

"To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever"

THE LORD'S DAY

The Twenty-fourth Day of December, Two Thousand Seventeen MÖRNING WORSHIP

Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'Clock

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

	The Greetings and Announcements (8:25 and 10:55 a.m.)
	The Prelude — "The Angel Gabriel"
	The Call to Worship
‡*	The Hymn of Praise No. 195 — "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"
‡	The Prayer of Adoration and Confession
‡	The Assurance of Pardon
‡ *	The Doxology "All creation, join in praise God the Father, Spirit, Son; Evermore our voices raising to th' eternal Three in One: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King."
	The Scripture Reading — Isaiah 11:1-9 (Pew Bible pages 575-576)
	The Pastoral Prayer
‡*	The Hymn No. 200 — "It Came upon the Midnight Clear"
	The Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings
	The Offertory — Kim Porter, Soloist
	The Prayer of Illumination
	The Reading of Holy Scripture — Luke 2:1-7 (Pew Bible page 857)
	The Sermon — <i>Veiled in Flesh:</i> "The Nativity"
‡	The Hymn of Response No. 213 — "What Child Is This"
‡	The Benediction
‡	The Response "Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace. Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth."
	The Postlude — "Hark! The Glad Sound" Michael Burkhardt

^{*}The ushers may seat latecomers ‡Congregation standing

JOIN US FOR



Christmas Eue Family Carols Service



4:00 P.M. SANCTUARY

Nursery provided for children through age 4.



December 24 Regular Morning Worship Services

& Sunday School

December 24 4:00 p.m. Family Carols Service

No Evening Worship Service

December 24-29 **Bookstore Closed**

December 25-26 Church Offices Closed

December 27 No Wednesday Night Supper/Service

December 31 Regular Worship Services

& Sunday School/No Evening

Children's Activities

Church Offices Closed January 1

No Wednesday Night Supper/Service January 3



THE CHURCH DIRECTORY

Church Offices: 1390 N. State Street Jackson, Mississippi 39202 601-353-8316 • FAX 601-326-9250

web site - www.fpcjackson.org WLBT TV3 10:00 A.M. Sunday WBWV TV14 Memphis WBIW Prattville, AL

THE SESSION

The Reverend Dr. David T. A. Strain. Senior Minister

Don B. Cannada, Clerk James S. Armstrong J Mark Baird D. Kyle Ball McNeill Bartling III John H. Bowen III David L. Bowling Max P. Bowman Forrest G. Bratley, Jr. John P. Buchanan Stuart H. Clarke C. David Cleland John A. Crawford John A. Crawford, Jr. Robert A. Cunningham Edward J. Currie, Jr. Arthur P. Davis

Stephen M. Edwards James D. Elkin T. David Elkin George R. Fair Kenneth G. Fairly W. Craig Flowers Marcial D. Forester, Jr. L. H. Fulcher, Jr. Alan F. Futvoye Claude W. Harbarger William K. Harper Samuel D. Hensley Larry Houchins Paul Hurst W. Wayne Husband W. Harper Keeler Crane D. Kipp

Terry R. Levy Robert Y. Love, Jr. Wiley P. Lowry, Jr. George W. May, Jr. John H. McVey, Sr. V. Hu Meena, Jr. Robert B. Mims James L. Moore William McNeill Moore Doyle B. Moorhead Joel G. Payne, Jr. William D. Payne, Sr. William M. Penn Thomas I. Rice III Richard L. Ridgway Benjamin W. Roberson Stephen W. Rosenblatt

Richard W. Russ Jerrald L. Shivers John Lowe Smith Mark A. Sorgenfrei Paul H. Stephenson III Marvin E. Stockett William O. Stone, Jr. Daniel B. Story II Tian C. Teh Timothy M. Threadgill Noel K. Toler, Jr. R. Barry Vickery Alan H. Walters T. Calvin Wells A. Terrel Williams Marcus M. Wilson Mark J. Windham

Elders Emeriti: Thomas H. Bowen, Jr.; William S. Cook; William H. Cox, Jr.; T. Doug Dale, Sr.; Owen C. Elder, Jr.; Frank H. Hagaman; H. Richard Johnson, Jr.; William A. Long, Jr.; A. William May; C. Eugene McRoberts, Jr.; J. Longstreet Minor III; J. Lee Owen, Jr.; A. Jerry Sheldon; Orrin H. Swayze, Jr.; Jim B. Tohill; Joel E. Varner

