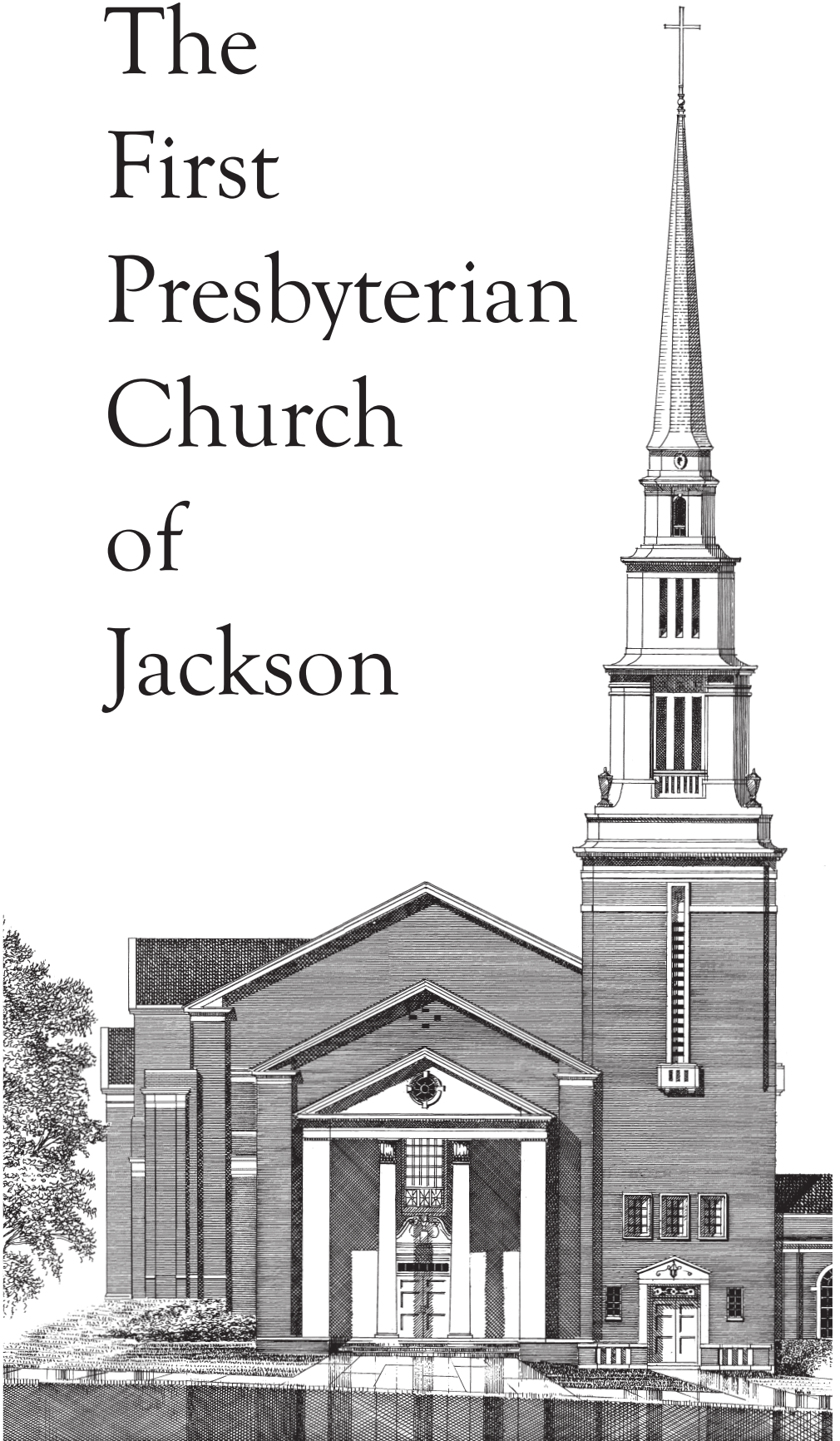


The
First
Presbyterian
Church
of
Jackson



“To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever”

THE LORD'S DAY

The Twenty-First Day of September, Two Thousand Fourteen

MORNING WORSHIP

Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'Clock

Presiding Minister — The Reverend Mr. David T. A. Strain

Assisting Minister — The Reverend Mr. Ralph S. Kelley

Executive Minister

At the time of the Greetings and Announcements and during the Prelude, the congregation is invited to a season of silent and reverent preparation for corporate worship.

