

The  
First  
Presbyterian  
Church  
of  
Jackson



*“To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever”*

# THE LORD'S DAY

The Twenty-seventh Day of December, Two Thousand Fifteen  
MORNING WORSHIP

Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'Clock

Presiding Minister — The Reverend Dr. Edward A. Hartman

Minister of Mission and Outreach

Assisting Minister — The Reverend Mr. David T. A. Strain  
Senior 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** (8:25 and 10:55 a.m.)

**The Prelude** — “Pastorale” ..... James Mansfield

Connie S. Wadsworth, Organ

**The Call to Worship**

‡\* **The Hymn of Praise No. 30** — “Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”  
(from Psalm 90)

‡ **The Prayer of Adoration and Confession**

‡ **The Assurance of Pardon**

‡ **The Doxology**

“All you that fear Jehovah’s name, His glory tell, His praise proclaim;  
you children of His chosen race, stand in awe before His face,  
stand in awe before His face. The Lord’s unfailing righteousness  
all generations shall confess; from age to age shall men be taught  
what wondrous works the Lord has wrought,  
what wondrous works the Lord has wrought.”

**The Scripture Reading** — Isaiah 64:1-12 (Pew Bible page 623)

**The Morning Prayer**

‡ **The Hymn No. 457** — “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

**The Presentation of God’s Tithes and Our Offerings**

**The Offertory** — “The Majesty and the Glory” ..... Tom Fettke  
Clinton Pride, Soloist

**The Prayer of Illumination**

**The Reading of Holy Scripture** — Revelation 15:1-4 (Pew Bible page 1036)

**The Sermon** — *Advent Songs*: “The Song of Moses and the Lamb” ... Dr. Hartman

‡ **The Hymn of Response No. 261** — “What Wondrous Love Is This”

‡ **The Benediction**

**The Postlude** — “Glorious Day in David’s Town” ..... G.F. Handel

\*The ushers may seat latecomers

‡Congregation standing

# EVENING WORSHIP

Six O'Clock

Presiding Minister — The Reverend Mr. Wiley P. Lowry III  
Minister of Pastoral Care

Assisting Minister — The Reverend Mr. William E. Dempsey  
Minister of Congregational Care

**The Announcements and Words of Preparation** (5:55 p.m.)

**The Prelude** — “Solo for Flute” .....Francois Couperin  
Connie S. Wadsworth, Organ

**The Call to Worship**

‡ **The Psalm of Praise No. 310** — “Rejoice, the Lord Is King”

‡ **The Invocation**

‡ **The Hymn No. 230** — “Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor”

\* **The Greetings**

**The Evening Prayer** — Ruling Elder Bo Bowen

**The Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings**

**The Offertory** — “What Child Is This?” ..... English Carol  
Debbie Dempsey, Flute; Martin Antoon, Guitar

**The Young Children's Devotional**

For children currently in 4-year-old through 3rd grade Sunday School

*The Children's Catechism*

Q 33: What was the sin of our first parents? A: Eating the forbidden fruit.

Q 34: Who tempted Adam and Eve to this sin? A: Satan tempted Eve first,  
and then he used her to tempt Adam.

Q 35: How did Adam and Eve change when they sinned? A: Instead of being  
holy and happy, they became sinful and miserable.

\*\* **The Meditation and Prayer**.....Joe Bynum, Senior Minister's Intern

‡ **The Evening Hymn No. 94 (Stz. 1-5)** — “How Firm a Foundation”

**The Prayer of Illumination**

**The Reading of Holy Scripture** — 2 Kings 11:1-3 (Pew Bible page 317)

**The Sermon** — “Queen of Judah” ..... Mr. Lowry

‡ **The Benediction**

‡ **The Response**

“The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no never, no never forsake.”

**The Postlude** — “Postlude in G” .....Francois Couperin

\*The ushers may seat latecomers

‡Congregation standing

\*\*Children dismissed after the prayer

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.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## II THESSALONIANS 3:1

"Finally, brethren, pray for us..." **Jim & Mary Alice Patterson** – Serving with Mission to the World and Jungle Aviation & Radio Service. Mailing address: 6609 Old Settlers Road, Waxhaw, NC 28173. Email: jim\_patterson@sil.org **Sarah Grafton** – Working with international students in the Jackson area and abroad through First Presbyterian Church and other area churches. Mailing address: 56 Northgate Dr., Laurel, MS 39440. Email: shgrafton@bellsouth.net

## FLOWERS

The poinsettia tree for the month of December is given by Dr. and Mrs. J. Lee Owen to the glory of God and in loving memory of Elizabeth Johnson and her service to the church through her art and as a member of the Choir.

For the month of December, the poinsettias in the church foyer are given in loving memory of our brother, Denny Terry, committed servant of Christ, by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ridgway.

The poinsettias in the Greeting Courtyard for the month of December are given in loving memory of Jim Watts by his family.

## YEAR-END GIVING REMINDERS

If you are planning to donate stock to First Presbyterian Church before the end of the year 2015, please notify Earl Davis in the Business Office at 601-973-9107. **In order for year-end church contributions to be deducted on your 2015 tax return, they must be received at First Presbyterian Church on or before December 31, 2015.** The Business Office will be open from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., and you may give online until midnight, December 31, 2015. If you mail your contribution, the envelope must be postmarked no later than December 31, 2015. 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, 2015. All gifts received or postmarked after December 31, 2015, will apply to your 2016 Contribution Statement.

## SUNDAY EVENING SERMON SERIES

From Christians to atheists and everyone in between, people are interested in the end of the world. Nevertheless, the subject of the end times is usually considered something best left for prophecy experts, with little to no practical importance for everyday life. But the Bible challenges this view, considering the end times to be one of the most practical and important subjects a believer can study. Join us for our Sunday evening sermon series, beginning January 3, as Dr. Gabe Fluhrer leads us in a study through 1 Thessalonians entitled, *How to Live in the Last Days*.

