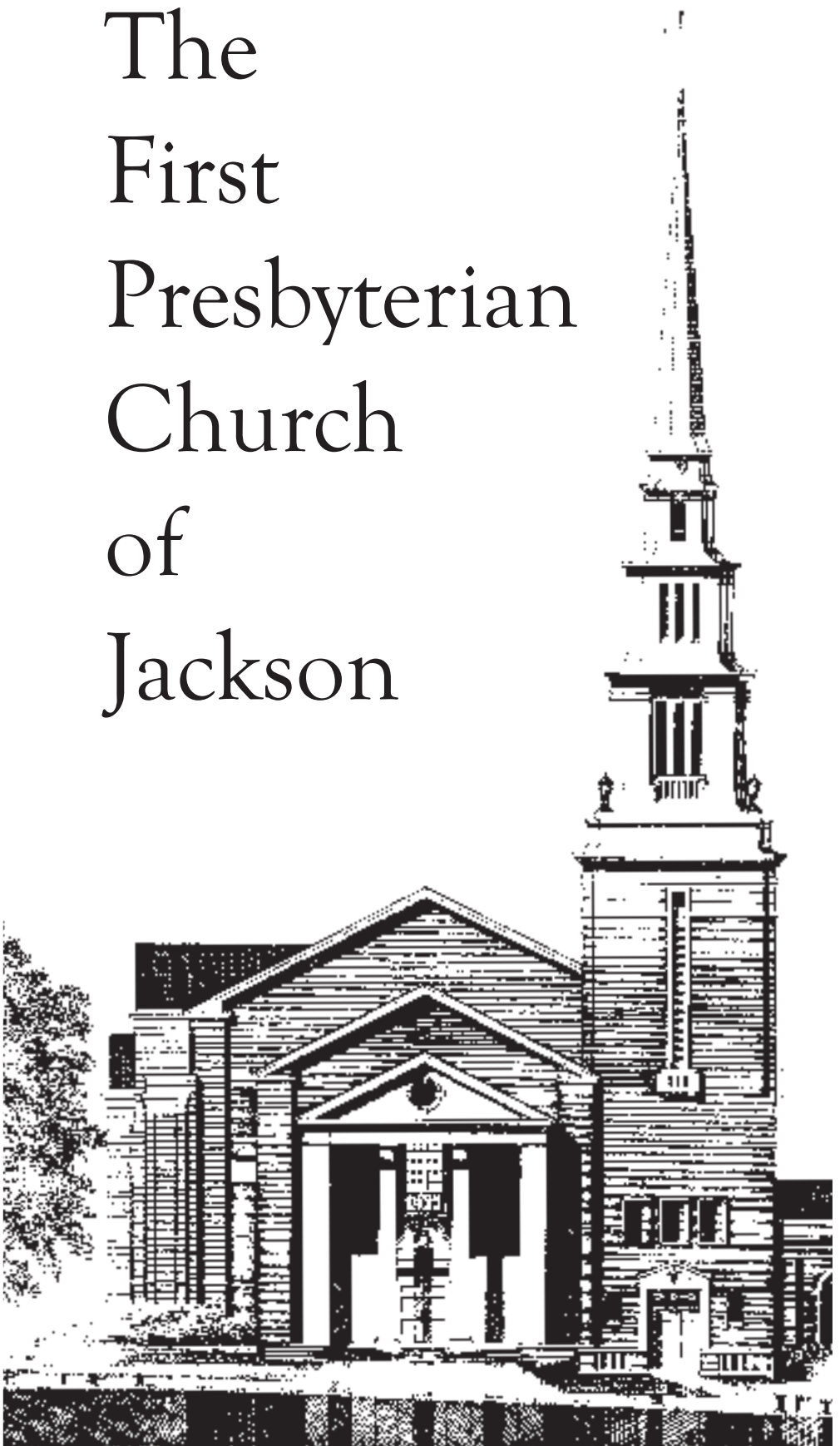


The
First
Presbyterian
Church
of
Jackson



“To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever”

THE LORD'S DAY

The Fourteenth Day of December, Two Thousand Fourteen
MORNING WORSHIP

Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'Clock

Senior Minister — The Reverend Mr. David T. A. Strain
Assisting Minister — The Reverend Dr. Edward A. Hartman
Minister-Elect of Mission and Outreach

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 — “What Is This Lovely Fragrance”. Paul Manz

The Introit — “Oh, Shout for Joy”. Getty/ De Barra/Fettke
(The New 100th Psalm)

The Student Choir; Maggie McLinden, Accompanist

The Call to Worship

‡* **The Carol of Praise No. 226** — “As with Gladness Men of Old”

‡ **The Prayer of Adoration and Confession**

‡* **The Doxology** — “Angels, from the Realms of Glory” (stanza 5)

“All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son;
Evermore your voices raising
To th’ eternal Three in One:

Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.”

