



Father's Day ❖ June 21, 2026

# Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church

10050 Ferguson Avenue ❖ Savannah, Georgia 31406

*Where Christ Is Exalted and the Fellowship Is Exciting*

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*"The true beauty of the church consists in its conformity to Christ, in its holiness, and in the spiritual glory of its worship. It is not the outward pomp of buildings or ceremonies, but the internal presence of Christ by His Spirit that makes the church truly glorious." — John Owen, The Glory of Christ*

## Announcements

### Vacation Bible School!

Our long-awaited VBS program begins tomorrow! Please be in prayer for all the kids, leaders, and helpers. Pray the gospel is shared clearly and that the Lord uses this week to bring many to Himself and to encourage those who already believe! **NOTE:** There will be no Bible Studies or activities on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday this week.



### Women of Light Event

On Saturday, **June 27**, interested women will meet at Painting with a Twist at 513 East Oglethorpe Avenue from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Dinner follows at Ta Ca Asian Fusion & Sushi Restaurant after 6:00 p.m., in the same plaza as the painting class. **Sign the list in the hall, and check the boxes for the activities you want to attend.** You can do either or both! **In order to reserve your spot for the painting class, please give Amy Keller \$40.** Dinner is a separate charge.



### Children's Camp Interest Signup

Our Older Children's Camp takes place at Epworth by the Sea from **July 27-30**. It is for kids who have just finished third grade through sixth grade. If you are interested in your child attending, sign up using the QR code to the right. Cindy Wise will get with you for a full registration.



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## Welcome and Announcements

### Call to Worship

Psalm 18:1-3

*Pew Bible p. 454*

### Baptism

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

### Greeting

*(When singing begins, please make your way to your seats and sing along!)*

*I was so lost I should have died; but You have brought me to Your side,*

*To be led by Your staff and rod, and to be called a lamb of God.*

*O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God. I love the holy Lamb of God.*

*Oh, wash me in His precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.*

### Prayer of Praise

### **Hymn, #36, bulletin p. 5**

*“A Mighty Fortress”*

### Prayer of General Confession

Tom Keller

*Hebrews 4:16*

*Pew Bible p. 1003*

### **Hymn, bulletin p. 6**

*“His Mercy Is More”*

### Scripture Reading

Ecclesiastes 3:14-22

Napoleon Martin

*Pew Bible pp. 554-555*

### **Hymn #290, bulletin p. 7**

*“Be Still My Soul”*

### Message

Bob Dimmitt

*Messiah's Compassion*

*Matthew #135*

*Matthew 20:29-34, Pew Bible pp. 825-826*

### **Hymn, bulletin p. 8**

*“Now Unto Him”*

## A.M. Notes

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### Messiah's Compassion

Matthew #135

Matthew 20:29-34

Quick apologetic note: critics state there is a discrepancy with this story – Here “*And as they went out of Jericho*” but Luke 18:31 “*As he drew near to Jericho*” Which is it, was he headed to Jericho or was He leaving Jericho?

Also, some say there is an error as to the number of blind men Jesus healed.

The word “Behold” was used to call special attention to something or someone, in this case two blind men who ordinarily would have gone unnoticed.

Verse 34-Notice the verb *regained* carries the meanings of recovery from blindness, to see again or regain sight.

Jesus' miracle of healing blindness was especially significant because there is no record in the OT of anyone healing blindness.

# Important Upcoming Events



## June:

Note: Sunday Evening Worship moves to 7:00 p.m.

### 22-26 VBS

9:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

25	Young Adult Social	6:00 p.m.
27	Women of Light Painting with a Twist & Dinner	4:00 p.m.

## July:

1	VBS Cleanup Night	6:00 p.m.
4	Independence Day: No lunch at OSCM	
6	Independence Holiday: Office Closed	
7	Elders' Meeting	7:00 p.m.
11	Crochet Club	10:00 a.m.
12	Communion in Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
14	Deacons' Meeting	7:00 p.m.
16	Young Adult Social	TBA
26	Quarterly Members' Meeting	TBA

### 27-30 Children's Camp

## August:

1	Lunch at Old Savannah City Mission: DeLoach family, Kelly Zittrouer, Eleanor Bowden	11:00 a.m.
2	After Church Lunch	
4	Elders' Meeting	7:00 p.m.
11	Deacons' Meeting	7:00 p.m.
13	Young Adult Social	TBA
14	Women of Light Night Out	TBA
19	Adventure Club Kickoff	6:20 p.m.
23	Home Fellowships	6:00 p.m.



