

First Presbyterian Church

Cleveland, Georgia
November 17, 2024



Growing together by sharing Christ's love

First Presbyterian Church

26th Sunday After Pentecost

November 17, 2024

We Gather to Worship God

Prayer of Preparation for Worship

In the security of your love, mighty God, it is well with us. Our work is fulfilling, our relationships reflect your faithfulness, and our ability to trust is strengthened. We are here, seeking an extra measure of reassurance, the restoration of our best selves, and the clarification of our responsibilities. You are the builder in whose hands the church can become a community of joy and fulfillment. You keep watch over us, strengthening us to be the church wherever we live and serve. Be known to us now and save all who eagerly await your word. Amen.

Prelude to Worship “Shine, Jesus, Shine” (arr. Mark Hayes)

Greeting

This is the day that the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Welcome and Concerns of the Church

**Call to Worship*

Based on Psalm 127

Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.
Unless the Lord guards the city, the guard keeps watch in vain.
It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest.
We shall put our trust in the Lord who gives rest to God’s beloved.
Let us worship God!

**Gathering Prayer*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God of compassion and justice, take pity on us as we confess our sin. We are not the stewards Christ calls us to be. Riches possess us while others go hungry. We mismanage creation with our pollution and strife. Your goodness is betrayed by our lust for power. We abuse your provision for us by our selfish desires. Help us hear once again Christ’s call to be faithful, and through him forgive us as we repent of our sin and turn from it.

Assurance of Pardon

Remember the words of Scripture where it says, “For Christ has entered . . . into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf . . . to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself.” Brothers and sisters, all who repent and eagerly await him have the assurance that their sins are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

**Song of Response*

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.

We Hear the Word of God in Scripture and Song

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament

1 Kings 17:8-16

Charles Massingale

Anthem

“Celebrate the Day” (Pepper Choplin)

Gospel

Mark 12:38-44

Sermon

“Just a Mite”

**Hymn*

“Great God of Every Blessing”

GtG #694

We Respond to the Word of God

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Heidelberg Catechism (Q&A 86)

Since we have been delivered from our misery by grace through Christ without any merit of our own, why then should we do good works?

Because Christ, having redeemed us by his blood, is also restoring us by his Spirit into his image, so that with our whole lives

we may show that we are thankful to God for his benefits, so that he may be praised through us, so that we may be assured of our faith by its fruits, and so that by our godly living our neighbors may be won over to Christ.

Prayers of the People and the 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.

A Minute for Stewardship

Offering

Offertory: A Time for Giving and Reflection

“Jesus is Tenderly Calling” (arr. Stan Pethel)

**Song of Gratitude*

“For the Life That You Have Given”

GtG #717

****Prayer of Thanksgiving and Consecration of Our Pledges***

***Hymn** “Take My Life” ” (v 1,2,4 and 6) GtG #697

****Charge and Benediction***

***Benediction Response** “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing” (v. 1)
GtG #546

Postlude “There Shall Be Showers of Blessing” (arr. Teresa Wilhelmi)



The flowers in the sanctuary are provided by
Kim Ciriello in honor of David’s birthday.

Remember in Your Prayers

Members’ Special Needs, at Home, or Hospitalized

Beth Chambers

Larry and Linda Hoppock

Family and Friends

John Ekdahl and his wife, Brenda - Kim Ciriello’s father

In the Military

- Zack Ciriello Ciriello and Murdoch family
- Greyson Ekdahl-McBride Ciriello and Murdoch family
- Charlsie Maddox Maddox family
- Tyler Lovell..... Royds family

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Operation Christmas Child: This year a limited number of shoe boxes will be available. We will not have a packing party this year. Shoe boxes may be picked up starting November 3 and must be returned to the church no later than November 17. If you include a \$10 check in the shoe box, please make the check out to Samaritan's Purse. If you make the checkout to FPC Cleveland, please drop it in the offering plate and we will make sure the money gets to Samaritan's Purse.

The Growing Place will have their Thanksgiving Feast on Thursday, November 21 at 11:00 am. The congregation is welcome to attend.

Friendship Nursing Home Pretty Nail Day - Looking for a few people that are willing spend an hour (10 am to 11 am, starting November 25) polishing nails for some of the residents at Friendship Nursing Home in Cleveland. It will brighten up their day and yours too. All supplies will be provided. Please text or call Retha Puvogel at (407) 574-9097 and let her know if you can help on November 25th and/or on possible future dates.

White Christmas - Again, this year, we will be working with Family Connections to help make Christmas a joyous event for families in White County. The Angel Tree is in the Upper Narthex. When you select an Angel from the tree, please place an Angel with your name in the basket provided. The gifts that you purchased should be returned to the church no later than December 8. **Unwrapped gifts** should be in one bag per child (should you choose gifts for more than one child) and labeled with the child's name.

The Week at a Glance

Monday, November 18

Office Closed

Tuesday, November 19

9 am - 1 pm Office Hours

8 am - 12 pm, TGP

10:00 am Session Workshop

Wednesday, November 20

9 am - 1 pm Office Hours

8 am - 12 pm TGP

6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 21

9 am - 1 pm Office Hours

8 am - 12 pm TGP - Feast at 11:00

Friday, November 22

9 am - 1 pm Office Hours

Sunday, November 24

9 am Choir Rehearsal

10 am Coffee & Conversation

11 am Worship Service

Announcements & Upcoming Events

3rd Annual Christmas in Mt. Airy will be Sunday, December 1, at 4:00 pm at the historic Mt. Airy Chapel.

Advent Bible Study: Yes, Advent Bible Study! This year we will be studying *On the Way to Bethlehem* by Rob Fuquay. We will meet on Wednesdays at 12:30 in the Fellowship Hall from November 27 through December 18. If you would like for us to purchase a book for you, please sign up on the sheet in the Upper Narthex.

Community Helping Hands Free Clinic - We will be helping provide a luncheon for the volunteers at the clinic on Tuesday, December 3. More information to come.

Presbyterian Women and Men will host a Christmas Party open to all on Tuesday, December 10, at 1:00 pm. at Chicago Pizza. Instead of a gift exchange, please bring a toy to be sent to Augusta for children affected by the recent hurricanes. Sign up in the Upper Narthex. Space is limited.

THE SESSION

Reverend Burnetta Armour, Moderator

Bruce Morgan, Clerk of Session

Jim Hiers, Clerk of Session, Emeritus



Class of 2024

Phil Baughman
Worship

Jim Crawford
Membership

Class of 2025

Bruce Morgan
Administration & Finance

Hugh Walters
Building & Grounds

Elaine Wiegert
Discipleship

Class of 2026

Judy Massingale
Membership

Nancy Webber
Communications

THE DIACONATE

Rita Morgan, Moderator

Judy Massingale, Session Liaison

Class of 2024

Viveca Cooper
Debbie Wessely

Class of 2025

Rita Morgan
Adele Page

Class of 2026

Kim Ciriello
Bob Thomason

Pastor:	Rev. Burnetta Armour
Director of Music:	David Arvold
Accompanist:	James Geiger
Organist:	Rachel Ficklin
Usher:	Elaine Wiegert
Greeters:	Charles Massingale, Hugh Walters, Collin Armour
Liturgist:	Charles Massingale
Elder of the Month for November:	Bruce Morgan
Deacon of the Month for November:	Rita Morgan