

# *First Presbyterian Church*

## POOLER, GEORGIA



*A Service of Praise and Worship of  
Almighty God  
On the Lord's Day*

*October 18, 2026*

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*Seeking 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.*

# Order of Worship

If you are able, please silence and put away your cell phones.

(~~⌄~~-Please stand, if able)

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*"The LORD is in his holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before him." - Habakkuk 2:20*

## ⌄ CALL TO WORSHIP

### Psalm 100 - Responsive

*Make a joyful noise to the LORD,  
all the earth!  
Serve the LORD with gladness!  
Come into his presence with singing!*

**Know that the LORD, he is God!**  
**It is he who made us, and we are his;**  
**we are his people, and the sheep of**  
**his pasture.**

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving,  
and his courts with praise!  
Give thanks to him; bless his name!*

**For the LORD is good;**  
**his steadfast love endures forever,**  
**and his faithfulness to all generations.**

## ⌄ HYMN OF PRAISE

### A Mighty Fortress is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God,  
a bulwark never failing;  
our helper he amid the flood  
of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe  
doth seek to work us woe;  
his craft and pow'r are great;  
and armed with cruel hate,  
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide,  
our striving would be losing;  
were not the right man on our side,  
the man of God's own choosing.  
Dost ask who that may be?  
Christ Jesus, it is he,  
Lord Sabaoth his name,  
from age to age the same,  
and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled,  
should threaten to undo us,  
we will not fear, for God hath willed  
his truth to triumph through us.  
The prince of darkness grim,  
we tremble not for him;  
his rage we can endure,  
for lo! his doom is sure;  
one little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly pow'rs,  
no thanks to them, abideth;  
the Spirit and the gifts are ours  
through him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go,  
this mortal life also;  
the body they may kill:  
God's truth abideth still;  
his kingdom is forever.

## ⌄ HYMN OF PRAISE

### Behold Our God

Who has held the oceans in his hands?  
Who has numbered ev'ry grain of sand?  
Kings and nations tremble at his voice;  
all creation rises to rejoice!

**Behold our God, seated on his throne:**  
**come, let us adore him!**  
**Behold our King! Nothing can compare;**  
**come, let us adore him!**

Who has given counsel to the Lord?  
Who can question any of his words?  
Who can teach the One who knows all things?  
Who can fathom all his wondrous deeds?

Who has felt the nails upon his hands,  
bearing all the guilt of sinful man?  
God eternal, humbled to the grave;  
Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign!

## ⌘ PRAYER OF INVOCATION & 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.

## ⌘ CONFESSION OF FAITH

### **Heidelberg Catechism Questions 108-109**

*What does the seventh commandment teach us?*

**That all unchastity is cursed by God. We must therefore detest it from the heart and live chaste and disciplined lives, both within and outside of holy marriage.**

*Does God in this commandment forbid nothing more than adultery and similar shameful sins?*

**Since we, body and soul, are temples of the Holy Spirit, it is God's will that we keep ourselves pure and holy. Therefore he forbids all unchaste acts, gestures, words, thoughts, desires, and whatever may entice us to unchastity.**

## ⌘ THE GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
And to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:  
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

## **PUBLIC PROFESSION OF FAITH**

Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in His sovereign mercy?

Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?

Do you resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?

Do you promise to support the church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?

Do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of the church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

## **CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN**

**Almighty God, you who are rich in mercy to all who call upon you; hear us as we come to you humbly confessing our sins, and asking your mercy and forgiveness. We've broken your holy laws by our words and deeds, and by the sinful affections of our hearts.**

**We admit before you our disobedience and ingratitude, our pride and willfulness, and all our failures and shortcomings toward our fellow men.**

**Father, have mercy on us, and in your great goodness grant that from now on we may serve and please you in newness of life; through the merit and mediation of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

### ASSURANCE OF PARDONING GRACE Isaiah 55:6-7

"Seek the LORD while he may be found;  
call upon him while he is near;  
let the wicked forsake his way,  
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;  
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,  
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

### THE GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS 1 Timothy 6:17-19

As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

### OFFERTORY

#### He Will Hold Me Fast

When I fear my faith will fail,  
Christ will hold me fast;  
when the tempter would prevail,  
he will hold me fast.

I could never keep my hold  
through life's fearful path;  
for my love is often cold: he must hold me fast.

*Chorus:* **He will hold me fast;  
he will hold me fast;  
for my Savior loves me so—  
he will hold me fast.**

Those he saves are his delight;  
Christ will hold me fast;  
precious in his holy sight,  
he will hold me fast.

He'll not let my soul be lost;  
his promises shall last;  
bought by him at such a cost,  
he will hold me fast. **[Chorus]**

For my life he bled and died—  
Christ will hold me fast;  
justice has been satisfied;  
he will hold me fast.

Raised with him to endless life—  
he will hold me fast,  
till our faith is turned to sight  
when he comes at last! **[Chorus]**

### ⌘ 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

### PASTORAL PRAYER

## **NEW TESTAMENT READING**

### **Matthew 22:15-22**

p. 827 in the pew Bible

**Minister:** *This is the Word of the Lord*

**People:** Thanks be to God!

## **⌘ THE HYMN OF PREPARATION**

### **The King of Love My Shepherd Is**

The King of love my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
and he is mine forever.

And so throughout the length of days  
thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise  
within thy house forever.

Where streams of living water flow,  
my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow  
with food celestial feedeth.

## **PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD**

### **Sermon Series: Daniel: God's Kingdom Rises Daniel 6: "Lions, Laws, and Living in Exile"**

p. 743 in the pew Bible

## **⌘ CLOSING HYMN**

### **Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus**

Come, thou long expected Jesus,  
born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us;  
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art,  
dear Desire of ev'ry nation,  
joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see thee,  
Dayspring from on high, appear;  
come, thou promised Rod of Jesse,  
of thy birth we long to hear!

O'er the hills and angels singing  
news, glad tidings of a birth:  
"Go to him, your praises bringing:  
Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Born thy people to deliver,  
born a child and yet a king,  
born to reign in us forever,  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit  
rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all sufficient merit,  
raise us to thy glorious throne.

## **⌘ BENEDICTION**

**Assisting in Worship this Week: RE Clay Harden**

**Preaching: Rev. Dr. Kyle McClellan**

# *Sermon Notes*

October 18, 2026

## **Sermon Series - Daniel: God's Kingdom Rises Daniel 6: "Lions, Laws, and Living in Exile"**

**The Big Idea:** Living in exile means God's people must faithfully navigate competing legal claims of kingship.

**I. The more things change . . . (vv. 1-9).**

**II. Choose your laws carefully (vv. 10-15).**

**III. Wishing and witnessing (vv. 16-24).**

**IV. God moves in mysterious ways (vv. 25-28).**

## Announcements

**Adult Hymn Singing Class** | This afternoon at **4:30pm** (prior to prayer meeting). The hymn singing class is for youth and adults (6th grade and up). This month's children's music hour has been cancelled. Please note that there is no childcare for this event.

**Prayer Meeting & Sunday Supper** | All are encouraged to come to our monthly prayer meeting & fellowship meal this evening at **5:30pm**. Childcare is provided for the prayer meeting. Dinner will be fajita rice bowls. See Maggie Banks with any dietary questions or needs.

**Sanctuary Audio/Visual Update** | The main work will start soon and **there will be two weeks where we almost certainly won't be able to worship inside the sanctuary because of the work**. Those two Sundays are currently estimated to be **November 8th & 15th**. We plan to worship in the Fellowship Hall on those weeks. Parents, please note that any pews that are being stored around the Fellowship Hall are very unstable. Please do not allow children to play on or around pews.

**Women's Study** | Meets on **Monday from 1:00-1:50pm** or on **Wednesday from 6:00-7:30pm**. We will be discussing Hebrews 10-11 this week, using a study guide by Lydia Brownback (lessons 7-8). Study guides are available in the Women's Classroom. Childcare is provided for Wednesday evening study.

**Youth Group** | Meets this **Wednesday from 6:00-7:30pm** for students in 6th–12th grade. Dinner is provided. Please let Maggie Banks ([admin@firstprespooler.com](mailto:admin@firstprespooler.com)) know if your student has any dietary concerns.

### Week at a Glance

|            |        |                                |                                          |
|------------|--------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sun</b> | 4:30pm | Adult Hymn Singing Class       | Sanctuary                                |
|            | 5:30pm | Prayer Meeting & Sunday Supper | Adult Sunday School Room/Fellowship Hall |
| <b>Mon</b> | 1:00pm | Women's Bible Study            | Conference Room                          |
| <b>Wed</b> | 6:00pm | Youth Group                    | Youth Room/Fellowship Hall               |
|            | 6:00pm | Women's Bible Study            | Women's Classroom                        |

### Hymn of the Month:

"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

About this Hymn: Although this hymn is commonly known as the "Battle Hymn of the Reformation," Martin Luther called it "Ein Trost Psalm," meaning "a psalm of comfort." He once wrote, "We sing this psalm to praise God for being with us. He miraculously preserves his Word and Christendom against the gates of hell." The hymn had an extraordinary impact on sixteenth-century Germany as it spread the gospel throughout Europe, and it vindicates Luther's trailblazing convictions in both the power of great music and the singing of the Bible in the common tongue (From *Sing Hymnal*, "Hymn Stories").

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