THANK YOU SO MUCH TO ALL WHO CAME OUT ON THE LAST TWO WEDNESDAY NIGHTS TO HELP DECORATE FOR OUR UPCOMING VBS! EVERYTHING LOOKS GREAT AND WE ARE SO THANKFUL FOR YOU!

CINDY WISE

## A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

EIN' FESTE BURG

MARTIN LUTHER, 1483-1546

MARTIN LUTHER, 1483-1546

Trans. by Frederick H. Hedge, 1805-1890

1. A might-y for-tress is our God, A bul-wark nev-er fail-ing;  
 2. Did we in our own strength con-fide Our striv-ing would be los-ing,  
 3. And tho this world, with dev-ils filled, Should threaten to un-do us,  
 4. That word a-bove all earth-ly pow'rs—No thanks to them—a-bid-eth;

Our help-er He a-mid the flood Of mor-tal ills pre-vail-ing.  
 Were not the right Man on our side, The Man of God's own choos-ing.  
 We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to tri-umph thru us.  
 The Spir-it and the gifts are ours Thru Him who with us sid-eth.

For still our an-cient foe Doth seek to work us woe— His craft and  
 Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je-sus, it is He— Lord Sab-a-  
 The prince of dark-ness grim— We trem-ble not for him; His rage we  
 Let goods and kin-dred go, This mor-tal life al-so; The bod-y

pow'r are great, And, armed with cru-el hate, On earth is not his e-qual.  
 oth His name, From age to age the same— And He must win the bat-tle.  
 can en-dure, For lo! his doom is sure— One lit-tle word shall fell him.  
 they may kill: God's truth a-bid-eth still— His king-dom is for-ev-er.



## Be Still, My Soul

FINLANDIA

KATHARINA VON SCHLEGEL, 1697-?

Trans. by Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-1897

JEAN SIBELIUS, 1865-1957

1. Be still, my soul— the Lord is on thy side! Bear pa-tient-ly the  
 2. Be still, my soul— thy God doth un - der - take To guide the fu - ture  
 3. Be still, my soul— the hour is has-t'ning on When we shall be for-

cross of grief or pain; Leave to thy God to or - der and pro-vide -  
 as He has the past; Thy hope, thy con - fi - dence let noth-ing shake -  
 ev - er with the Lord, When dis-ap - point-ment, grief, and fear are gone,

In ev - 'ry change He faith-ful will re - main. Be still, my soul— thy  
 All now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last. Be still, my soul— the  
 Sor-row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored. Be still, my soul— when

best, thy heavh-ly Friend Thru thorny ways leads to a joy - ful end.  
 waves and winds still know His voice who ruled them while He dwelt be - low.  
 change and tears are past, All safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

*This tune in a lower key: 525*

# Now unto Him

♩ = 96

C G7sus G7 C/E C C/E F F7 F G7 C/E C/E

Now un-to Him who is a - ble to keep you from fall - ing And to

5 F G7 Gsus/E Am B $\flat$  B $\flat$  E $\flat$  Gsus G F G7

make you stand in His pres - ence blame-less and with great joy, To the

10 Am Cmaj7/G C/GF7 G/E F/D E7 E7/G#Am F

on - ly God our Sav - ior, through Je - sus Christ, our Lord, Be the glo - ry and the

15 C/E F C/E F/D Em Em7 F7 G7/F/GG C

maj-es-ty, do - min - ion and au - thor - i - ty, Both now and for - ev - er. A - men!

