



First Presbyterian Church

POOLER, GEORGIA
912.330.9415 ∞ firstprespooler.org

A service of praise and worship of Almighty God On the Lord's Day

January 21, 2024 ∞ 10:30 in the morning

Order of Worship

(☞-Please Stand)

Preparation for Worship

We invite you to use this time to quietly prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

☞ Call to Worship

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!
Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,
whom he has redeemed from trouble

Psalm 107:1-2

The one true God graciously invites us into his presence to worship him in spirit and in truth, and we eagerly respond in faith. This begins a dialogue which will continue to the end of the service as God initiates with us, and we respond to him.

☞ 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.

☞ Holy, Holy, Holy

☞ All Sufficient Merit

☞ Be Thou My Vision

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.

Corporate Confession of Sin

You, O Lord, have promised that if we will confess our sins, you're faithful and just to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. And so we come in faith and repentance, seeking your forgiveness, that we may know the joy of your presence and the light of your face. You alone know how often we've offended you and hurt the lives of others. Forgive us, O Lord, for every unkind thought; every untrue word; every wrong act. Forgive us, for we've been selfish, and haven't thought of the needs of others. Forgive us for our ingratitude; our neglect of prayer; our carelessness in the use of money; our forgetfulness of our covenant with you. O gracious Father, have mercy upon us. Create in us a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within us; for the joy of our souls, and for the sake of your Son. Amen.

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

1 John 2:1-2

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

⌘ Corporate Confession of Faith

Q. What is justification?

A. Justification is an act of God's free grace, wherein he pardons all our sins, and accepts us as righteous in his sight, only for the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and received by faith alone.

Q. What is adoption?

A. Adoption is an act of God's free grace, whereby we are received into the number, and have a right to all the privileges, of sons of God.

Q. What is sanctification?

A. Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.

WSC Questions 33-35

The Westminster Shorter Catechism is a catechism written in 1646 and 1647 by the Westminster Assembly, a synod of English and Scottish theologians and laymen intended to bring the Church of England into greater conformity with the Church of Scotland.

The purpose of the Shorter Catechism is to educate people in the basic doctrines of the Reformed faith.

Pastoral Prayer

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

Matthew 6:19-21

With grateful hearts for God's extravagant mercy and blessing, we joyfully present our offerings to the Lord for the ministry of our church and community.

Offertory Song

Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me

⌘ The Doxology

The word “doxology,” coined in the 17th century, is a combination of the words “glory” and “word.” A doxology is a “word of glory,” a hymn of praise to the Triune God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit), who is one divine nature in three Persons.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Bill Gleason

Series—Romans

“The Right Man on Our Side”

Romans 8:31-39

⌘ In Christ Alone

⌘ Benediction

Romans 16:25-27

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

Assisting in Worship: Ruling Elder Marshall Davis III

Preaching: Rev. Dr. Bill Gleason

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.

Sermon Notes
The Right Man on Our Side
Romans 8:31-39

The Question: "If God is for us, who can be against us?" (v. 31)

I. The Intent of the Question

- Not to create _____
- Rather, to _____ them

II. What It Does Not Mean

- Not that you will never face _____!
- Not that you will _____ it all!
- Not that you will _____ it all!

III. What It Does Mean

- God's love for you is real and _____
- God's loving _____ is always at work
 - His mercy will never _____ you
 - His might will always _____ you
 - His providence won't fail to use it for your _____

IV. How to Apply It

- Let this truth quiet your _____
- Let this truth silence your _____
- Let this truth fuel your _____

Life Group Questions
Life Group Discussion Guide for January 21

Have someone in the group read aloud Romans 8:31-39

Some Questions to Discuss

1. How do these verses serve as the “climax” of Romans 8?

2. Is Paul’s question in v. 31 (“If God is for us, who can be against us?”) intended to make us wonder whether God really is, in fact, on our side?

3. According to the morning message, what are some things v. 31 does not mean?

4. What are some things it does mean?

5. Of two tendencies Christians have when trouble arises – fear or grumbling – which do you struggle with most. In light of Romans 8:31, what will you try to remember to tell yourself the next time something hard comes into your life?

6. Do you agree that Romans 8:31 can serve as fuel for our praise? Why or why not?

7. What was most helpful to you about this text/message?

Some Things to Pray About

1. For God’s ongoing provision for our congregation in our time of pastoral transition.

2. For our Staff and officers (Elders and Deacons)

3. For the spiritual and numerical growth of our Church

4. For our country as we begin the 2024 election cycle.

5. Share needs and praises within the group and pray about these.

Announcements

This Week

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|---------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Today | 11:45 am | Coffee, Cakes, & Conversation | Fellowship Hall |
| | 5:30 pm | LIFE Groups | Various homes |
| Wed. | 6:30 pm | Student Ministries - Youth Group | Fellowship Hall |
| | | Men's Evening Study | Conference Room |
| | | Women's Evening Study | Women's Classroom |
| Thurs. | 9:30 am | Women's Morning Study | Women's Classroom |
| Fri. | 7:00 am | Men's Morning Study | Conference Room |



Events

LIFE Groups | Life groups meet on Sunday evenings in homes around our area. This is an excellent opportunity to grow in your faith and deepen relationships within the church. This semester kicks off this Sunday, January 21st. If you have not been in a group, and would like to sign up, there are sign up sheets in the Fellowship Hall, as well as a link to sign up in this week's newsletter. If you have questions, please see Crystal Twibell.

Student Ministries | Wednesday night study will resume this week on January 24th at 6:30 pm, with a new series. Dinner will be provided.

Men's Bible Studies | Wednesday evening and Friday morning studies meet this week. The men's groups meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, as well as the following Friday. They are continuing to work through the series called The Dynamics of the Practical Christian Life.

Women's Bible Studies | Wednesday evening and Thursday morning Bible studies meet this week. They will continue working through the book of Acts. Contact Maggie Banks at admin@firstprespooler.com if you have any questions.

Women's Fellowship Event | Save the Date! February 2nd at 6:30 pm, the women will have a fellowship event. Details will be emailed soon.

Ministry Opportunities

Volunteers needed | We need volunteers in a variety of capacities specifically in the nursery, bringing snacks after service, and ushers. Please see Crystal Twibell to find out how you can help.