The Scripture Reading — Isaiah 40:1-11 (Pew Bible pages 599-600)

The Morning Prayer

‡ **The Carol No. 199** — “See, amid the Winter’s Snow”

The Presentation of God’s Tithes and Our Offerings

The Offertory — “The Hands that First Held Mary’s Child”Dan Forrest

The Student Choir with John Sinclair, Cellist

“The hands that first held Mary’s child were hard from working wood.

From boards they sawed and planed and filed and splinters they withstood.

This day they gripped no tool of steel, they drove no iron nail,
but cradled from the head to heel our Lord, newborn and frail.

When Joseph marveled at the size of that small breathing frame,
and gazed upon those bright new eyes and spoke that infant’s name,
the angel’s words he once had dreamed poured down from heaven’s height,
and like the host of stars that beamed blessed earth with welcome light.

“This child shall be Emmanuel, not God upon the throne,
but God with us, as close as blood and bone.”

The tiny form in Joseph’s palms confirmed what he had heard,
and from his heart rose hymns and psalms for heaven’s human word.

The tools that Joseph laid aside a mob would later lift and use with anger, fear,
and pride to crucify God’s gift. Let us, O Lord, not only hold the child who’s born today,
but charged with faith may we be bold to follow in His way.”

Text: Thomas Troeger

The Prayer of Illumination

The Reading of Holy Scripture — John 1:1-18 (Pew Bible page 886)

The Sermon — “The Word Became Flesh”Mr. Strain

‡ **The Hymn of Response No. 211** — “God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”

‡ **The Benediction**

The Response — “Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav’n above.

Glory to God, all glory in the highest. O Come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him. O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.”

The Postlude — “Joy to the World”Joel Rainey

Dr. Dave Snyder, Pianist

*The ushers may seat latecomers

‡Congregation standing

EVENING WORSHIP

Six O'Clock

Senior Minister — The Reverend Mr. David T.A. Strain
Assisting Minister — The Reverend Mr. Wiley P. Lowry III
Minister of Pastoral Care

The Announcements and Words of Preparation (5:50 p.m.)

The Prelude — “Prelude on ‘Greensleeves’”Richard Purvis
William Wymond, Organist

The Call to Worship

‡ **The Carol No. 218** — “Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

‡ **The Invocation**

The Carol No. 213 — “What Child Is This”

The Reading of the Christmas Scriptures — Luke 2:1-20 (Pew Bible page 857)

The Carols of the Childrens’ Choirs

“Angels, We Have Heard on High” - All Choirs

“Knock, Knock, Knock” The Four-Year-Olds’ Choir

“Go Tell It on the Mountain” The First Grade Choir

“Silent Night” The Five-Year-Olds’ Choir

“Good Christian Men, Rejoice” The Second Grade Choir

“Away in a Manger” The Girls Choir (3rd - 5th Grade)

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” The Boys Choir (3rd - 5th Grade)

‡ **The Carol No. 208** — “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

* **The Greetings**

The Presentation of God’s Tithes and Our Offerings

The Offertory — “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” Polish Carol

The Prayer of Illumination

The Reading of Holy Scripture — Isaiah 52:13-53:12 (Pew Bible pages 613-614)

The Sermon — “The Servant Satisfied” Mr. Strain

‡ **The Benediction**

The Response

“When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.”

The Postlude — “Chorus of Shepherds” Jacques Lemmens

*The ushers may seat latecomers

‡Congregation standing

**To All Our
Visitors**

We are delighted that you are here with us today. Our hope is that your understanding and love of Jesus Christ will grow because of your visit. To answer any questions you might have, please come by our Greeting Courtyard through the doors on the south side (right side as you face the pulpit) of the sanctuary after the 8:30 a.m. or the 11:00 a.m. worship service. We would love to meet you.

A Guide to the Evening Service

The Evening Hymns and Carols

What Child Is This

William Dix (the author of the carol "As With Gladness Men of Old") penned the words of this famous hymn/carol. Dix aptly explores the glorious paradoxes of the Incarnation. The tune is haunting and so well-suited to express the mystery of the Mighty Creator Christ fully entering into the realm of humanity. This carol also expressly reminds us that Christ came to die for our sins—truth often lost in the sentiment of this season. We sing it today to the most traditional of all English tunes, "Greensleeves." The original carol may well be associated with Henry VIII, and the tune "Greensleeves" is mentioned in Shakespeare's *Merry Wives of Windsor*. William Dix, though an Englishman from Somerset, became manager of a marine insurance company in Glasgow. Dix wrote a poem entitled, "The Manger Throne," adapting the words of this hymn to its current form. In it he imagines visitors coming to the manger in Bethlehem and wondering who is the child that lies before them. Each verse ends with a triumphant statement of His divine nature. Certainly this is a fitting piece for us to sing, even as we prepare to hear praises of God sung from the lips of our children tonight.

