

First Presbyterian Church



210 S. Wayne Street, Milledgeville, GA 31061
(478) 452-9394

milledgevillepcusa@gmail.com
www.fpcmilledgeville.org

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.

September 27, 2026
18th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go* Richard Pantcheff

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

CHORAL INTROIT *Lord, we have come* GTG #503, vs. 1

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble.

Congregation: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

Leader: Come and see the works of the Lord, the desolation he has brought on the earth.

Congregation: He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear, he burns the shield with fire.

Leader: Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.

People: The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

You are high and lifted up, O God of hosts; the seraphim sing of your glory. Holy, holy, holy, you are the one we adore. The whole earth is full of your splendor; we see all about us signs of your grace. We come into your temple chanting your praises. You are our God of steadfast love and faithfulness; hear us as with our hearts we give you our thanks. Amen.

***HYMN 2** *Come, Thou Almighty King*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we confess that we have lived so comfortably in the abundance of our times that we have made things our gods. We spend our days dreaming of, and working for, possessions that cannot satisfy. The pursuit of riches replaces the quest for faith and faithful relationships. Redeem us from our self-destructive ways, restore us to your covenant community, and purify our intentions. In and through Christ we pray. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE *Here, at your table* GTG #503, vs. 2

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: We have received God's continuing offer to all humanity of a covenantal relationship.

Congregation: God forgives and redeems us.

Leader: Accept God's gift. Accept yourself, and know that this moment can mark a new beginning in faithfulness.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

***GLORIA PATRI**

(Hymnal pg. 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**

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

Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love!

Robert J. Powell

*Jesus! Name of wondrous love!
Name all other names above,
Unto which must ev'ry knee
Bow in deep humility.*

*Jesus! Name of priceless worth
to the fallen sons of earth,
For the promise that it gave,
Jesus shall His people save.*

*Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
Human name of God above;
Pleading only this, we flee,
Helpless, O our God, to Thee.*

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Exodus 16:1-8

OT 62

PSALTER LESSON: Psalm 145:15-20

OT 581

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Haggai 2:1-9

OT 878

SERMON

"Take Courage in the Small Things of Life"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(Colossians 1:15-20)

He is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation; for in him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or authorities - all things were created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him, all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the first-born from the dead, that in everything he might be pre-eminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him, to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

***HYMN 81**

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Hymnal pg. 35)

MOMENT FOR MISSION

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

Beatitudo

June Nixon

*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

BEARING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 687

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION *When, at your table*

GTG #503, vs. 3

*POSTLUDE

To God We Render Thanks and Praise

Quentin Thomas

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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Peace offering will be received October 4th. You can check out the inserts in your bulletin for more information about this special offering through PC (USA).
- Sandwich squad (30 minute service project) is TODAY after church! Join youth group to make sandwiches for our neighbors.
- Next Sunday is food pantry collection day. Canned and dry goods can be place in the baskets during the first hymn.
- There is also a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for those who wish to bring refreshments for fellowship & coffee on Sunday mornings.
- In a continuation of our Bicentennial celebration, we will recognize past church members and staff who are buried locally for All Saints Day, November 1st. If you have a relative or loved one you wish to be honored, please send the names and local cemetery information to the church office no later than October 20. Details of the recognition ceremony will be shared in October.

**Take
courage
...for I am
with you...**

Haggai 2:4, NRSV

Prayer List

CHURCH FAMILY:

Lisa Thomas, in the hospital
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, waiting on two hip replacements

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
Jax Bastow, dealing with child cancer round 2, and parents Catherine & Jason Bastow, family friends of Pat & Sherry Henry
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

Greeters

Sept. 27: John & Emily Bradley
Oct. 4: Margaret Foster & Susan McGill

♥ Thank you ♥
VOLUNTEERS!

Nursery Volunteers

Sept. 27: Joel Burns/
Oct. 4:

Liturgists

Sept. 27: Ruby Werts
Oct. 4: Becky Humphrey



Offerings in September \$ 12,821
Anticipated September expenses: \$ 18,242
(Monthly expenditures may exceed anticipated amounts)



THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH: September 27-October 4

Today	9:45	Sunday School
	10:40	Fellowship
	11:00	Worship
	12:00	Youth group + Sandwich Squad
Monday	7:00	PATH/Oconee Recovery Coalition
	7:00	Milledgeville Singers Guild
Tuesday	9:30	Food Pantry
	12:00	Kiwanis
Wednesday	7:30	NA Meeting
	6:30	Potluck & Study
Thursday	7:30	NA Meeting
Saturday	7:30	NA Meeting
Sunday	9:45	Sunday School
	10:40	Fellowship
	11:00	Worship
	12:00	Youth group

WORSHIP with us

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)

12:00PM 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.