The Greetings and Announcements (8:20 and 10:50 a.m.)

The Prelude — "Give Me Jesus"Southern Spiritual, Arr. by R.T. Porter
Nancy Bateman, Cello

The Introit — "Worship the Lord in the Splendor of Holiness"W. Wymond

The Call to Worship

‡* **The Psalm of Praise No. 83** — "O Praise the Lord, for He Is Good" (Tune: St. Anne)

‡ **The Prayer of Adoration and Confession**

* **The Solo** — "Take My Life"C. Courtney
Ross Hauck, Tenor

The Sacrament of Baptism

The Words of Institution

The Introduction of the Covenant Children and their Families

The Biblical Promise

The Questions to the Parents and Congregation

The Prayer of Consecration

The Baptism

The Baptismal Benediction

The Congregational Response — "Children of the Heavenly Father"

"Children of the heav'nly Father safely in His bosom gather;
nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.
Though He giveth or He taketh, God His children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy."

The Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

The Offertory — "My Song Shall Be Always of the Loving Kindness"G. Sampson

"My song shall be always of the loving-kindness of the Lord:
with my mouth will I ever be shewing
Thy truth from one generation to another."
Psalm 89:1

The Prayer of Illumination

The Reading of Holy Scripture — Exodus 2:1-10 (Pew Bible page 45)

The Sermon — *God Remembers: "A Child is Born"*Mr. Strain

‡ **The Hymn of Response No. 529** — "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

‡ **The Benediction**

The Response — "Amen"John Rutter

The Postlude — "Postludium"Gordon Young

*The ushers may seat latecomers

‡Congregation standing

Invite your friends and
neighbors for our special

Musical Service
— of —
Worship & Praise

Tonight, 6:00 p.m.

Our Choir

With

Symphony

And

Guest Soloist

Ross Hauck

There will be no Children's Program,
but there will be a Nursery
through age 5.

THOUGHTS ON BAPTISM

Baptism is a new covenant sign. That is, it points to and confirms the gracious saving promise of God to His people and its fulfillment in Jesus Christ. It is to be administered to believers and their children, as can be seen from Genesis 17, Matthew 28, Colossians 2, 1 Corinthians 7, and Acts 16.

To elaborate, Christian baptism is (1) commanded by Christ in Matthew 28 (“Go...make disciples...baptizing and...teaching them”). (2) It is to be applied to believers as we see in Acts 8 (“Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning to see from Scripture he preached Jesus to him. As they went along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, ‘Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?’ And Philip said, ‘If you believe with all your heart, you may.’ And he answered and said, ‘I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.’ And he ordered the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch, and he baptized him.”) (3) It is to be administered to believers and their children, as can be seen from Genesis 17 (“I will establish my covenant between me, and you, and your descendants”) — which shows that the normal order of discipleship in the church is baptism followed by teaching; Colossians 2 (In Christ “you were also circumcised...having been buried with Him in baptism”) — which shows that New Testament water baptism replaces Old Testament circumcision as the sign of membership in the church; 1 Corinthians 7 (“your children are...now...holy”) — which confirms the place of children in the new covenant community, the church; and Acts 16 (“Lydia...was listening, and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul. And...she and her household [were] baptized”) — which shows us the pattern of the earliest church in covenant baptism.