THE DIACONATE

Charles R. Porter III Chairman F. Hall Bailey David M. Baird Kenneth C. Ball Matt L. Ballew III Charles F F Barbour William H. Barbour III James M. Bateman Lewis W. Bell Victor E. Blaylock Walter J. Brand Jav Brown P. Sharkey Burke, Jr. Beau Burrow C. Glen Bush, Jr. John David Case V. Reid Cotten Paul L. Cox J. Holt Crews

William L. Crim, Jr. Thomas D. Dale, Jr. Guy H. Davant III John Daniel Davis David B. Day Robert G. Dye, Sr. Auston Ramsay Edwards Parker Lee Ellison Robert G. Feild Spence Flatgard David H. Fulcher W. Douglas Garland III Matthew Samuel Glover Frank Guyton Graham, Jr, Matthew Lee Graves Henry W.H. Greaves, Sr. Willard Benton Gregg Zeb King Henson James R. House III Carey A. Johnston

J. Dallis Ketchum Stephen Paul Kruger Robert H. Lake Michael M. Manning R. David Marchetti Douglas M. McDaniel Robert A. Miller James L. Moore, Jr. J. Walter Newman IV J.T. Noblin Nathan Ray Oakley Rob Coit Oates, Jr. J. Lee Owen III Leroy H. Paris II R. Phillip Parker James E. Prince III Cy Rosenblatt R. Weston Russ, Jr. Bryan B. Rutledge Malcolm Saxon III

Kenneth C. Seawright Jeff W. Skelton Stewart C. Swayze J. Ryan Swindell L. Ford Terry Michael T. Tramel Hugh D. Trussell II David A. Turner J. Wilbourn Vise Arthur C. Wadsworth H. Coles Wilkins, Jr. Joseph T. Wilkins III Neil T. Witherow Walter R. Wofford, Jr. John H. Young III

Deacons Emeriti: John H. Allgood III; T. Oscar Burris, Jr.; R. Barry Cannada; John L. Cox; Larry W. Edwards; Charles R. Gardner; Gary J. Herring; J.O. Manning, Jr.; William F. Sneed; Joe P. Uithoven; Richard B. Wilson, Jr.; Wirt A. Yerger, Jr.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL-9:40 - 10:40 A.M.

Mr. William O. Stone, Jr., General Superintendent Mrs. Betsy Chestnut, Special Needs Coordinator Mr. & Mrs. Crane Kipp, Churchtime Coordinators Mrs. Hall Bailey, Information Desk Coordinator

THE CHURCH PROGRAM

THE OHOHOH HOGHAW	
THE SUNDAY SERVICES:	
Sunday School	∂:40 A.M.
Morning Worship	1:00 A.M.
Evening Worship	6:00 P.M.
Senior High Insight	7:30 P.M.
Communion	lovember ober, and
THE MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER MEETING: Wednesday, Family Night Dinner	6:15 P.M. 5:30 P.M. 5:30 P.M. 5:50 P.M. 6:30 P.M.

FPC THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2017

Children's Church for 3- and 4-year olds — during 11:00 a.m. worship service in M135MB

Christmas Eve Family Carols Service — 4:00 p.m. in Sanctuary

Monday **Church Offices Closed**

Tuesday Church Offices Closed

Wednesday No Wednesday Night Supper or Activities

Thursday Safety Committee Meeting — 1:00 p.m. in SC213A

Friday No Scheduled Activities

Saturday Men's Prayer Breakfast — 7:30 a.m. in SC211

BC - Basement Classroom **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...."

Third Millennium Ministries – This ministry seeks to provide distance theological education to thousands of pastors around the world who lack sufficient training for ministry.

Email: dpillow@thirdmill.org

Child Evangelism Fellowship of Jackson – CEF of Jackson is supported though FPC-Mission to Jackson. This Bible-centered worldwide organization seeks to evangelize boys and girls with the gospel. Email:

paul@cefofmississippi.com

FLOWERS

The poinsettia tree is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Elizabeth Johnson by Dr. and Mrs. J. Lee Owen, Sr.

