

PRAYER LIST

Please Pray For - Our Nation, Our Church; Our Pastor, Our Staff, Our Officers, Campus Ministry, Our Community and especially:



MEMBERS AND CHURCH FRIENDS

HOMEBOUND &/OR IN

RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

Bob & B.J. Bryan

Rev. Bill Gettys

Mary Mackey

Nancy Miller

MEMBERS REMEMBERED IN PRAYER

WITH PRAYER GRAM ROTATION

Tom and Emily Collins

Lisa and Rod Collins

SPECIAL PRAYER FOR:

- The family of Tony Miles (Gloria Johnsons' brother) who passed away on his 80th birthday following a long illness.
- Cathy Clark Reynolds' cousin Rhys Probert who has COVID-19 in Wales.
 - Jim Buffalo, who has an eye infection
- Pray for Steve and Beth Spoon (Melanie's in-laws) - Steve has ALS
 - Debra Sams (sister of Joy Thompson) diagnosed with peritoneal carcinoma
- Shannon Kennedy (cancer; McFarlands' niece)

MISSIONARIES REMEMBERED IN PRAYER

- Benji & Esther Campbell, Push the Rock Intl.
- Lois & Tim Hunter, Wycliffe Bible Translators
- Anne D (India) Retired Presbyterian Missionary

Please notify the church office at 924-2162 or office@americuspresbyterian.org if you would like to add someone to our prayer list and/or request a PrayerGram.

First Presbyterian Church Americus, Georgia



Second Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2020

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

1 Peter 1:3-9

WAYS TO WORSHIP:



RADIO

Church Service will continue to be on the radio. You are encouraged to tune in to WISK radio 98.7 or on the radio website www.americusradio.com

FACEBOOK

You can join us for Sunday Worship via Facebook live where you can see and hear Pastor Sommer deliver the message in person. Visit: for live stream at 11:00 am on the church Facebook page- <https://www.facebook.com/fpcamericus/>

CHURCH WEBSITE

If you cannot participate in Facebook Live then after the live stream is complete, the live stream will be on our church website www.americuspresbyterian.org

WAY TO CONTINUE GIVING:

You can now **GIVE ONLINE** on the church website through a secure portal hosted by Presbyterian Foundation: <http://www.americuspresbyterian.org/give/>

or

Mail your offerings to:
First Presbyterian Church
125 S. Jackson St.
Americus, GA 31709

***HYMN (Blue 122)**.....“Thine Is the Glory”

*Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory Thou over death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment Rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave clothes Where Thy body lay.*

*Thine is the Glory, Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory Thou over death hast won.*

*Lo! Jesus meets us, Risen from the tomb;
Lovingly He greets us, Scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness
Hymns of triumph sing,
For the Lord now liveth; Death has lost its sting.*

*Thine is the Glory, Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory Thou over death hast won.*

*No more we doubt Thee, Glorious Prince of life!
Life is nought with out Thee; Aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors
Through Thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan
To Thy home above.*

*Thine is the Glory, Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory Thou over death hast won.*

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**.....Camron Cummings, Organist

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY (Blue 592)**.....*“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here
below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

*May you trust in God’s promises to his people:
peace
security
blessing
even when they are difficult to believe.*

*May you know that God’s news is good news,
nourishing
true
even when people tell you it is not.*

*And when you encounter doubt,
may you strengthen your belief
guiding you in his perfect wisdom and counsel.*

Sunday, April 19, 2020- 11:00 a.m.

Second Sunday of Easter

**All Are Invited to Stand in Body or in Spirit
The congregation is invited to respond at the **bold** print*

PRELUDE

Camron Cummings, Organist

*God extends an immense amount of patience towards us. And we love that about
God & Jesus. But do we extend that towards each other? Perhaps historically
doubting Thomas has gotten such a bad rap because while we love God’s patience
towards us, we have a short fuse when it comes to God’s patience and
understanding towards others. In the midst of Covid-19, it might do us well to
work on viewing others how God views those around us. Towards Thomas,
Jesus was patient and understanding. And, Jesus showed up for Thomas to be
able to move forward in his faith. We can count on Jesus to show up, extend
patience and understanding. And if we want to move forward in our faith,
we have to give that understanding to others.*

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Sommer Bower

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather as people on a journey.

