

# First Presbyterian Church

CLEVELAND, GA



*January 12, 2025*

*Growing together by sharing Christ's love*

# First Presbyterian Church

## Baptism of the Lord Sunday

### January 12, 2025

## We Gather to Worship God

### *Prayer of Preparation for Worship*

Holy God, when Jesus was baptized in the Jordan the heavens opened, the Spirit descended, and your voice affirmed your love in Jesus for the healing of the human race and all creation. By water and word, you lovingly invite us into this same life-giving mission. May your Spirit burn in us that we hear your word translated into deed and follow Jesus in paths of justice, right relationship, and peace. Amen.

### *Prelude to Worship*

### *Greeting*

based on Isaiah 43:1

Do not fear, for the Lord has spoken:  
**I have called you by name; you are mine.**

### *Welcome and Concerns of the Church*

### *The Passing of the Peace*

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

### *Hymn*

“Blest Be the Tie that Binds” (v. 1)

GtG #306

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.  
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

***\*Call to Worship***

Based on Psalm 29

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings;  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**Ascribe to the Lord the glory of God's name;  
worship the Lord in holy splendor.**

The voice of the Lord is over the waters;  
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

**May the Lord give strength to God's people!**

**May the Lord bless the people with peace.**

Let us worship God!

***\*Gathering Prayer***

***\*Hymn***

“There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit”

GtG #408

***Call to Confession***

***Prayer of Confession***

**Loving God, we are precious in your sight,  
yet we often forget that we are your beloved.**

**We confess that our love is fickle and inconstant.**

**We follow selfish goals**

**and deny that our way of life harms others and hurts your world.**

**We are sorry, and we want to change.**

**Create in us a clean heart,**

**strengthen our resolve,**

**reconcile us with one another,**

**and bless us with your peace. Amen.**

***\*Assurance of Pardon***

Beloved, God forgives us our sins;

know that we have been pardoned

and be at peace to love and serve the Lord.

**We are forgiven. Thanks be to God.**

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*\*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*                      Isaiah 43:1-7    Dick Frost

*Anthem*                      “I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry” (arr. John Helgen)

*Gospel*                                      Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

*Sermon*                                      “Baptized by Fire (and the Holy Spirit)”

*\*Hymn of Response*      “Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory”                      GtG #354

## **We Respond to the Word of God**

*\*Reaffirmation of Baptism*    From 1 Cor. 12:12–13

*Sentences of Scripture*

Hear these words from holy scripture:  
Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the  
members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with  
Christ.

**For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one  
body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made  
to drink of one Spirit.**

*Profession of Faith and The Apostles' Creed*

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God,  
do you turn from the ways of sin  
and renounce evil and its power in the world?

**I do.**

Who is your Lord and Savior?

**Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.**

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple,  
obeying his word and showing his love?

**I will, with God's help.**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Thanksgiving for Baptism*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Invitation to the Font*

*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.**

*Offering*

*Offertory—A Time for Giving and Reflection*

*\*Song of Thanksgiving*

*Doxology*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

*\*Prayer of Thanksgiving*

*\*Hymn*

“Baptized in Water”

GtG #482

*\*Charge and Benediction*

*\*Benediction Response*

*Postlude*

## *Remember in Your Prayers*

### *Members' Special Needs, at Home, or Hospitalized*

Family of Rev. Dr. Bill Hines

Beth Everling

### *Family and Friends*

Larry Parsons

Jim Rodgers, friend of Susan and Kim Mitchell

## *Announcements & Upcoming Events*

**Chili Charcuterie** - DATE CHANGE following Worship on January 19. Please sign up on the sheet in the Upper Narthex so that we can prepare enough food.

**Presbyterian Women Bible Study** will meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 14. Bring your lunch. Beverages and dessert will be provided.

**The ONESies** will restart on January 17, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. at the diner at Mountain Lakes Resort. Please let Betty Royds know, if you plan to attend, so she can let the diner know how many to plan for. Betty's number is 706-809-9080 and email [dandb1964@gmail.com](mailto:dandb1964@gmail.com).

**Wednesday Bible Study** - Disciple Fast Track Into the Word Into the World Genesis - Exodus will begin on Wednesday, January 22. This 12 week study will conclude on April 9. We will meet at 12:30, please bring your lunch and join us. If you would like for us to order a study manual for you, please put your name on the signup sheet in the Upper Narthex. The cost of the study manual is \$20.00.

## *The Week at a Glance*

### **Monday, January 13**

Office Closed

### **Tuesday, January 14**

9:00 - 1:00 Office Hours

8:00 - 12:00 TGP

12:30 PW Bible Study

### **Wednesday, January 15**

9:00 - 1:00 Office Hours

8:00 - 12:00 TGP

6:30 Choir Practice

### **Thursday, January 16**

9:00 - 1:00 Office Hours

8:00 - 12:00 TGP

10:30 Nursing Home Visit

### **Friday, January 17**

9:00 - 1:00 Office Hours

1:00 ONEsies Lunch

### **Sunday, January 19**

10:00 Coffee & Conversation

11:00 Worship Service

12:15 Chili Charcuterie Lunch  
Session Meeting

Pastor: ..... Rev. Burnetta Armour

Director of Music: ..... David Arvold

Accompanist: ..... James Geiger

Organist: ..... Rachel Ficklin

Usher: ..... Bill Woods

Greeters: ..... Charles Massingale, Hugh Walters, Collin Armour

Liturgist: ..... Dick Frost

Elder of the Month for January: ..... Bruce Morgan

Deacon of the Month January: ..... Rita Morgan