Baptism (and especially “infant baptism” or covenant baptism) beautifully points to the initiative of God’s love. He reached out to us, when we could not reach out to Him. It is thus a perfect picture of sovereign, saving grace. “Every time we baptize an infant we bear witness that salvation is from God, that we cannot do any good thing to secure it, that we all enter the Kingdom of heaven therefore as little children, who do not do, but are done for.” (B.B. Warfield)

We, of course, also baptize adult believers (who have never before been baptized.) In this way, they are recognized as disciples of Jesus Christ through the means of baptism and confession of faith (see Acts 2:38, 8:35-37; Romans 10:9), and so it is our great joy and privilege from time to time, to hear new Christians profess their trust in Jesus Christ, Son of God, and Savior of sinners, as He is offered in the gospel, and to see them receive the mark of membership in the covenant community.

The Larger Catechism says:

“The needful but much neglected duty of improving our Baptism, is to be performed by us all our life long, especially in the time of temptation, and when we are present at the administration of it to others; by serious and thankful consideration of the nature of it, and of the ends for which Christ instituted it, the privileges and benefits conferred and sealed thereby, and our solemn vow made therein; by being humbled for our sinful defilement, our falling short of, and walking contrary to, the grace of baptism, and our engagements; by growing up to assurance of pardon of sin, and of all other blessings sealed to us in that sacrament; by drawing strength from the death and resurrection of Christ, into whom we are baptized, for the mortifying of sin, and quickening of grace; and by endeavoring to live by faith, to have our conversation in holiness and righteousness, as those that have therein given up their names to Christ; and to walk in brotherly love, as being baptized by the same Spirit into one body.”

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<http://get.theapp.co/d6ed>

A Guide to the Morning Service

The Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs

O Praise the Lord, for He is Good

Our opening hymn this Lord's Day Morning is actually a paraphrase of the opening verses of the 107th Psalm. Psalm 107 is a psalm of thanksgiving for the LORD'S loving-kindness (hesed) in rescuing His people from various kinds of trouble: captivity, deprivations of the desert, imprisonment, foolishness, and even storms at sea. Part of what makes the Psalms so rich for worship is that, in addition to exhorting us to praise God, they always provide reasons for why we should praise God. And so as we sing these words and join with sons of Israel in recalling God's faithfulness to them, our minds are ultimately drawn to the fact of God's faithfulness to His people in the giving of His own son, the Lord Jesus Christ. A fine psalm by which to begin our congregational singing, we sing it this morning to the familiar tune St. Anne ("Our God, Our Help in Ages Past").

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

This hymn is considered by many to be one of Charles Wesley's finest texts and is one of his most popular hymns. The hymn is in fact a prayer: through the incarnated Christ, we pray for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, and ask that we would never be separated from the love of God in Christ, who works in us and through us until our time on earth is done. The *Psalter Hymnal Handbook* well-expresses, "[This hymn] is our fervent Christian prayer that our sanctification will ultimately lead to glorification," and the line should not cause any discomfort. Indeed, this is the song of the Christian Life, until "we cast our crowns before [Him], lost in wonder, love, and praise."

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

REAL LIFE EVANGELISM

If the Sunday night "Found" series is challenging you to become more of an evangelist to your family, friends, and neighbors, let us make some recommendations for further reading and thought. Come to the Bookstore to take a look at these 3 small books by Mack Stiles: *Evangelism: How the Whole Church Speaks of Jesus, Marks of the Messenger: Knowing, Living and Speaking the Gospel*, *Speaking of Jesus: How to Tell your Friends the Best News They Will Ever Hear*, as well as these two: *Tangible: Making God Known Through Deeds of Mercy and Words of Truth*, by Chris Sicks and *Get Real: Sharing your everyday Faith Every Day* by John Leonard.

SMOCKING CLASSES

Sew and Sow is smocking in October! The first lesson begins Friday, October 3, from 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., and there is a \$5.00 supply fee. A nursery is available upon request. Please contact Sharon Teh (theteh@juno.com) for more details and to register.