**We believe & we have doubts,
we do good & we sin.
We are imperfect humans,
and still beloved by God.**

Love and grace. Hope and faith.

These are the essence of the one we call God.

**We seek forgiveness & grace from
God and from those we’ve harmed.**

Assured of that grace, we are ready to grow again.

**We yearn for a new way, a new perspective,
and a clear path.**

Though we are full of trust and full of doubt, we are here.

Speak to us, God! Continue creating us!

**Inspire our hearts.
Enlighten our minds.
Guide our actions. Amen.**

***HYMN (Blue 118)**....."The Day of Resurrection".....

*The day of resurrection! Earth tell it out abroad.
The Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, From this world to the sky,
Our Christ hath brought us over With hymns of victory.*

*Our hearts be pure from evil, That we may see aright
The Lord in rays eternal Of resurrection light;
And, listening to His accents, May hear, so calm and plain,
His own "All Hail!" and, hearing, May raise the victor strain.*

*Now let the heavens be joyful, Let earth the song begin,
Let the round world keep triumph, And all that is there-in;
Let all things seen and unseen Their notes of gladness blend,
For Christ the Lord is risen, Our joy that hath no end.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, we confess that it has been too much. There is too much loss, too much fear, too much grief, too much despair. There's only so much we can handle and it is overwhelming us. Help us, O God, to let go of the fear that holds us in its grip and instead cling to hope. Help us, O God, to acknowledge our doubts, and yet to trust in You, to know that You are with us, and we are not alone. Help us, O God, to have faith that this too shall come to pass. Guide us in this time of uncertainty to focus on You, our Rock and our Redeemer. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Christ is the one who died on the cross, but also laid in the tomb of death for three days. Christ knows our fears, what it is like to feel trapped, what it is like to live without hope. And yet, Christ rose, and we will rise. Christ lives, and we live now and forever. Christ loves us, and calls us to love one another. Live into this hope by loving one another, and trusting that Christ is with us, through all things, and will see us through. Amen.

***HYMN (Blue 116)**....."O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing!".....

*O sons and daughters, let us sing!
The King of heaven, the glorious King,
Over death and hell rose triumphing.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*That night the apostles met in fear;
Among them came their Lord most dear,
And said, "My peace be with you here."
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*When Thomas first the tidings heard,
How they had seen the risen Lord,
He doubted the disciples' word.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*My pierced side, O Thomas, see;
My hands, My feet, I show to thee;
Not faithless, but believing be."
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*No longer Thomas then denied,
He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
"Thou art my Lord and God," he cried.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*How blest are they who have not seen,
And yet whose faith hath constant been,
For they eternal shall win.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

John 20:19-31

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." 24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." 26 A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." 28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." 30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. 31 But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE*“Surreal Patience & Understanding”*
Pastor Sommer Bower

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you

and also with you

Let us share the peace of Christ with our neighbors.

***HYMN (Blue 115)**.....*“Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain ”*

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain Of triumphant gladness;

God hath brought forth Israel Into Joy from sadness;

Loosed from Pharaoh’s bitter yoke Jacob’s sons and daughters;

Led them, with unmoistened foot, Through the Red Sea waters.

‘Tis the spring of souls today; Christ hath burst His prison,

And from three days’ sleep in death As a sun hath risen.

Now rejoice, Jerusalem, And with true affection

Welcome in unwearied strains Jesus’ resurrection.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

Impossible God, You make all things possible. You make all things new. You called forth light when Your Spirit hovered over the waters, and there was light. You breathed into dirt and brought forth humanity. You raised Christ from the tomb. You continue to bring forth life out of death. You raise flowers from the earth after the cold winter. We know You will bring forth life again. In this time, may we deepen our trust in You. May we strengthen our faith in humanity that love can overcome fear and hate. May we broaden our understanding of love to all who are in need. May we rise from this time with lessons learned and strive to build a better society of kindness and caring. May we remember those who are risking their lives to save lives, and those who are keeping our society running and making it possible to have food and vital services. May we do our part to ensure their health and safety now and in the time to come by working for justice for all, for living wages for all. Impossible God, may we learn that nothing is impossible with You. We can change the world because of You. We can love one another without hate because of You. We can become a new creation because of You. Remind us, teach us, and guide us, in the name of the Savior taught us to pray...