# Articles

## Christian Basics: What Are the Five “Alones” and Why Do You Need to Know Them?

By Joy Lee

If you haven't heard of them yet, this introduction to the five “alones” (or most commonly “the five *solas*” in Latin) will give you the opportunity to discover truths that will make your heart sing with joy, because they are some of the most important foundational beliefs in all of Christianity. These five phrases are distinguishing marks of the Protestant Reformation, setting all Protestants apart from the Roman Catholic Church. How did these five basic Christian beliefs originate, and what do they mean?

### Background of the Five “Alones”

By the 1500s, the church in Rome had reached a tremendous level of corruption, having departed in many ways from both the Bible and teachings of earlier Christians. Rome elevated the Pope, bishops, and a long line of “saints” and created a system without any true hope for sinners. People were wrongly led to depend upon the merits of the “saints” and an unspecified number of their own works to earn them a place in eternity with God.

The Protestant Reformation was a movement led by pastor-teachers (including Martin Luther, Ulrich Zwingli, and John Calvin) who were remarkably gifted, highly educated, and well-read in the writings of the early church. They realized that Rome had been adding and altering important beliefs as recently as fifty years before the Reformation, and that these changes were departures from earlier Christianity. Using the five “alones,” the Protestant leaders led the people back to the Bible and restored and reformed the Christian church. What do these five phrases mean, and what makes them rank among the most important basic truths that all Christians should know?

### 1. Scripture Alone: Scripture alone is the sole authority in the life and doctrine of the church.

Protestants believe that the Holy Spirit moved men of God to write down the very words of God in the Holy Scriptures, giving us the Bible as the *only infallible* source of knowledge about God, salvation, and how to live. While the early Protestants diligently studied church history, tradition, and the creeds, they knew these important aids were imperfect and were never meant to be elevated above the authority of Scripture. Protestants reject any view that elevates the church or tradition over the Bible (Deut. 31-32; 2 Tim 3:16-17).

**What it means for us today and tomorrow:** “Scripture alone” does not mean that Christians are to rely upon their Bibles alone—this is a serious but common misunderstanding today. We ought to humbly value the imperfect work of well-studied pastors and teachers, church history, tradition, and the creeds and confessions—

resources that aid biblical interpretation and guard important truths. While respecting these other aids, “Scripture alone” means we can trust the Bible fully and completely as the *only infallible authority* and source of truth, because it is the Word of God (1 Thess 2:13).

Although we may have difficulty understanding some parts of the Bible and may struggle with many diverse interpretations, we can trust that the fault lies with our understanding and not God’s trustworthy Word. When we humbly and diligently pray for understanding and discernment; diligently study the Scriptures, church history, creeds and confessions, and the interpretations offered by others; and research the pros and cons of these various interpretations carefully, we will usually discover one interpretation stands above the others. We can rest easy in dependence upon God and his perfect Word as our ultimate source of authority and truth.

## **2. Grace Alone: Because of God’s grace alone we are forgiven and declared righteous.**

Protestants believe that all humans are born with sinful natures and are enemies of God due to Adam and Eve’s disobedience in the garden of Eden. No one deserves a place in heaven or to be forgiven of their sins. “Grace alone” tells us that the reason Christians are reconciled with God in Christ alone is because of *God’s* grace alone. Our human wills, sin-stained works, and the works of “the saints” contribute nothing toward our being justified. We are forgiven and declared righteous because of Christ’s work, not anything of our own doing (Deut. 7:6-8;9:1-6; Eph. 2:1-10).

**What it means for us today and tomorrow:** Those who have suffered the most under the torments of depraved humans such as mass murderers Stalin and Hitler especially know that evil people must be punished—not set free—in order that justice may be served. While humans tend to demand justice for the really bad sins and overlook the minor sins, there are no minor sins before a perfectly holy and just God. Even the smallest sin is the ultimate slap in the face of God and deserving of eternal punishment. Remember, it was not murder but Adam and Eve’s act of rebellion in eating the forbidden fruit that brought sin upon the entire human race (Romans 5:12).

The Bible tells us, “There is none good, no, not one” (Romans 3:10). We commit sin all day long, every single day we live. Since we don’t deserve heaven with God, let us especially express our gratitude to God for his gift of eternal life because our salvation came by God’s grace only—not our wills, our works, or the works of some “saint.” Let us never lose sight of this expression of God’s love—the grace of God shows us his mercy in keeping us from foolishly running headlong straight into eternal fire.