FPDS PRIORITY ENROLLMENT

The School Board of First Presbyterian Day School has established a priority for members of the First Presbyterian Church for such vacancies as now remain for the fall session commencing August 2015. This priority ends at 3:00 p.m. on October 31 and pertains only to new students applying for placement in the Day School. Accordingly, all interested persons of this congregation should immediately contact the school.

INTERESTED IN JOINING FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH?

If you are interested in joining First Presbyterian Church, please note that our next joining date is Sunday, October 5, 2014. Each person joining FPC is asked to fill out a new member form and turn it in today. Any forms received after today, will be held for the next joining date. The new member forms can be obtained in the Session Room (located off the Greeting Courtyard) after the morning worship services. If you have any questions, please contact Marie Phillips at 601-973-9101 or mariep@fpcjackson.org.

FPC THIS WEEK

SUNDAY • SEPTEMBER 21, 2014

Sunday	<p>Pre-Service Announcements — 8:20 a.m. in the Sanctuary Prayer for Worship Service — 9:00 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. in M133 The Learning Resource Center — 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. (Library only) Sunday School — 9:40 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. in various locations Inquirers' Class — 9:40 a.m. in Session Room (off Greeting Courtyard) College Sunday School — 9:50 a.m. in the CH Pre-Service Announcements — 10:50 a.m. in the Sanctuary College Lunch — 12:00 noon in PH Young Adult Leadership Group — 4:30 p.m. in WH204 The Learning Resource Center — 5:30 p.m. – 5:55 p.m. (Library only) Pre-Service Announcements — 5:50 p.m. in the Sanctuary Adult Choir Presentation — 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary Senior High Insight — 7:30 p.m. at the home of the Dunbars (2476 Eastover Drive)</p>
Monday	<p>Circle Bible Teachers — 9:00 a.m. in WH202 Neighborhood Christian Center Tutoring — 3:00 p.m. in SC210 Boy Scouts — 7:00 p.m. in PH/SC</p>
Tuesday	<p>"Truth At Dawn" Men's Bible Study — 6:30 a.m. in WH202 Staff Meeting — 9:00 a.m. in the MS The Learning Resource Center — 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. MTW Committee Meeting — 12:00 noon in MH Twin Lakes Board Meeting — 12:00 noon in MH Neighborhood Christian Center Tutoring — 3:00 p.m. in SC210 Admin. Committee of the MS Valley Presbytery — 3:00 p.m. in WH202 Internationals Class — 6:45 p.m. in PH</p>
Wednesday	<p>MOMS Bible Study — 9:00 a.m. in PH/SC Men's Bible Study — 10:00 a.m. in the SR The Learning Resource Center — 10:00 a.m. – 6:25 p.m. Family Night Supper — 5:00 p.m. in MH Junior High Discipleship Groups — 5:00 p.m. in the YH Children's Activities — 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. in the Gym Retirement Party for Barbara Porter — 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. in PH The Choir — 5:50 p.m. in MS Children's Choirs — 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in various locations Sixth Grade Fellowship — 6:30 p.m. in SC321/Gym Discipleship Groups — 6:30 p.m. in various locations Mid-Week Bible Study and Prayer Meeting — 6:30 p.m. in LH</p>
Thursday	<p>Son of David Ladies Bible Study — 9:00 a.m. on 2nd floor SC Genesis Ladies Bible Study — 9:45 a.m. in MH The Learning Resource Center — 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. PROS — 11:30 a.m. in MH</p>
Friday	<p>Sew and Sow — 9:00 a.m. in SC 211 A/B</p>
Saturday	<p>Men's Prayer Breakfast — 7:30 a.m. in MH</p>

CH - College House
 LH - Lowe Hall
 M - Main Floor
 MCR - Ministers
 Conference Room

MH - Miller Hall
 MS - Music Suite
 PH - Patterson Hall
 YH - Youth House
 SC - Study Center

