

“A Classic Christmas” arr. Douglas Wagner

Excerpts from “Gloria” (Vivaldi), “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come” (Bach), “For Unto Us a Child Is Born” (Handel), and “Hallelujah Chorus” (Handel) combine in this glorious anthem.

Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo! From Heaven above to earth I come to bring good news to every home. Glad tidings of great joy I bring, where of I now will say and sing: For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given! And the government shall be upon His shoulder; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. And He shall reign forever and ever, King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and He shall reign forever and ever! King of Kings and Lord of Lords! Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

First Presbyterian Church

fpcbdge@gmail.com ~ www.fpcbainbridge.com (Website)

200 East Shotwell Street ~ P.O. Box 7067 ~ Bainbridge, GA 39818 ~ (Mailing Address)

229-246-3960 phone 229-246-9264 fax

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 to the Session	Elder Bud Holleman
Building & Grounds	Elders Dr. David Bryan, Mike Holt
Christian Education	Elders Bill Allen, David Kendrick
Fellowship & Nurture	Elder Peggy Shingler
Mission & Outreach	Elders Virginia Smith, David Wiggins
Personnel & Ministry Development	Elders Bob Glover, Dr. Angie Davis
Stewardship & Finance	Elder Steve Poitevint
Worship & Music	Elders Bill Allen, Mills Brock

Church Staff

Interim Pastor	Rev. Stephen Webb
Office Manager	Cindy W. Markham
Choirmaster	Dr. Don Mobley
Pianist	Myra Williams
Nursery Director	Rhonda Gay
Janitorial Service	Blessings Cleaning-Elaine Smith
Dietitians	Beulah Handsford, Alice Stubbs

Pastor Emeriti

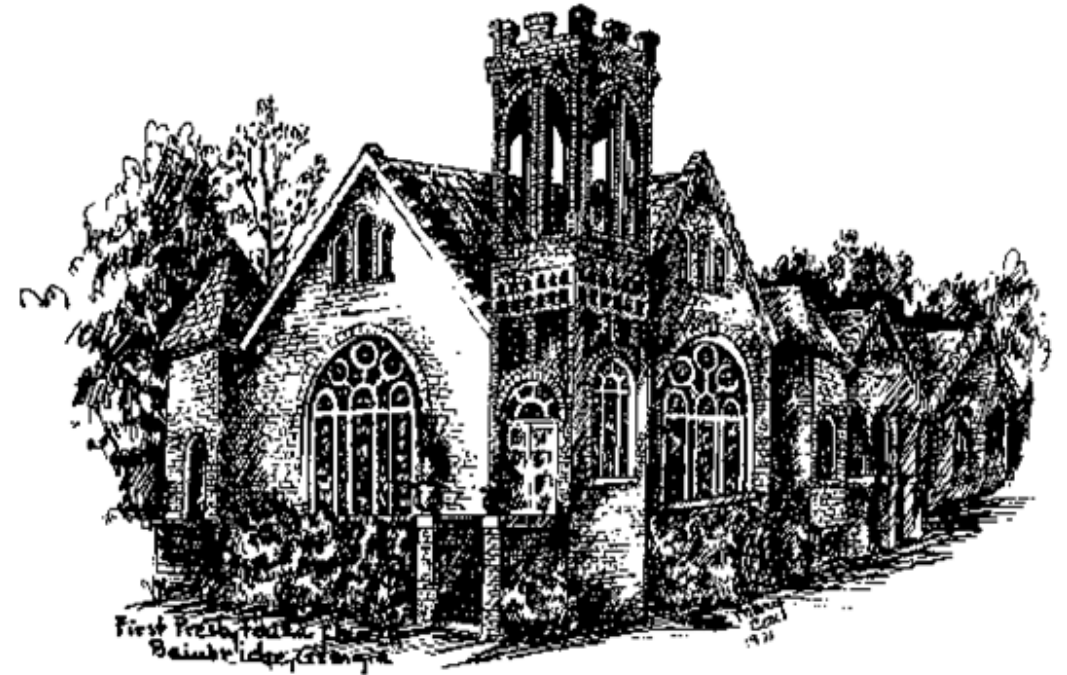
Dr. Albert L. Reese, Jr. ~ Dr. Gerald A. Little

Elder Emeriti

Vera Custer ~ 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 17, 2023

This church welcomes you no matter who you are, where you come from, or why you are here. 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.

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023

Elder on Call ~ David Wiggins (229) 515-0136 ~ December 18-24, 2023

Liturgist ~ Rhonda Kendrick

Striking of the Hour

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" Felix Mendelsohn

Choral Introit "O Come, All Ye Faithful" arr. David Willcocks
Jeremy Perkins ~ trumpet

Call to Worship Rhonda Kendrick

L: When the Lord restores our fortunes,

P: we are like those who dream.

L: Our mouths are filled with laughter.

P: Our hearts sing with shouts of joy.

L: Worship the Lord of our salvation.

P: Worship the Lord!

Prayer of Invocation Rhonda Kendrick

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Mike and Deborah Holt

* **Hymn of Praise # 269** "How Great Our Joy!"

* **Prayer of Confession** (Unison) Rhonda Kendrick

Merciful God, we hear Isaiah and John's fervent cry, "Make straight the way of the Lord." But we don't know what we should do. Our lives carry on as they have before. Nothing seems to change. Yet, we long to be caught up in the visions of the prophets of old. We long to tune our ears to the heralds of angels who testify to the coming Messiah. Amen.

* **Silent Prayer of Confession**

* **Assurance of Pardon** Rev. Stephen Webb

The God of peace sanctifies us, that our souls may be sound and blameless. In Him we are forgiven and fashioned for eternity.

* **Gloria Patri # 813** "Glory Be to the Father"

Mission Moment Sybil Lee

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer Rev. Stephen Webb

* **Hymn of Hope and Assurance** (Insert) "Love Came Down at Christmas"

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "The First Noel" 17th century English carol

* **Doxology # 815** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Prayer of Dedication Rhonda Kendrick

Choral Anthem "A Classic Christmas" arr. Douglas Wagner

Scripture Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 (Pew Bible Page 195 NT)

Minister: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "I Wish You Well" Rev. Stephen Webb

* **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 Commitment # 256** "Love Has Come!"

Pastoral Benediction

Postlude "Mary's Little Boy Child" Jester Hairston

*Those who are able please stand.

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

If there is a pastoral need, you may contact Rev. Stephen Webb by phone @ 229-220-5591 or the church office.