First Presbyterian Church Children's Choirs

Coordinator - Janie Clarke

Assistant Coordinator: Heather Hunt

Four-Year-Olds' Choir - Director: Dorothy Glover;

Pianist: Dr. Dave Snyder;

Assistants: Mary Jane McDaniel and Boopie Beard

Five-Year-Olds' Choir - Director: Lauren Randle;

Pianist: Debbie Dempsey;

Assistants: Cassie Graves and Sally Lott

First Grade Choir - Director: Beth Archer;

Pianist: Gabriella Castro;

Assistant: Emily McClain

Second Grade Choir - Director: Grace Anna Randall;

Pianist: Lydia Jones;

Assistants: Denise Wilson and Catherine Bell

Girls Choir - Director: Sarah Waters;

Pianist: Christine Gilbert;

Assistants: Rachael Adams and Stuart Clarke

Boys Choir - Director: Bill Wymond;

Assistants: David Case, Kendall Clarke and Ian Clarke

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED



As we prepare for the 2015 budget year, it is important that each member of the congregation support the work and worship of First Presbyterian Church. If you have not turned in your stewardship commitment card for 2015, you may place it in the offering plate during this Sunday's worship services. Cards are available in the sanctuary pews and in the tract racks throughout the church. To date, we have received 428 commitment cards for a total of \$3,889,815 and 33 debt retirement cards for a total of \$62,332.

MOMS BIBLE STUDY - DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER!

MOMS is a weekly Bible study for mothers of children 6th grade and under. It meets on Wednesdays in Patterson Hall from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Starting Wednesday, January 14, MOMS will be studying "Sweethearts for a Lifetime." Registration for new MOMS begins January 1, 2015. To register, contact Joanna McNeel at 601-807-1596.

COMMUNICANTS' CLASS

A new communicants' class will be offered at the church beginning Sunday, January 11. This class is open to young people who are currently in 6th grade and up. Held during the Sunday school hour, the class begins January 11 and is conducted for four weeks. All those in 6th grade Sunday school were sent an enrollment form; anyone else who would like to take the class may call or stop by the Christian Education office at the church to request a form.

MID-SOUTH MEN'S RALLY - JANUARY 30, 2015

Men, please join us for our annual Mid-South Men's Rally. Our speaker this year will be The Reverend Dr. Ralph Davis, Minister-in-Residence at First Presbyterian Church, Columbia, SC. No advance registration is necessary. Dinner will be served beginning at 5:15 p.m., with the first session beginning at 6:30 p.m. If you have questions, please contact Christina Meenan at 601-973-9125 or missiondepartment@fpcjackson.org.

SUPPORT GROUP

If you are struggling with alcohol or other chemical dependence and would like to get together with people who share in the same struggles, we have a small and very safe group that meets regularly for just that purpose. This discreet monthly meeting is one of friendship, encouragement, and biblical reflection. Personal anonymity is very important at this meeting. For more information, please call or text 601-260-1636. Also, every month a group meets of those who have family members (spouses, children, siblings, parents) who struggle with addiction. This is a time of mutual encouragement and Christ-centered counsel. Anonymity is required. For more information concerning the place and time of these meetings, call or text 601-260-0388.

HEARING ASSISTANCE

Several members of our congregation have benefitted from the hearing devices that are available during our worship services. These devices transmit the sound from the pulpit directly into a small and unobtrusive ear piece. You may obtain your own hearing device to bring to church each week by contacting Earl Davis in the church office at 601-353-8316.

FPC THIS WEEK

SUNDAY • DECEMBER 14, 2014

Sunday

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
College Sunday School — 9:50 a.m. in the CH
Pre-Service Announcements — 10:50 a.m. in the Sanctuary
Adult Choir Rehearsal — 4:00 p.m. in MS
Young Adult Leadership Group Meeting — 4:30 p.m. in MH
The Learning Resource Center — 5:30 p.m. – 5:55 p.m.
 (Library only)
Pre-Service Announcements — 5:50 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Monday

Ministry Safe Meeting — 9:00 a.m. in MH
Neighborhood Christian Center Tutoring — 3:00 p.m. in SC210

Tuesday

“Truth at Dawn” Men’s Bible Study — 6:30 a.m. in WH202
The Learning Resource Center — 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Neighborhood Christian Center Tutoring — 3:00 p.m. in SC210
WIC Christmas Dinner — 6:00 p.m. in MH

Wednesday

Men’s Bible Study — 10:00 a.m. in the SR
The Learning Resource Center — 10:00 a.m. – 6:25 p.m.
Parents’ Prayer — 11:45 a.m. in YH
Family Night Supper — 5:00 p.m. in MH
Junior High Discipleship Groups — 5:00 p.m. in the YH
Children’s Christmas Party — 5:30 p.m. in PH/Company Room
The Choir — 5:50 p.m. in MS
Sixth Grade Fellowship — 6:30 p.m. in SC321/Gym
Q&A with David Strain, Ralph Kelley, Ed Hartman — 6:30 p.m.
 in MH