## **3. Christ Alone: We are pardoned and made righteous by the merits of Jesus Christ alone.**

Protestants believe that because of our sins, rebellion, and hatred of God, we owe an immeasurable debt of obedience to God that we can never pay. The only way for us to be reconciled to God was for our debt to be paid by the atoning sacrifice

of the one and only mediator between God and man—*Christ alone*—the sinless Lamb of God. Jesus paid our debt, satisfied the justice of God, and merited eternal life for us. **Protestants reject the claims that the righteousness of Mary and the “saints” contribute to our forgiveness or that there is any other mediator besides Christ only** (Isa. 53:1-12; 1 John 2:1-2).

**What it means for us today and tomorrow:** Some may wonder why Christ had to suffer and die in order to pay the penalty for our sins—why couldn’t God simply forgive us? Since God is righteous and holy, our sins must be punished to uphold God’s justice. In order to pay this immeasurable penalty for us, the Son of God was born in the flesh (the incarnate Christ: truly God and truly man), lived a sinless life on earth, and suffered and died to atone (pay) for our sins. Christ freed us from the guilt of sin by justifying us and removing our guilt. At that moment, he also freed us from slavery to sin, enabling us through sanctification to live godly and selfless lives for him and his people. Let us remember to be thankful for the great payment of Christ only—his sinless life and atoning death for us.

#### **4. Faith alone: Faith alone (in Jesus Christ) is the instrument through which we are justified.**

Protestants believe that we are “justified” (pardoned and declared righteous) through God’s gift of *faith alone* in Jesus Christ. This saving faith consists of a firm and sure knowledge of God’s favor toward us, affirmation (or agreement), and trust (or dependence) which embraces Jesus Christ alone. Saving faith receives and rests on Jesus Christ and his perfect righteousness and atoning sacrifice alone. Protestants reject any view that claims “justification by faith” while also crediting human works for helping to pay for our sins. We also reject any view that attempts to redefine saving faith to include good deeds, works of holiness, or ongoing submission which are all fruits of the Christian life from the moment believers are born again until we die (Psalm 32:1-11; Romans 3:21-26).

**What it means for us today and tomorrow:** We may sometimes hear that “faith” is simply believing or trusting. Humans have faith that when we board an airplane, it will not fall out of the sky in mid-flight. This is not saving faith. Saving faith is not simply a mental decision of the will—a human work we do in order to save ourselves. Saving faith is a gift God gives to us by regenerating us and making us alive in Christ (Eph. 2:4-9). Through this gift of faith, we assent and trust in the truth of the Gospel and receive and rest on Christ and his righteousness alone for our justification. We will bear fruit, because we are branches receiving life from Christ our true Vine.

#### **5. To the Glory of God Alone: Our salvation and our lives are ultimately for the glory of God alone.**

Protestants believe that we owe our salvation completely and entirely to God alone. God deserves all of our gratitude not just for saving us but also for creating us and the whole universe. We reject the view that believers owe gratitude and glory to Mary, “the saints,” or our own efforts for our salvation (Psalm 19:1-2; Isa. 48:11; Romans 11:33-36).

**What it means for us today and tomorrow:** What does it mean to say we were created and saved for God’s glory? It means God deserves praise, honor, and worship from all his creation and creatures. God didn’t set a world into motion, not knowing how things would turn out. God logically had a purpose in creating the world. All things were made and ordained for God’s ultimate glory.

Consider the beauty and value of a world where the highest and ultimate love is displayed—where you can see and appreciate good in contrast to evil; great love in contrast to intense hate; life in contrast to death; and in the end, the great selfless sacrifice of the Son of God for those who hated him. Imagine at the end of it all, the praise you will express and the immense love you will have for your Creator and Savior. These are all acts that should prompt humans and angels to praise, admire, and worship God, for he is the one who created you, loved you despite your sinfulness and wickedness, and made the ultimate sacrifice to spend an incomprehensibly joyous and beautiful eternity with you.

