

WAYS TO WORSHIP:



IN-PERSON WORSHIP RADIO

Our Church Service is 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
at First Presbyterian Church of Americus

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

WAYS 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/>

First Presbyterian Church

Americus, Georgia

A community of faith responding to God's call.
Loving, learning and leading people to Jesus Christ.

Jesus Says "Come and See"



Photo by Nadine Shaabana on Unsplash

When John the Baptist sees Jesus and calls him the Lamb of God, his own disciples begin to follow Jesus. And Jesus says, Come and See. In John's account, Andrew was first a disciple of John, but told Simon that they had found the Messiah. Jesus then calls Simon Peter. And Jesus says, Come and See. Jesus calls Philip to follow him, and Philip tells Nathanael that they had found the one spoken about by Moses and the prophets. But Nathanael is doubtful that anything good comes from Nazareth, a small town. When he meets Jesus, Jesus seems to know him already. Jesus tells Nathanael that he saw him under a fig tree, and Nathanael believes that he is God's Son. Jesus tells Nathanael he will see greater things than these, including the vision that Jacob beheld of the angels ascending and descending from heaven.

And Jesus says to us all, Come and See.

First Presbyterian Church of Americus, GA

Sunday, January 14, 2024 ~ 11:00 a.m.



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

PRELUDE.....Pianist Paula Carter

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Pastor Sommer Bower

***HYMN (#726)**.....Pianist Paula Carter
"Will You Come and Follow Me"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Our Creator has molded and shaped us,

We are fearfully and wonderfully made.

Christ is calling our names,

We accept the invitation for the journey of faith.

*Eternal God, you are the maker of us all, and we are your creation,
people formed in your image, as individuals, as community.*

**We worship you today in recognition of your calling.
We are here because we have heard you speak in us
and through others.**

*Help us, dear Lord, to ever respond to you
and your invitation to your grace.*

Lord hear our prayer...

*God of all our moments, of our days and our nights,
you speak and you act in the world around us,
not only to call all people to you,
but also to direct and guide us.
Awaken us Lord, to hear what you would say to us.*

PRAYER LIST

We lift up prayers for those listening Sunday mornings on WISK 98.7, Radio.
May they be spiritually fed. Please Pray For - Our Nation, Our Church; Our
Presbytery, Our Pastor, Our Staff, Our Officers, Campus Ministry,
Our Community and especially:

MEMBERS AND CHURCH FRIENDS AT HOME &/OR IN RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

Bob & B.J. Bryan Nancy Miller Gloria Johnson Pat Hill
Blanche Palmer Kathy Newkirk Anne & Malcolm Perry

MEMBERS REMEMBERED

Revs. Joshua and Sommer Bower
Cade and Dianna Bower
Bob and B.J. Bryan

PRAYER REQUESTS

~1st Presbyterian Church, Americus, Georgia ~ Flint River Presbytery requests intentional and perpetual
prayer for all the churches, affiliates, staff and volunteers in our Presbytery.
This week we celebrate the Pastor, Session and Congregation of 1st PC Americus.
~Coach Keith Lee ~ Coach Lee has been placed on hospice at Magnolia Manor. Please pray for comfort
during this time of transition for his family.

MISSIONARIES REMEMBERED IN PRAYER

- Ben & Esther Campbell, Push the Rock Intl.
- Tim & Lois Hunter, Spoken Worldwide
- Rev. George Haugen (PC USA Minister), Antioch Partners

Elder of the Month for January 2024, Ronnie Greer

SESSION (Ruling Elders):

<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>
*Tom Collins	Ronnie Greer	Mary Catron
Carrie Hawkins	Terry McDonald	Jim Griffith
Sharon McFarland (clerk)	Richard Pollette	David Minich

2023 Corporation Officers elected on Feb.12, 2023

President: *Tom Collins - VP: Carrie Hawkins

Secretary: Sharon McFarland - Chief Financial Officer: Bill Krenson

**Our church was saddened with the loss of our beloved Tom Collins in December of 2023. Not only
was he loved by many in our Congregation, he was also an officer of the church. We give thanks for
his service, a reflection of his faith and love of Jesus Christ. As a congregation, let us join together in
prayer for the Class of 2023 and for the upcoming class of 2027.*

CHURCH EVENT CALENDAR

FPC OFFICE HOURS ~ The Church Office is open Monday-Thursday; 9:00am-3:00pm.

