

# First Presbyterian Church

Serving Christ in Milledgeville

210 S. Wayne Street, Milledgeville, Georgia 31061  
478-452-9394; fpchurch@windstream.net; www.fpcmilledgevilleorg  
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## Stewardship

a way of life

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.

**November 24, 2024**  
**Christ the King Sunday**

PRELUDE *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation* J. G. Walther

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. Restrooms & changing table are at the end of the hall to the left. Thank you for being with us!*

**GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD**

CHORAL INTROIT *The day of march has come* (GTG #269, vs. 1)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Through Moses, God said,

**Congregation: "Let my people go."** (Ex.9:1)

Leader: In scripture, the law declares:

**Congregation: "In the seventh year, you must cancel all debts."** (Deut.15:1)

Leader: With grace, Jesus said:

**Congregation: "Give one coat away."** (Luke 3:11)

Leader: With honesty, Jesus taught:

**Congregation: "Sell what you have, give that money to the poor."** (Matt. 19:21)

Leader: Faith has always involved letting go, releasing, setting free, dropping our nets, giving to others, and following.

**Congregation: So in this hour of worship, may we release that which binds us. May we worship with open, untamed, and porous hearts, so that we can walk freely with God.**

Leader: Let it be so.

**Congregation: Amen.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

Anne Smart

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Heavenly Father we pray that your Word will continue to remind us that our gifts and abilities are attributed to us so that they can be used to serve others. We pray that you touch our hearts so that we may serve honestly. Help us to be good stewards of your grace. Let the work that we do be a reflection of you and we pray that we use our gifts according to your will and purpose, in Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

\*HYMN 267 *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

CALL TO CONFESSION

*Christ sympathizes with our weaknesses. The one we call King in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, we admit to holding tight to that which we know and understand. We put you in a box to avoid the shades of gray that come with faith. We put worship in a box to avoid the discomfort of change. We put others in boxes labeled "worthy" and "unworthy." We put all that we have in a box and pray we won't run out. So in this moment, we confess to holding tight to fear, greed, and worldly structures. Forgive us for missing the point. Open our eyes to a new way—to a holiness found in open boxes, unclenched fists, shades of gray, and holy release. Gratefully we pray, Amen.**

**HEARING GOD'S WORD**

CHORAL RESPONSE *Till sin's fierce war shall cease* (GTG #269, vs. 2)

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*Hear the good news: Jesus Christ loves us and has set us free from our sins. In the name of Jesus Christ, and by the certainty of God's decree, know that we*

are forgiven! **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**

PEACE  
ANTHEM

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*  
*Hail to the Lord's Anointed,/ great David's greater Son!  
Hail in the time appointed,/ his reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression,/ to set the captive free;  
to take away transgression,/ and rule in equity.  
He comes with succor speedy/ to those who suffer wrong;  
to help the poor and needy,/ and bid the weak be strong;  
to give them songs for sighing,/ their darkness turn to light,  
whose souls, condemned and dying,/ are precious in his sight.  
O'er every foe victorious,/ He on his throne shall rest,  
From age to age more glorious,/ All blessing, and all blest.  
The tide of time shall never,/ his covenant remove.  
His name shall stand forever,/ that name to us is love.*

Robert J. Powell

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Gracious God, we release our hearts to you. First, we remove the pressure, for release requires the freedom to be moved. Then we allow our hearts to return to their original resting position— in sync with you, with the rhythm of summer cicadas, and this whole wild creation. Then, we pray that you will find our hearts available— not just physically, but emotionally and spiritually. So like the mockingbird releases her song, we release our hearts to you. Move in them. Stir us awake. Speak to us now. We are waiting. Amen.**

	<b>SCRIPTURE READINGS</b>	Pew Bible Page #
OLD TESTAMENT	2 Samuel 23:1-7	OT P 299
PSALM	Psalms 132:1-12(13-18)	OT P 574
NEW TESTAMENT	Revelation 1:4b-8	NT P 245
GOSPEL	John 18:33-37	NT P 113

SERMON

\*HYMN 273

MINUTE FOR MISSION

INVITATION TO OFFERING

*He Is King of Kings*

Reverend Susan Balfour

John Bradley



*The Lord God is Alpha and Omega, the one who is, who was, and who is to come, the Almighty. All that is, all that was, and all there will be belongs to God. Let us now return to God in part what is God's in whole. 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](http://fpcmilledgeville.org).*



Scan. Pay. Go.

OFFERTORY

*Let All Together Praise Our God*

Dietrich Buxtehude

\*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 THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

**Holy God, it is not always easy to give what we have. We count pennies. We weigh the pros and cons. We calculate what we have given before, and we remind ourselves what we are giving to now. We all have our money stories. And yet, even though it can take work for us to practice release, we trust that you can take these gifts— however freely or reluctantly given—and use them to build a more beautiful world. For that is who you are. You are forever building castles out of sand, disciples out of people, and new life out of cautious gifts. We believe; help our unbelief. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**BEARING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD**

\*HYMN 263

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION    Go in Peace. AMEN!

CHORAL BENEDICTION        *We follow, not with fears*

(GTG #269, vs. 3)

POSTLUDE

*Recessional on "To God Be the Glory"*

Douglas E. Wagner

The flowers today are given to the glory of God by BJ & Greg Jones.

Liturgy written by Reverend Sarah Are Speed, Sanctified Art and Walter Canter from  
*Presbyterian Outlook*

We welcome Jenny Moore back to the organ bench this morning.