### Summary

The Protestant Reformation was a recovery of the Christian faith and the throwing off of Rome’s additions and changes. These five basic points are at the heart of the Christian faith and are essential to leading a beautiful Christian life and increasing our faith, hope, and joy. I want to encourage you to familiarize yourself with these five basic points of Christianity by studying and committing to memory the following sentence:

**Scripture alone** is infallible, and this highest authority teaches that we are saved because of God’s **grace alone** (not because we are deserving); on the basis of the righteousness of **Christ alone** (not our works or the works of other saints); through the means or instrument of **faith alone** (not faith *and* works); and all things (including our salvation and Christian lives) are for and **the glory of God alone**. ❖

**A** real church as set forth in the NT is not a support group. It’s not a social club or a counseling center. It’s a family of redeemed sinners who have God as their Father through their union with Jesus Christ. It’s a body knit together by the Holy Spirit so that together all are built up and strengthened and loved. Church is God’s idea.

**T**here should be something about Christians (us) that the world can’t quite understand. I don’t mean that people would think of us as strange or weird but that they would certainly see something different about us.

Instead we kind of blend in. There’s nothing different about us. We are conditioned to think, talk and believe in the way the culture encourages us to think, talk, and believe, but we forget that our culture isn’t a Biblical one.

As Christians we ought to feel some discontentment here. We ought to feel like this world is not our home. YET many of us do feel at home here, at home in our world and comfortable in what we have.

**The Martyr’s Oath**



# Creation Moments

*Proclaiming Evidence for Truth*

## THIS WEEK'S CREATION MOMENT

### Smart Heart



*“Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do always err in their heart; and they have not known my ways.” - Hebrews 3:10*

As medical science learns more about the human heart, it becomes clear that replacing this complex mass of muscles is more difficult than might be imagined.

Your heart is about the size of your fist, really surprisingly small for the job it does. The heart is a pump with valves, tubing and an electrical system. Its four chambers are carefully designed to make sure that used blood goes to your lungs for oxygen and that blood from your lungs takes that oxygen to the rest of your body. In order to do this, your heart must pump 2,000 gallons of blood through more than 60,000 miles of soft tubing every day.

But the heart is much more than a pump. Researchers describe it as “an incredibly intelligent organ.” When you need more circulation, it senses this and speeds its pumping action. It doesn’t matter whether the need for more pumping action comes from increased exercise, or something you thought about that might require more heart action, the heart responds. Even when transplanted, the heart is able to respond to its new environment.

Like everything else God has created, the heart is not a simple organ, limited to only one job. The heart is custom designed to do many jobs well. And to this day doctors cannot tell you why one apparently healthy heart stops beating and another does not. Life itself is more than an organ; it is a gift from our Creator to each of us.

Image: Medical professional holding model of human heart, Envato.

Scan the QR code after service to watch a related video!



CREATION MOMENTS, INC.

P.O. Box 839 • Foley, MN 56329 • 800-422-4253

## Missionary of the Week

Alexander Gollandchev  
Good News Global - Krasnoyarsk, Russia

Good News Global recently sent updated reports on the two chaplains programs we support. Here is one of them:

Your partnership sustains a faithful Gospel presence in Krasnoyarsk, Russia, where one long-trusted chaplain continues to walk alongside inmates with truth, compassion, and hope.

Through discipleship, prayer, and practical care, Chaplain Alexander Gollandchev tirelessly ministers for God's glory.

### Proclaiming the Gospel

For more than 20 years, Chaplain Alexander has faithfully served inmates in Krasnoyarsk, continuing to enter correctional colonies and share the hope of Christ—even in a context where such access is increasingly rare. Known and respected by prison officials, he remains a steady Gospel presence for men who might otherwise never hear the message of redemption.

One life reflecting this impact is Ilya's. Raised among a small northern ethnic group of fewer than 1,000 people, Ilya heard about Jesus as a child but later pursued athletic success, becoming a regional Greco-Roman wrestling champion. Pride shaped his life until a violent altercation—while defending his father—resulted in the death of an off-duty officer and a 15-year sentence.

Behind bars, God stirred Ilya's heart. As he read the New Testament, he recognized how pride had ruled him and repented in his cell. Transformation followed. Today, the once-driven fighter is known for his humility, kindness, and a gentle spirit.

Stories like Ilya's remind us that no place is beyond God's reach. Through your prayers and support chaplains like Alexander continue to bring light into even the hardest places.

### Hope Arrived

Alexey had begun attending chapel, quietly opening his heart to the Gospel. When released, his wife came to meet him—carrying both hope and hesitation. Chaplain Alexander spoke with the couple, sharing the biblical call for husbands to love their wives as Christ loves the Church. With growing curiosity and openness,



both expressed a desire to attend church, taking their first steps toward a shared journey of faith.

### **A Life Transformed**

Semyon regularly attended chapel meetings, but he was a lonely man, often overlooked.

One day, Chaplain Alexander noticed Semyon's socks were torn. As winter approached, Semyon quietly admitted he didn't even have thermal underwear—nothing to protect him from the cold. When a fellow Christian brother donated money, Alexander was able to purchase high-quality thermal underwear at a discount and brought it to Semyon.

He expected a simple “thank you.” But Alexander shares, “Imagine, to my surprise, when he told me he had fallen in love with the thermals! It seemed like I'd done nothing special, but to a lonely Semyon it meant the world.” It was the love of Christ in action.



**J**ust because one does not like what God does or doesn't do is not evidence he does not exist.

**T**here are people (many maybe most) who view religion quite passively. They carry on with their lives, assuming that if God wants to get their attention, it is up to Him to do it effectively enough so that they don't have to put any effort in. Yet God has commanded all people to seek Him and to repent.

—Isaiah 55:6-7 and Acts 17:30

### **Nursery June 21**

#### **Babies:**

Eleanor Bowden, Mary Fowler,  
Kay Stanford

#### **Toddlers:**

Tricia Morris, Lynn Ernst

#### **Preschoolers:**

Elinor Morris, Donna Martin



### **Nursery June 28**

#### **Babies:**

Amy Horton, Lisa Rowe

#### **Toddlers:**

Sona Bailey

#### **Preschoolers:**

Jimmy & Tammy Kicklighter

### **Right Now Media**

If you would like a free subscription to Right Now Media use this link:

<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/fabchurchga>

or scan this QR code:



If you have any questions concerning the message from today, or are interested in obtaining information about church membership, please see any of the pastors after the service, drop a note in the foyer offering box indicating your desire to talk with a pastor, or call the church office.



Video and audio recordings of the messages are available for listening or downloading from

[www.fabchurch.com/sermons](http://www.fabchurch.com/sermons)

# *This Week* at FABC!

## Today

Coffee Fellowship	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.

## Monday - Friday

### **Emerald Crossing VBS**

**9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**

## Tuesday

NO Men's or Women's Bible Studies

## Wednesday

NO Wednesday Night activities

## Thursday

NO Senior Adult Bible Study

## Saturday

Women of Light Fun Day

4:00 p.m. until...

Hearing assistance devices for services in the sanctuary are available on request at the sound booth.

Lockup Deacons for June:

Jay Rowe, Michael Walker

## **Sunday School Classes and Descriptions**

### **Adult**

Questions & Answers	Fellowship Hall:	Bob Dimmitt
Daniel	Youth House:	Steve Posner
Systematic Theol.: Bibliology	Gym Overflow:	Tom Keller

### **Children and Students**

Babies	Room 3:	Kay Stanford, Sandra Bridges
Toddlers	Room 24:	Lynn Ernst, Savannah Martin
Pre-K	Room 25:	Michael & Ruth Kleinpeter
K, 1st and 2nd Grade	Room 28:	John & Pam Humphrey
3rd-6th Grade Boys	Room 202:	Ric Zittrouer, Richie Mills
3rd-6th Grade Girls	Room 204:	Jess Dimmitt, Karen Law
Youth Guys & Girls	Room 206:	Bobby DeLoach, Shawn Champion, Avalon DeLoach