YEAR-END GIVING REMINDERS

If you are planning to donate stock to First Presbyterian Church before the end of the year 2017, please notify Cliff Ford in the Business Office at 601-973-9107. In order for year-end church contributions to be deducted on your 2017 tax return, they must be received at First Presbyterian Church on or before December 31, 2017. The Business Office will be open from 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. that day. If you mail your contribution, the envelope must be postmarked no later than December 31, 2017. 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, 2017. You may give electronically until midnight, December 31, 2017, either through our church website or our church app with just one click on "Giving." All gifts received or postmarked after December 31, 2017, will apply to your 2018 Contribution Statement.

COMMUNICANT CLASS 2018

Communicant classes, open to students 6th grade and above, will be held January 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2018, beginning at 9:40 a.m. in Miller Hall. To register or for more information, please contact Kimberly Wilkins at kimberlyw@fpcjackson.org or 601-973-9105.

MOMS BIBLE STUDY SPRING SEMESTER

Rooted...Cultivating a Healthy Marriage in Union with Christ: Ladies, we hope you'll join us on Wednesdays in Patterson Hall from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. beginning January 17. The format is small groups followed by a large group lecture led by Emily Hartman. MOMS is a weekly Bible study for expectant moms, those who hope to become moms, and those whose youngest child is in the sixth grade or below. A nursery is available, but space is limited. Registration for new members begins January 2. Please contact Joanna McNeel at 601-807-1596.

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, weekly 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, twice each month a group of those who have loved ones who struggle with addiction/alcoholism meets for 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 benefited 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 earpiece. You may obtain your own hearing device to bring to church each week by contacting Cliff Ford in the church office: 601-353-8316.

CONNECT WITH FPC ONLINE

website: www.fpcjackson.org

Follow us on Twitter @FPCJxnMS Like us on Facebook Facebook.com/FirstPresJackson

Download the FPC app: Text fpcjacksonapp to 779-77

FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDE

At FPC, we believe that family worship is important. Recognizing the time challenges of a busy week with work and school, we want to make it as easy as possible for you. So we hope you find this Family Worship Guide helpful and use it in your homes this week. Each week addresses a question from the *Westminster Shorter Catechism*, with a daily scripture reference, key thought, and questions for family discussion. You can use this abbreviated version by simply taking this bulletin home with you today, or get the complete version emailed to you weekly by subscribing at http://fpcj.ms/fam-devo. Or contact the church office at 601-353-8316 or receptionist@fpcjackson.org. It is also available on the app under "Resources."

THIS WEEK'S FOCUS:

Question 87: What is repentance unto life?

Answer: Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, doth, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of, and endeavor after, new obedience.

MONDAY

Scripture: Acts 11:1-18; 2 Timothy 2:24-26

Key Thought: Repentance unto life is a saving grace.

Questions:

- What is the difference between a "saving grace" and a "good work"?
- Why is it important to recognize that repentance is a saving grace?
- How does God communicate the grace of repentance?

Prayer

TUESDAY

Scripture: Acts 2:37-38; Ezekiel 35:31

Key Thought: Repentance unto life requires a true sense of sin.

Questions:

- What does it mean to say that you are a sinner?
- What makes sin such a terrible thing?
- Do you have a true sense of your own sin?

Prayer

WEDNESDAY

Scripture: Jeremiah 3:21-25; Mark 2:15-17; John 3:16-21

Key Thought: Repentance unto life requires an apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ. **Questions:**

- What is mercy?
- How has God shown mercy through Jesus Christ?
- Why is understanding of this mercy necessary for true repentance?

Prayer

THURSDAY

Scripture: Jeremiah 31:18-19; 2 Corinthians 7:9-11

Key Thought: Repentance unto life requires turning to God out of grief and hatred for sin. **Questions:**

- What are the ingredients of godly sorrow over sin?
- Why should a true sense of our sin make us ashamed?
- How can we know that we hate sin?

Prayer

FRIDAY

Scripture: 2 Kings 23:19-25; Luke 3:1-14

Key Thought: Repentance unto life requires a full purpose of, and endeavor after, new obedience.

Questions:

- What does it mean to "bear fruits worthy of repentance"?
- How is a changed life evidence of a work of grace in the heart?
- What are the motives of obedience produced by true repentance?

Praye: