

“The Work of Christmas” Dan Forrest

When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flock, the work of Christmas begins: To find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among brothers, to make music from the heart! When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flock, the work of Christmas begins.

First Presbyterian Church ~ Pastor John Erthein

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Visit our Facebook pages:

First Presbyterian Church Bainbridge, GA and First Presbyterian Youth Group Bainbridge, GA

Officers and Ministry Leaders

Treasurer	Elder Virginia Smith
Clerk of Session	Elder Bud Holleman
Building & Grounds	Elders Johnny Bell, Dr. David Bryan
Christian Education	Elders Janie Adams, Bill Allen
Fellowship & Nurture	Elders Nancy Griffin, Peggy Shingler
Mission & Outreach	Elders Virginia Smith, David Wiggins
Personnel & Ministry Development	Elders Bob Glover, Dr. Angie Davis
Stewardship & Finance	Elders Johnny Bell, Steve Poitevint
Worship & Music	Elders John Powell, Bill Allen

Church Staff

Pastor	Pastor John Erthein
Office Manager	Cindy W. Markham
Choirmaster	Dr. Don Mobley
Pianist	Myra Williams
Dir. of Youth & Family Ministries	
Nursery Director	Rhonda Gay
Janitorial Service	Lawco Pro – Lee Lawrence
Dietitians	Beulah Handsford, Alice Stubbs

Pastor Emeriti

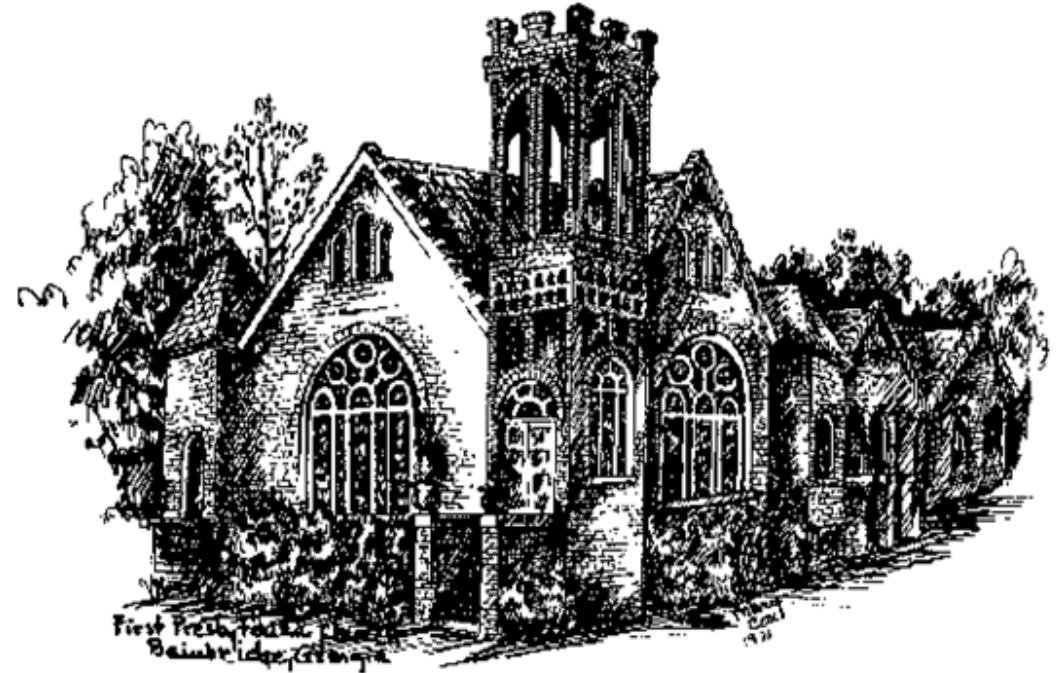
Dr. Albert L. Reese, Jr. ~ Dr. Gerald A. Little

Elder Emeriti

Vera Custer ~ Otis “Son” Toole
Jim Mitchell ~ Dr. Gordon Miller ~ Ray Inman

Our Corporation Officers:

CEO, Bill Allen ~ CFO, Virginia Smith ~ Secretary of Corporation, Bud Holleman



First Presbyterian Church

Bainbridge, Georgia

Service 10:30 A.M.

December 11, 2022

This church welcomes you no matter who you are, where you come from, or why you are here. We are Christ’s people, and this is Christ’s place with its doors open wide. If you are passing through, Godspeed; if you are looking for a home, stay here; if you need instruction, learn from us as we learn from you. We invite visitors to join us, but most of all, to return often.

Third Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2022

Elder on Call ~ Johnny Bell (229) 224-2111 ~ December 12-18, 2022

Liturgist ~ Tom Griffin

Striking of the Hour

Greetings and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Jason, Nichole, Sybil, and Henry Lee

Prelude “Angels We Have Heard on High” traditional French melody

Choral Introit “Sing Alleluia” Wes Cameron

Call to Worship Tom Griffin

L: Be strong, O people, and do not fear. Here is your God, come to save!

P: Let the eyes of the blind be opened, O God. Let the ears of the deaf be unstopped.

L: Strengthen our weak hands, O LORD. Make firm our feeble and weary frames!

P: Let the lame leap for joy, O God. Let the mute break forth in song.

L: Come, O ransomed of the LORD, and joyfully return to Zion. May your heads be crowned with everlasting glory!

P: Let sorrow and sighing cease. Rejoice and be glad at the presence of our God!

Prayer of Invocation Tom Griffin

* Hymn of Praise # 259 “Angels, from the Realms of Glory” (Optional extended ending)

* Prayer of Confession (Unison) Tom Griffin

Almighty God, look with favor upon the lowliness of your servants. For we confess that, in our pride, we have exalted ourselves and manipulated others; in greed and fear, we have tried to stave off the emptiness of our hearts and denied our inability to control our circumstances. Forgive us, Lord, for indeed, we are hungry and long to be filled with good things; we are weak, and we look to you for strength. Merciful God, look with favor on the lowliness of your servants! **Amen.**

* Silent Prayer of Confession

* Assurance of Pardon Pastor John Erthein

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down. The LORD sets the prisoners free. Those who fear the LORD from generation to generation will be shown mercy, but the way of the wicked will be brought to ruin. Rejoice, O people, in God your Savior, for the grace of the Lord is with you! **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

* Gloria Patri # 813 “Glory Be to the Father” Gloria Patri

A Message on Stewardship Steve Poitevint

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer Pastor John Erthein

* Hymn of Preparation #261 “Away in a Manger”

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory “Gesu Bambino” (The Infant Jesus) Pietro A. Yon

Doxology # 815 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Prayer of Dedication Tom Griffin

Solo “The Work of Christmas” Dan Forrest

Jenna Chambless ~ Soprano

Prayer of Illumination Pastor John Erthein

Scripture Reading Isaiah 35:1-10 (Pew Bible Pages 629 & 630 OT)
Matthew 11:2-11 (Pew Bibles Page 16 NT)

Minister: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon “No Soft Robes” Pastor John Erthein

* The Apostles Creed ~ Traditional (Unison)
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 arose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth at 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.

* Hymn of Dismissal # 277 “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

Pastoral Benediction

Postlude “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” arr. Dan Coates

*Those who are able, please stand

NURSERY AVAILABLE – IF ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED, PLEASE ASK ONE OF OUR USHERS