COMMUNITY SERVICE MINISTRY ~ Hosted in FPC Mission House at 127 S. Jackson St. every Thursday 9:00am– 11:30am. Volunteers from member churches of the Sumter Area Ministerial Association help their neighbors in need of assistance with utility expenses.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED ~ Monday, January 15 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

GSW MLK CONVOCATION ~ Wed., January 24 at 11:00am in the GSW Storm Dome; annual Martin Luther King, Jr Convocation with guest speaker Eric Bryant, Sumter County Sheriff.

NEXT STATED SESSION MEETING ~ Tuesday, January 30, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

PRESBYTERY FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING ~ Tuesday, January 30, 2024.

Flint River Presbytery Stated Meeting ~ Saturday, February 3 at 10:00am. In Person meeting at New Hope Presbyterian in Columbus, GA. ~4142 Weems Road, Columbus, GA 31909 ~

ASH WEDNESDAY ~ Wednesday, February 14, 2024.

LENT BEGINS ~ Sunday, February 18, 2024.



First Presbyterian supports the Harvest of Hope Food Pantry each month financially and with food donations. **The month of January, we will be collecting 26 oz - Iodized Salt.**

Donations can be brought to Sunday 11am Worship or to the office Mon - Thurs 9am—3pm.
As we are fed each month by our Lord Jesus through Holy Communion, we do our best to help feed others in need.



Listen to us every Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m. on WISK radio 98.7 on your radio dial. Weekly sermons can also be downloaded from our web site..

www.americuspresbyterian.org



***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.

January Birthdays

January 1—Donna Minich

January 9—Conrad Minich

January 19—B.J. Bryan

January 20—Tyler Richmond

January 27—Nancy Miller

January 31—Nancy Herron

January Anniversaries ???

If we have missed a birthday or anniversary, please let us know. A sign up sheet is on the narthax table.

Lord hear our prayer...

*Lord, we pray that your church may rise up with renewed commitment in answer to your call,
that your people may be instruments of your grace and love.*

Lord hear our prayer....

*We pray for those who consider themselves inadequate and dismiss or avoid your calling in their lives.
Give them a new vision,
a vision in which you are their strength and their hope...*

Lord hear our prayer....

*We pray for those who, in answering your call,
must leave the known for the unknown,
the oasis for the desert, the comfortable for the uncertain.
Grant them courage and steadfast faith.*

Lord hear our prayer....

*We pray too, today, O Lord, for those in want and need –
for those of us and of the larger community who suffer in body or in soul.*

Lord, hear our pray.....

*Loving Creator and Sustainer, bless us all with an abundant faith,
a fruitful ministry, a joyful life.
Bless us and all those who gather together to continue the work of Jesus,
who came to heal, save, and deliver us all,
and who taught us to pray as one family, saying...*

**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.



SCRIPTURE John 1:35-51

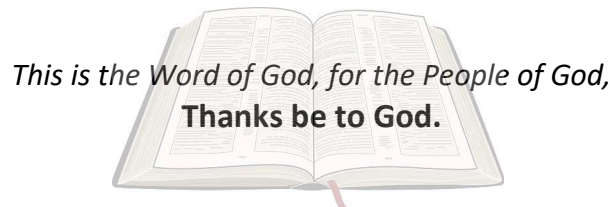
NRSV updated edition

The First Disciples of Jesus

35 The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, **36** and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" **37** The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. **38** When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "**What are you looking for?**" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means **Teacher**), "where are you staying?" **39** He said to them, "**Come and see.**" They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. **40** One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. **41** He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the **Messiah**" (which is translated **Anointed**). **42** He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael

43 The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "**Follow me.**" **44** Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. **45** Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him **about whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote**, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." **46** Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "**Come and see.**" **47** When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is **no deceit!**" **48** Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." **49** Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the **Son of God!** You are the **King of Israel!**" **50** Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? **You will see greater things than these.**" **51** And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see **heaven opened** and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."



*HYMN (#711).....Pianist Paula Carter
"Lord of All Good"

SERMON.....Pastor Sommer Bower
"What are you looking for?"

OFFERTORY.....Pianist Paula Carter

*DOXOLOGY (#606)Pianist Paula Carter

***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

God of all people, You called many by name, asking them to follow Jesus and obey. Call us by name, and help us to follow and obey. Amen.

*HYMN (#835).....Pianist Paula Carter
"Just a Closer Walk with Thee "

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE.....Pianist Paula Carter



***We are absolutely delighted that you've chosen to worship with us today!
May Christ's peace be with you until we meet again.
You can always join us on our
website: americuspresbyterian.org and on
facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fpcamericus/>.***



Works Cited

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~ Opening Call to Worship was adapted from a prayer written by Rev. Richard J. Fairchild, and posted on Kir-shalom.