



First Presbyterian Church

Pooler, Georgia

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

January 8, 2017

Today's Schedule

Prayer Meeting	9:15 am ~ 9:45 am
Sunday School	10:00 am ~ 10:45
Morning Worship	11:00 am ~ 12:00 pm

Welcome

We are so glad you have come to worship our great God with us today! We pray that God will use this worship service to increase your knowledge of, faith in, and love for Jesus Christ. If you are a visitor, you can learn more about our church by reading the back page of this bulletin. We do encourage children to be in and participate in our worship service, but we do have three nurseries available for them if needed. There is also a nursing mother's room in the women's restroom. If we can help you in any way, please feel free to speak with one of the ushers or pastors.

Lord's Day Morning Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Silent Prayer of Preparation

*Most merciful Lord, your love compels us to come in. Our hands were unclean, our hearts were unprepared;
But you, Lord, share your bread with sinners. Cleanse us and feed us this day, that we might be renewed by Your Word;
and that we, with the whole company of Christ, may sit and eat in your kingdom. Amen*

Call to Worship

Psalm 46:1-4, 10-11

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling, there is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns. Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth! The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Hymn of Praise

“Come, O Come Thou Holy Spirit”

Words anonymous (1838) and Julie Melucci; music by Julie Melucci; © 2015 Julie Melucci Music.

1. Come, o come Thou Holy Spirit light and life Thy grace imparts
Blessed Source of consolation guide our minds and fill our hearts
Grant my mind and my affections wisdom, counsel, purity
That I may be ever seeking -only that which pleases Thee -only that which pleases Thee
2. Savior lead us to adore Thee by the true and living way
Then with angel hosts before Thee may we worship, love and praise
Dwell within us, precious Spirit Where Thou art no ill can come
Bless us now through Jesus' merit -reign in every heart and home -reign in every heart and home
3. Holy Spirit, strong and mighty Thou who makest all things new
Make Thy work within me perfect help me by Thy word so true
In Thy faith, O make me steadfast let not Satan, death or shame
Of my confidence deprive me -Lord, my refuge is Thy name -Lord, my refuge is Thy name
4. When my final hour approaches let my hopes grow yet more bright
Let Thy love which never fails me dissipate the gloom of night
From that height which knows no measure fairer far than voice can tell
In Thy glorious courts of heaven -there, redeemed by Christ, to dwell -there, redeemed by Christ, to dwell

† Invocation

Scripture Memory for January

James 1:2-4

[2] Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, [3] for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. [4] And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Corporate Reading of the Law of God

Ex. 20:3-17; Matt. 22:37-40

You shall have no other gods before me.
You shall not make for yourself a carved image.
You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
Honor your father and your mother.
You shall not murder.
You shall not commit adultery.
You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
You shall not covet.

Hear also the words of our Lord Jesus, how he said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Hymn of Confession

"Jesus, I Come"

Words by William Sleeper, music by Greg Thompson; © 2000 Greg Thompson Music

1. Out of my bondage, sorrow and night, Jesus, I come; Jesus I come.
Into Thy freedom, gladness and light, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of my sickness into Thy health, out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,
Out of my sin and into Thyself, Jesus, I come to Thee.

2. Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm, out of life's storms and into Thy calm,
Out of distress into jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to Thee.

3. Out of unrest and arrogant pride, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy blessed will to abide, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love, out of despair into raptures above,
Upward forever on wings like a dove, Jesus, I come to Thee.

4. Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the joy and light of Thy home, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of the depths of ruin untold, into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,
Ever Thy glorious face to behold, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Isaiah 53:5

"But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed."

Returning God's Tithes and Offerings

1 Chronicles 16:29

"Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering and come before Him! Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness."

Children's Church: 4 Year Olds are now released to Children's Church located in the Pre-K/Kindergarten Room.

Offertory

"Oft in Sorrow"

Words by Henry White and Frances Fuller-Maitland, music by Justin Smith; © 2011 Justin Smith Music

1. Oft in sorrow, oft in woe,
Onward, Christian, onward go.
Fight the fight,
Maintain the strife,
Strengthened with the Bread of life.

3. Let not sorrow dim your eye,
Soon shall every tear be dry.
Let not fears
Your course impede,
Great your strength, if great your need.

2. Let your drooping hearts be glad.
March in heavenly armor clad.
Fight, nor think
The battle long.
Victory soon shall be your song.

4. Onward then in battle move,
More than conquerors ye shall prove.
Though opposed by
Many a foe,
Christian soldiers onward go.

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen!

† Offertory Prayer

Ryan Brown, Deacon

Sermon

John 15:1-7

“Living Connected to Jesus, Part 1: Union with Christ”

Rev. John Fender

Hymn of Preparation

“How Firm a Foundation”

1. How firm a foundation you saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

2. "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed, for I am your God, and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

3. "When through the deep waters I call you to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow,
for I will be with you in trouble to bless, and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

The Lord's Supper

Explanation of the Sacraments from the Heidelberg Catechism

66. Q. What are the sacraments?

A. The sacraments are holy, visible signs and seals. They were instituted by God so that by their use he might the more fully declare and seal to us the promise of the gospel. And this is the promise: that God graciously grants us forgiveness of sins and everlasting life because of the one sacrifice of Christ accomplished on the cross.