2 Come, Thou Almighty King

1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy
 2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, mer - ci - ful,
 3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred
 4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal

name to sing; help us to praise:
 might - y Lord, our prayer at - tend.
 wit - ness bear in this glad hour.
 prais - es be, hence ev - er - more!

Fa - ther, all glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - to - ri - ous,
 Come, and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy word suc - cess;
 Thou who al - might - y art, now rule in ev - ery heart,
 Thy sov - ereign maj - es - ty may we in glo - ry see,

come, and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
 Spir - it of ho - li - ness, on us de - scend.
 and ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of power.
 and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

The author of this Trinitarian text is unknown, but this hymn has proved popular since the middle of the 18th century, partly because of its effective use of biblical metaphors, but also because of the strength of this tune, which was composed especially for these words.

81 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken



1 Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y of our God.
2 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - ering, see the cloud and fire ap - pear
3 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e - ter - nal love,



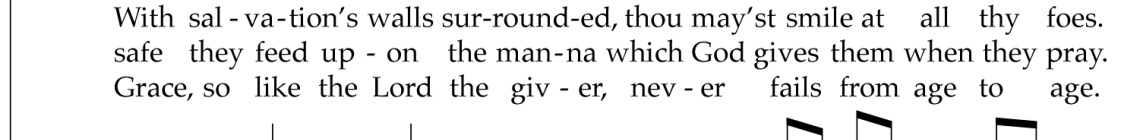
God, whose word can - not be bro - ken, formed thee for a blest a - bode.
for a glo - ry and a cov - ering, show - ing that the Lord is near.
well sup - ply thy sons and daugh - ters and all fear of want re - move.



On the rock of a - ges found - ed, what can shake thy sure re - pose?
Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and shade by day,
Who can faint while such a riv - er ev - er flows, their thirst to as - suage?



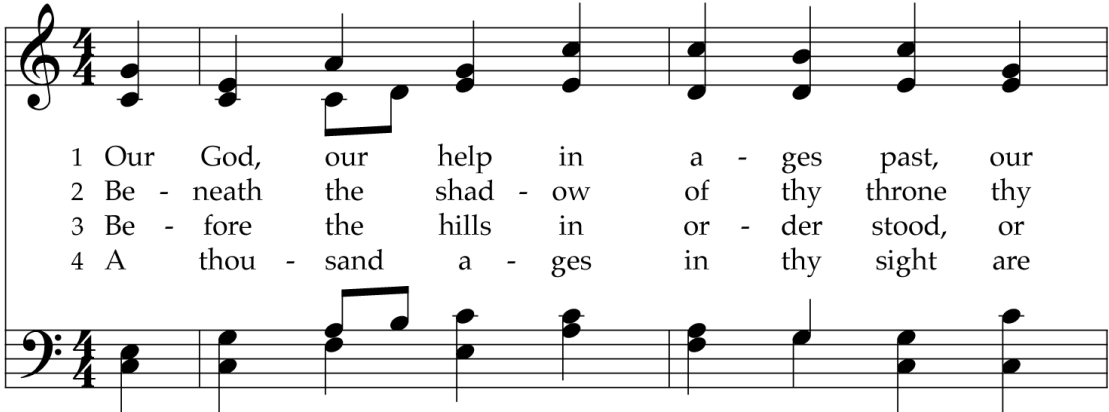
With sal - va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
safe they feed up - on the man - na which God gives them when they pray.
Grace, so like the Lord the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.



The Nazi appropriation of this tune for propaganda purposes has clouded a noble piece of music first associated with this text in 1889. In a 1779 collection, the author indicated that this hymn is primarily based on Isaiah 33:20-21 with allusions to several other passages.

687 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

(Psalm 90)



1 Our God, our help in a - ges past, our
 2 Be - neath the shad - ow of thy throne thy
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are



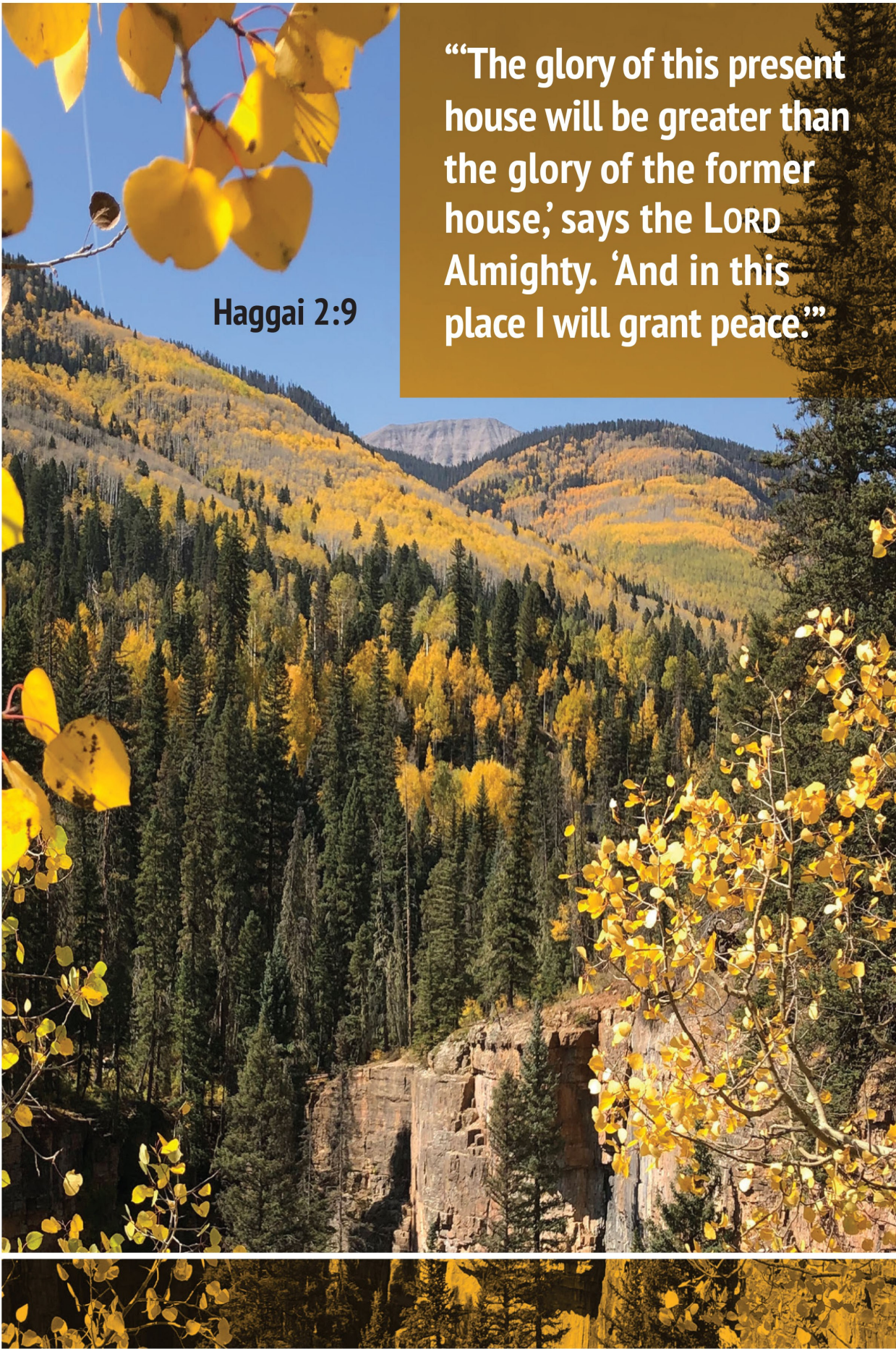
hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the
 saints have dwelt se - cure; suf - fi - cient is thine
 earth re - ceived its frame, from ev - er - last - ing
 like an eve - ning gone, short as the watch that



storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
 arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 thou art God, to end - less years the same.
 ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever rolling stream,
 bears all our years away;
 they fly forgotten, as a dream
 dies at the opening day.
- 6 Our God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come,
 be thou our guard while life shall last,
 and our eternal home.

Many people sing this hymn unaware that it paraphrases Psalm 90, partly because this text speaks so immediately to the human condition. Since the middle of the 19th century, it has usually been joined to this tune named for the London parish where the composer was organist.



Haggai 2:9

“The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,’ says the LORD Almighty. ‘And in this place I will grant peace.’”