WH - Westminster Hall
 HC - Hutton Chapel
 LRC - Learning Resource
 Center
 SR - Session Room

ANNOUNCEMENTS

II THESSALONIANS 3:1

“Finally, brethren, pray for us...” — **Professor H** - Serving with Mission to the World in Asia. Professor H. researches and develops curriculum that can be used in many situations by believers around the world. For contact information, please call the Mission Department. **Seth & Julie Still** - Serving as campus minister for Reformed University Fellowship at Delta State University in Cleveland, MS. Mailing address: 204 N. Leflore Avenue, Cleveland, MS 38732. Email: sstill@ruf.org.

DEACONS ELECTED

Last Sunday the following men were elected to the office of Deacon: Matt Ballew, Jay Brown, Steve Brown, David Case, Auston Edwards, Parker Ellison, Spence Flatgard, Matt Glover, Buddy Graham, Matt Graves, Henry Greaves, Stephen Kruger, Rob Lake, Kelly McMullan, Nathan Oakley, Rob Oates, Jim Prince, Ryan Swindell, Hugh Trussell, and David Turner.

COLLEGE LUNCHEON

Attention all college students, you are invited to a free lunch after the 11:00 a.m. service today, in Patterson Hall.

COLOSSIANS: THE PREEMINENCE OF CHRIST

This fall semester at our weekly Wednesday Night Bible Study and Prayer Meeting, we will be studying Paul's Epistle to the Colossians. Each week one of our ministers or men on the church staff will be teaching from a passage in Colossians, followed up by a time of corporate prayer. C.H. Spurgeon is known to have called the Prayer Meeting the “engine room” of the church and says that the blessing of heaven comes when prayer meetings are vibrant and filled with bold, urgent, kingdom-centered prayer. Please join us weekly in Patterson Hall at 6:30 p.m. as we pray to that end.

PROS

Our first fall meeting of PROS (Presbyterian Retired Organization) will be Thursday, September 25 at 11:30 a.m. You won't want to miss Judy Rhodes Davis, who will present a musical program of both secular songs and hymns. Our menu will consist of chicken marsala, twice-baked potatoes, mandarin orange salad, and apple crisp topped with vanilla ice cream! Please call the church office to make your reservation by Tuesday, September 23. The cost will be \$4.00 per person.

IT'S PORTER TIME!

Barbara Porter is retiring after 10 years of service here as Assistant Children's Director. Please join us on the night of Wednesday, September 24, in Patterson Hall from 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. to express our thanks to Barbara. Plan to bring your children with you, enjoy some refreshments, and give Mrs. Porter a hug and a big “Thank You!”

ADOPT-A-COLLEGE-STUDENT PROGRAM

The College Ministry has an opportunity for the families of FPC to minister to local college students. As a host family, your participation would include: (1) inviting your student to have a meal with your family, (2) sending him or her a small “care package” during finals week, and (3) sending him or her a personal note of encouragement. We ask that interested persons and families sign up online at fpcjackson.org/college or by contacting Jenny Sanders at youthhouse@fpcjackson.org. There is no obligation in signing up. A staff member will contact you to discuss the details of the program more fully and will later match you with a local college student.

Announcements continued on other side.

The Vows for the Sacrament of Baptism

In order for the congregation to more fully enter into the service of the sacrament of baptism and to refresh ourselves on our church membership vow, the following is provided for your convenience and information:

To the parents:

1. Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you claim God's covenant promises in (his) behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for (his) salvation, as you do for your own?
3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before (him) a godly example, that you will pray with and for (him), that you will teach (him) the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring (him) up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

And

To the congregation:

Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

First Presbyterian Church purposes to stand as a Reformed witness to Jackson, to the surrounding community, and ultimately to the world through the proclamation of the whole counsel of God as written in the verbally inspired, infallible Scriptures.

WORSHIP • DISCIPLESHIP • OUTREACH