75. Q. How does the Lord's supper signify and seal to you that you share in Christ's one sacrifice on the cross and in all his gifts?

A. In this way: Christ has commanded me and all believers to eat of this broken bread and drink of this cup in remembrance of him. With this command he gave these promises: First, as surely as I see with my eyes the bread of the Lord broken for me and the cup given to me, so surely was his body offered for me and his blood poured out for me on the cross. Second, as surely as I receive from the hand of the minister and taste with my mouth the bread and the cup of the Lord as sure signs of Christ's body and blood, so surely does he himself nourish and refresh my soul to everlasting life with his crucified body and shed blood.

Closing Hymn

“How Firm a Foundation”

4. "When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie, my grace all-sufficient shall be your supply;
the flame shall not hurt you; I only design your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

5. "The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never, no never forsake!"

† Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”

Sermon Notes

John 15:1-7

“Living Connected to Jesus, Part 1: Union with Christ”

[1] “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. [2] Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. [3] Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. [4] Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. [5] I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. [6] If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. [7] If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

Context: Isaiah 5:1-7

_____ with Christ

Explained doctrinally: Romans 6:3-4

Explained metaphorically: John 15:1-2

The _____ that flow from our union with Christ

- 1) We are initially united with Christ in _____ (Eph. 2:4-5)
- 2) We are _____ in union with Christ (2 Cor. 5:21)
- 3) We are _____ through union with Christ (1 Cor. 1:30)
- 4) We _____ in the life of faith in union with Christ (John 10:27-28)
- 5) We shall be _____ with Christ (1 Cor. 15:22)
- 6) We shall be eternally _____ with Christ (1 Thess. 4:16-17)

Application:

Small Groups

Augustine: *Young adults:* Meets the 2nd and 4th Monday's at the Cope's home.

Meets **January 9, 2017** with dinner at 6:30pm and study from 7:15-8:15pm. Study on *Living a Godly Life* led by Kevin Eck

Covenanter: *For those who have children out of the house, retired or entering retirement.* Meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at the church.

Meets **January 11, 2017** with dinner at 6:30pm and study from 7:00-8:30pm. Study on *Finishing Our Course with Joy* course with led by Bill Gleason and Bob Sharp

Rincon: *For adults of all ages along with a class for youth.* Meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at the Larson's home in Rincon.

Meets **January 11, 2017** with dinner at 6:00pm and study from 7:00-8:00pm. Study on the book of Romans led by Michael Brown

Men's Study: Meeting the 2nd and 4th Fridays at Western Sizzlin.

Meets **January 13, 2017** from 7:00-7:45am. Study on Philippians, Led by John Fender.

Calvin: *For adults and families with young children:* Meets the 1st and 3rd Mondays at the church.

Meets **January 16, 2017** with dinner at 6:00pm and study from 6:45-7:45pm. Study on Romans led by Michael Brown

Knox: *For adults and families with school aged children:* Meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at the church.

Meets **January 18, 2017** with dinner at 6:00pm and study from 6:45-7:45pm. Study on Romans led by Michael Brown

Westminster: *For adults and families with youth group age children:* Meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at the church.

Meets **January 18, 2017** with dinner at 6:00pm and study from 6:45-8:00pm. Study on 1 Peter led by Clay Harden

Youth Group: *For students in grades 6-12.* Meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at the church.

Meets **January 18, 2017** with dinner at 6:00pm and study from 6:30-8:00pm. Study on the book of Romans led by Aaron Francis

Women's Morning Study: 12 week study meeting every Thursday morning at the church. Childcare is provided.

Dates and time coming soon.

Women's Evening Study: 12 week study meeting every Thursday evening at the church. There is no childcare.

Dates and times coming soon.

Worship Volunteers

*If you would like to serve in one of these ways, please e-mail Melissa Miles at melissa@firstprespooler.com
Adult nursery workers serve during both the Sunday School hour and the Worship hour.*

Serving This Week (1/8)

Nursery Captain

Elizabeth Brown

Infants

Jessica & Allison Mack

Movers

Donna Francis

Toddlers

Melissa Bebelos, Zach and Trace Baranowski

Ushers

Travis Cope, John Twibell, David Baranowski,

Zack Baranowski, Ryan Brown

John Jones (Deacon on Duty)

Sound

Ken Hayes

Serving Next Week (1/15)

Nursery Captain

Melissa Miles

Infants

Emma Kornegay, Madison Harden

Movers

Jennifer Mullis, Anders Martin

Toddlers

Jennifer Johnson, Brie Goodwin

Ushers

Ken Hayes, Joel Daniels, Drew Holbrook,

Bob Glover, David Salser

Caleb Johnson (Deacon on Duty)

Sound

Ryan Brown

Announcements for January 8th

Today: 9:15 am **Prayer Meeting**
 10:00 am **Sunday School**
 11:00 am **Morning Worship**
 There will be no evening worship

TODAY:

Sunday School resumes for everyone today at 10:00 am.

