks in one ac - cord to God who

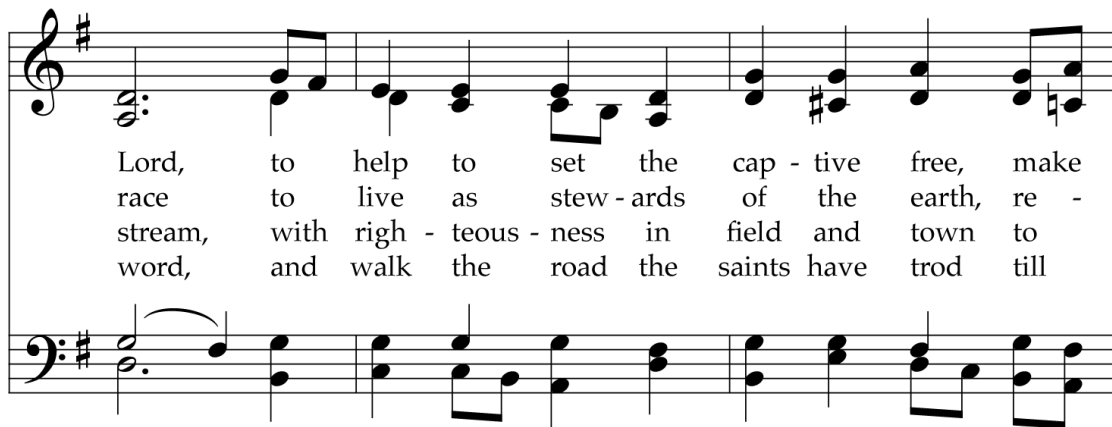


poor and home - less first, our ease and com - fort last.
 spreads a dead - ly cloud that threat - ens all of life.
 was cre - at - ed for a har - mo - ny of peace.
 calls us all to be dis - ci - ples of the Lord.

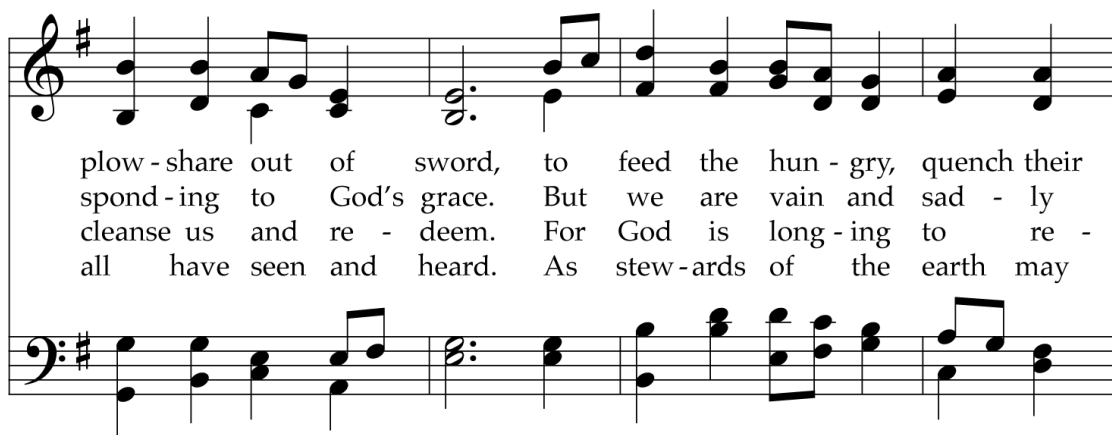
757 Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples



1 To - day we all are called to be dis - ci - ples of the
 2 God made the world and at its birth or - dained our hu - man
 3 Pray jus - tice may come roll - ing down as in a might - y
 4 May we in ser - vice to our God act out the liv - ing



Lord, to help to set the cap - tive free, make
 race to live as stew - ards of the earth, re -
 stream, with righ - teous - ness in field and town to
 word, and walk the road the saints have trod till



plow - share out of sword, to feed the hun - gry, quench their
 spond - ing to God's grace. But we are vain and sad - ly
 cleanse us and re - deem. For God is long - ing to re -
 all have seen and heard. As stew - ards of the earth may

This text placing stewardship in the context of faithful witness was written by a retired Presbyterian minister to be part of the 1986 stewardship campaign titled "Called to Be Disciples." The tune name recalls the Sussex village where the arranger first heard the melody.

Baptized in Water

1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
 2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
 3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the

blood of Christ our King; heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing the
 tomb with Christ our King; one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
 sign of Christ our King; born of the Spir - it, we are God's

prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.
 giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.
 chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.

Each stanza of this compact and carefully constructed text about baptism begins with allusions to John 3:5 and Ephesians 1:13. The interplay of constant and changing lines accentuates each added image. It is set here to a Gaelic tune first transcribed in the 19th century.