# Lord, hear our prayers

## **LIMITED MOBILITY**

Helen Danuser

## **CHURCH FAMILY:**

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

Jack Bivens, ongoing health concerns- at Autumn Lane in Gray, GA  
Nan Carpenter, ongoing health concerns  
Ellen Thompson, waiting on double hip replacement

## **EXTENDED FAMILY:**

Nannette Green Allen, childhood friend of Margaret Ivester with serious health issues  
Mark Archer, Sunda Coleman's brother-in-law, hip replacement, recovering at home  
Michael Bledsoe, Mary Lucik's grandson, multiple health concerns  
Nick Carruthers, Sunda Coleman's great nephew, recovering from car accident in hospital

Blake Connolly, Mary Lucik's great grandson, ongoing health concerns

Taylor Croghan, Craig Callender's niece, EDS diagnosis

Susan Eilers, Mary Lucik's friend, cancer

Don Goggans, Elaine Goggans' son, stage four cancer

Marshall Hodgman, Donna Gautier's son, recovering from heart surgery at home

Alonzo Kelley, Craig Callender's father, Stage 4 Melanoma

Velma Kelley, Craig Callender's grandmother, ongoing health concerns

Elizabeth Knobel, Carolyn Morgan's daughter, ongoing health concerns

Donald Lucik, Mary Lucik's son, recovering from back surgery

Charles Morgan, Jenifer Flory's father, in rehab center following surgery

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

Paul Orman, Barbra Orman's husband, ongoing health concerns

Ambriea Pearson, Sunda Coleman's granddaughter, ongoing health concerns

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

Shaylee Pearson, Sunda's great-granddaughter, ongoing health concerns

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

Gloria Roberts, Bill Werts' cousin, recovering from a traumatic fall

Bob Smart, Anne Smart's husband, ankylosing spondylitis

Windy Spaide, Craig Callender's sister, ongoing 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 Woodard, Ruby Werts' brother, diagnosed with Parkinson's

## **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

Maryanne Morris, Fellowship Home at Meriwether, 10 Meriwether Place

Runette Pounds, Oaks at Lake Wildwood, Rm 109 Cherry St, 6191 Peake Rd, Macon, GA 31220

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

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH: November 24- December 1

Today	9:30	Sunday School
	10:15	Children's Sunday School
	11:00	Worship
	<b>12:00</b>	<b>Milly Free Fridge Service Opportunity</b>
	12:00	Youth Group
Tuesday	1:00	The Bridge UMC Worship
	9:30	Food Pantry
Wednesday	12:00	Kiwanis
	6:30	Pot Luck and Bible Study
Thursday	6:30	The Bridge UMC Women Bible Study
	Office Closed	
Friday	<b>12:00</b>	<b>Friendsgiving</b>
	Office Closed	
Saturday	<b>10:00</b>	<b>Hanging of the Greens</b>
Sunday	9:30	Sunday School
	10:15	Children's Sunday School
	11:00	Worship with Communion
	12:00	Youth Group
	1:00	The Bridge UMC Worship



**PRESBYTERIAN  
DISASTER  
ASSISTANCE**

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE



To give by phone, call 800-872-3283. To send a check, please designate where you want your gift to go on the memo line and mail to: Presbyterian Church (USA), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

Offerings in November	\$25,145.26
Anticipated November expenses:	\$17,147.00
(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: 852 8172 1781  
Passcode: 085809

**Fellowship Sunday School Class**, studying *Living the Resurrection* by Eugene H. Peterson, meeting in the Parlor Room

10:15AM **Children's Sunday School Class**, singing, crafts and stories, meeting in the Craft Room Upstairs

Wednesday: 6:30PM **Wednesday Night Potluck and Bible Study**, studying Letters to the Romans, meeting in the Fellowship Hall

# 267 Come, Christians, Join to Sing

1 Come, Chris - tians, join to sing: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 2 Come, lift your hearts on high: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 3 Praise yet our Christ a - gain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Loud praise to Christ our King: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 Let prais - es fill the sky: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 Life shall not end the strain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - jice;  
 He is our guide and friend; to us he'll con - de - scend;  
 On heav - en's bliss - ful shore his good - ness we'll a - dore,

praise is his gra - cious choice: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 his love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 sing - ing for - ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Like many other hymns of praise, this text was originally addressed to children but has been embraced by adults as well. Although the tune's repetitive elements suggest folk origins (possibly with alternating groups of singers), no specific source has been identified.

# 273 He Is King of Kings

Refrain

He is King of kings; he is Lord of lords, Je - sus Christ, the

first and last, no one works like him. O he is no one works like him.

1 He built his throne up in the air; and  
 2 He pitched his tents on Ca-naan ground; no one works like him; and  
 3 I know that my Re-deem-er lives; and

called his saints from ev - ery - where;  
 broke op - pres - sive king - doms down; no one works like him. O he is  
 by his love sweet bless - ing gives;

This African American spiritual is a classic example of how praise of God rises out of human experience. The repeated response “no one works like him” shows confidence that the sovereign, liberating Christ abounds with the very attribute the singers need in order to survive.



# 263 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

*Descant*

4 O that with yon - der sa - cred throng we at his feet may fall!

1 All hail the power of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;  
 2 Ye cho - sen seed of Is - rael's race, ye ran - somed from the fall,  
 3 Let ev - ery kin - dred, ev - ery tribe on this ter - res - trial ball  
 4 O that with yon - der sa - cred throng we at his feet may fall!

We'll join the song, and crown him Lord of all!

bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all!  
 hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!  
 to him all maj - es - ty as - cribe, and crown him Lord of all!  
 We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, and crown him Lord of all!

We'll join the song, and crown him Lord of all!

Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all!  
 Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!  
 To him all maj - es - ty as - cribe, and crown him Lord of all!  
 We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, and crown him Lord of all!

This 18th-century text celebrating the sovereignty of Christ has been through several expansions and contractions before reaching its present form. It is set here to the oldest American hymn tune in continuous use since first published in 1793, which was written for it.