Change concerning Junior and Senior High Sunday School:

Starting **TODAY, Sunday, January 8th**, we will be splitting the Jr/Sr High Sunday school class in an attempt to more specifically teach to both older and younger students. We are thrilled about this opportunity and trust the Lord will use it as we can give more age specific instruction to our children.

COMING SOON:

MOPS Mom's Night Out - Friday, January 13th from **5:45-9pm**. At 5:45, we will meet at Jalapeno's for dinner, and then we will go to the Front Porch Coffee shop from 7-9. Please RSVP to Carlie at carliebmartin@gmail.com or Jennifer at jennifer.mullis23@gmail.com. You do not have to be a MOPS member to attend.

MOPS Meeting - Wednesday, January 18th from **9:30-11:30 am**. If you are interested in joining MOPS, please contact Carlie Martin or Jennifer Mullis.

PresWM Women's Workshop Sanctity of Life seminar -**Saturday, January 21st**, from 9:00 am-12:00 pm at RUF on Georgia Southern University's campus – Statesboro, GA. Email Crystal for more details crystal@firstprespooler.com

Annual State of the Church Luncheon- Sunday, January 22nd This is always an encouraging time of fellowship and reporting on God's goodness as we reflect on 2016 and makes plans for the coming year. Please fill out the info sheet in the bulletin and drop it in the offering plate today.

MOPS Preschool Fair - Wednesday, January 25th from **9:30am-12:30pm**. Join us for our annual school fair. Public, Private, home schools and more will be setup at this event to answer any of your questions. This event is free and open to the public!

SAVE THE DATE:

Marriage Emphasis Weekend- February 17-18 We are excited to announce our first marriage conference! This is one event you don't want to miss! Look for an email this coming week with registration and childcare details.

New Members Class: If you are interested in learning more about the ministry of First Pres. Pooler and are considering becoming a member, please join us for the four **Sundays in February** during the Sunday School time. A separate class will be held in which we cover four important topics: What is the church? What does it mean that we are Reformed? What does it mean that we are Presbyterian? And, How does this church do ministry? Let Pastor Fender (john@firstprespooler.com) or Crystal Twibell (crystal@firstprespooler.com) know if you are interested.

Volunteers Needed:

~**Nursery Workers Needed:** We need 3 volunteers to sign up to help in the nursery once every 6 weeks on Sunday Mornings. We also need 4 volunteers to sign up for Sunday Night nursery which would also be once every six weeks. Please contact Melissa Miles at melissa@firstprespooler.com if you can help.

~**In the sound booth:** No prior sound experience is needed, and you will be trained in what to do. If you are interested, please respond to Kevin Eck (eck_kevin@yahoo.com).

First Presbyterian Church of Pooler

Our Purpose:

We seek to glorify God by holding out the hope of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to our community, our country and our world to impact others to do the same.

Our Key Theological Commitments:

- The Bible is the inspired, inerrant, infallible Word of God.
- Salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone, in Jesus alone.
- The Church is God's ordained means of gathering and perfecting believers.
- The Church is to rely upon the ordinary means of grace (the Word, Sacraments, and Prayer) for the building of the kingdom.
- The Westminster Confession of Faith (including the Larger and Shorter Catechism) is the most accurate understanding of what the Scriptures principally teach.

Our Key Areas of Ministry:

- **Worship:** Giving glory to God with reverence and joy, according to the council of God's Word.
- **Evangelism:** Offering the hope of the gospel locally, nationally, and globally.
- **Discipleship:** Producing mature believers in Christ
- **Fellowship:** Experiencing the blessing of the communion of the saints.
- **Mercy:** Manifesting the love of God in deed.

Our Leadership:

- **Teaching Elder:** Rev. John Fender, Senior Pastor (john@firstprespooler.com)
- **Ruling Elders:** Randy Grovenstein, Kelly Larson, Nate Warfield, and Clay Harden
- **Deacons:** Ryan Brown, Travis Cope, Kevin Eck, Ken Hayes, Paul Hill, Caleb Johnson, David Brodmann, Stephen Mullis, and Bob Sharp
- **Director of Discipleship Ministries:** Michael Brown (michael@firstprespooler.com)
- **Director of Youth Ministries:** Aaron Francis (afrancis777@gmail.com)
- **Nursery Coordinator:** Melissa Miles (melissa@firstprespooler.com)
- **Event Coordinator:** Melissa Miles (melissa@firstprespooler.com)
- **Administrative Assistant:** Crystal Twibell (crystal@firstprespooler.com)
- **Director of Korean Ministries:** Rev. Cheol Kim (kchjdm@gmail.com)

Our Denomination:

The Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

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