Thursday

The Learning Resource Center — 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
MTW Committee Meeting — 12:00 noon in MH

Friday

Mission Conference Committee — 12:00 noon in MH

Saturday

Men’s Prayer Breakfast — 7:30 a.m. in MH
Adult Choir Rehearsal — 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon in the Sanctuary
Bookstore Open House — 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

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..." — **Don & Fran McNeill**- Serving as educators at Christ's Community Study Center with Mission to the World in Uganda. Mailing address: Box 1779 Mbarara, Uganda, East Africa. Email: mcneilldf@gmail.com. **Child Evangelism Fellowship of Jackson** - CEF of Jackson is supported through FPC-Mission to Jackson. This Bible-centered worldwide organization seeks to evangelize boys and girls with the gospel. Mailing address: 5422 Clinton Blvd. Jackson, MS 39209. Email: cefjackson@rtsjackson.org

FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are from the wedding of Emily Moore and Chris Haynes and are given to the glory of God.

SUNDAY EVENING SERMON SERIES - THE SERVANT: ISAIAH 53

Perhaps no other chapter in all the Old Testament more explicitly and marvelously portrays the suffering and sin-bearing of the Lord Jesus Christ than Isaiah 53, as He secures atonement and purchases pardon for His people. Isaiah 53 is a beautiful picture of the Gospel nestled right at the heart of the Old Testament. Come and hear the Gospel of God proclaimed as our Senior Minister, David Strain, brings us the last of his sermons in this series tonight.

"THERE IS HOPE" - WOMEN'S MINISTRY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Ladies, join us December 16, 2014, from 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in Miller Hall for our annual Christmas dinner. Our devotional speaker will be Fran Askew, and the cost is \$6.00 per person. The Christmas Dinner is a much-loved annual time of fellowship and encouragement as we recognize ladies who, because of long and faithful service to our Lord and His Church, receive our Life Membership Award. Make your reservation by contacting the receptionist in the church office at 601-353-8316 or receptionist@fpcjackson.org.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT Q&A

Please join us, Wednesday, December 17, at 6:30 p.m. in Miller Hall for a time of Questions and Answers with our Senior Minister, David Strain; Executive Minister, Ralph Kelley; and Minister of Mission and Outreach-elect, Ed Hartman. They will answer questions submitted by you, the congregation, prior to the event. If you have a question on life ministry, changing culture and Christianity, a recent sermon, or anything else you would like to pose to them, please submit it by noon on Tuesday, December 16th. You can email your questions to questions@fpcjackson.org or by calling the receptionist at 601-353-8316. Please note that the weekly Bible Study and Prayer Meeting will not meet.

BOOK STORE HOLIDAY HOURS AND OPEN HOUSE

Our holiday hours for December shopping are Tuesday 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Wednesday 10:00 a.m.- 6:25 p.m., Thursday 10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. Also, be sure to join us for the annual Christmas Open House Saturday, December 20, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Everyone is invited for refreshments and free gift wrapping on all books purchased that day. Please note that the bookstore will be closed December 22 - 26. The following week we will be open on Tuesday, December 30 and Wednesday, December 31 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

YEAR-END GIVING REMINDERS

If you are planning to donate stock to First Presbyterian Church before the end of the year 2014, please notify Earl Davis in the Business Office at 601-973-9107. **In order for year-end church contributions to be deducted on your 2014 tax return, they must be received at First Presbyterian Church on or before December 31, 2014.** The Business Office will be open from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., and you may give online until midnight, December 31, 2014. If you mail your contribution, the envelope must be postmarked no later than December 31, 2014. Security will be posted on the south side of the church (Pinehurst Street) to receive any contributions that may be dropped off after hours on December 31, 2014. All gifts received or postmarked after December 31, 2014, will apply to your 2015 Contribution Statement.

CONNECT WITH FPC ONLINE

website: www.fpcjackson.org

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[Facebook.com/FirstPresJackson](https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresJackson)

Download the First Pres App free
<http://get.theapp.co/d6ed>

2014 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 14

Children's Christmas Music (6:00 p.m.)

Tuesday, December 16

WIC Christmas Dinner at 6:00 p.m. in MH

Saturday, December 20

Bookstore Open House (10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.)

Sunday, December 21

Music of Christmas (5:00 p.m.)

Wednesday, December 24

No Supper (Church Offices Closed)

Family Carols Service (4:00 p.m.)

Thursday, December 25

Church Offices Closed

Wednesday, December 31

No Supper or Service

Thursday, January 1

Church Offices Closed