## COLLEGE MINISTRY DINNER AND A MOVIE

College students, join us for Dinner and a Movie, Monday, January 4, 2016. We'll meet at Pizza Shack in Madison at 6:00 p.m. and go to a movie (tbd) afterward. Hope to see you there!

## SUNDAY SCHOOL/D GROUP TRAINING LUNCHEON

All Adult Sunday School teachers, D Group leaders, and Sunday School officers are invited to a training luncheon on Thursday, January 7, at 11:30 a.m. in Miller Hall. Dr. Gabe Fluhrer, Minister of Discipleship, will outline the character of a disciple of Christ and how our Sunday School and D Group ministries can help others in their walk with Jesus. Lunch is \$6.00 per person. Please RSVP to Lisa Repair at lisar@fpcjackson.org.

## CONNECT WITH FPC ONLINE

website: [www.fpcjackson.org](http://www.fpcjackson.org)

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# A GUIDE TO THE MORNING SERVICE

## Welcome

We welcome all to this service of worship. If you are a Christian visiting with us today, we greet you in the name of our common Lord. If you are not a believer, we greet you as a friend and trust that you will sense the warmth and genuineness of our reception. We also hope that this guide will help you understand the various components of our service and thus make you more comfortable and familiar with it. By the way, we try to present most of our announcements prior to the service in order to avoid interrupting the flow of our worship of God with distractions that take our minds away from our central purpose: giving to the Lord the glory due His name.

## The Assurance of Pardon

As Christians, we are prone to wander and leave the God we love. But when we come to the knowledge of our straying, we come before God often with a self-reproach that does not look at the mercies of God in Jesus Christ but rather upon ourselves. This is what Scripture calls a “sorrow that leads to death” while Godly sorrow is one that “produces a repentance that leads to salvation” (2 Corinthians 7:10). Godly sorrow is not only a sorrow over sin – indwelling or acted – but also lays a firm gaze upon the promises of God for forgiveness. This week, we will look at the purpose and placing of *The Assurance of Pardon* during our worship services.

*What is The Assurance of Pardon?* Simply put, *The Assurance of Pardon* is a reminder of the Scriptural promise that all who trust in Christ are truly forgiven their sins. All believers can personally claim this truth. *The Assurance of Pardon* soon follows the *The Prayer of Adoration and Confession*. During the prayer of confession, we join the minister with heartfelt agreement to confess the times we have desired the things of this world that are in opposition to the things of God, left undone those things we ought to have done, and done those things which we ought not to have done. As quick as we are and must be to confess our sin, we are likewise quick to receive the assurance of God’s pardoning grace because of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

*Why is it a part of our worship?* In order to remove any human barrier to our experience of grace conferred through the Word, prayer, and the sacraments, we confess our sin and receive the assurance of grace. Moreover, gospel-people are a confessing people simply because the gospel convicts of sin, causing us to confess our shortcomings, to rejoice in the God of our salvation, while moving us toward good works for His glory. Hence, just as confession of sin characterizes gospel people, so does laying hold of the promises of God that are yes and amen in Christ Jesus.

The Scottish minister, Robert Murray M’Cheyne, is noted to have said, “For every look at self, take ten looks at Christ.” May we, in having a look at ourselves in *The Prayer of Confession*, gaze upon the wonderful work that Christ has wrought for us in the words of *The Assurance of Pardon* that we may have true joy in our heavenly Father.

# FPC THIS WEEK

**SUNDAY • DECEMBER 27, 2015**

<b>Sunday</b>	<p><b>Pre-Service Announcements</b> — 8:25 a.m. in the Sanctuary</p> <p><b>Prayer for Worship Service</b> — 9:00 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. in M133</p> <p><b>The Learning Resource Center</b> — 9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. (Library only)</p> <p><b>Sunday School</b> — 9:40 a.m. in various locations</p> <p><b>Children’s Church for 3 and 4-year-olds</b> — during 11:00 a.m. worship service in M135</p> <p><b>Pre-Service Announcements</b> — 10:55 a.m. in the Sanctuary</p> <p><b>The Learning Resource Center</b> — 5:30 p.m. – 5:55 p.m. (Library only)</p> <p><b>Pre-Service Announcements</b> — 5:55 p.m. in the Sanctuary</p> <p><b>No Senior High Insight</b></p>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>No Scheduled Activities</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>No Scheduled Activities</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<p><b>No Scheduled Activities</b></p> <p><b>No Supper or Services</b></p>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>No Scheduled Activities</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Church Offices Closed</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Men’s Prayer Breakfast</b> — 7:30 a.m. in MH

**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

## CONTINUED

### **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 13, MOMS will be led by Emily Hartman in a study entitled, "The Heart of Contentment." Registration for new members begins January 1, 2016. To register, contact Joanna McNeel at 601-807-1596 or joanna.b.mcneel@gmail.com.

### **BAPTISM**

The next baptism is scheduled for Sunday, January 17, 2016. Space is available for the 8:30 a.m. worship service. To make your reservation, please contact Lisa Walters at 601-973-9102 or lisaw@fpcjackson.org.

### **YOUNG ADULT LADIES' AND MEN'S EVENTS: SUFFERING: DOES GRACE GROW BEST IN WINTER?**

The Young Adults Ministry will have two events on Tuesday, January 19, 2016. The men and ladies will each have events at separate locations with special guest speakers. Save the date. More information will follow.

### **MID-SOUTH MEN'S RALLY - JANUARY 29, 2016**

Men, please mark your calendars and plan to join us for our annual Mid-South Men's Rally. Our speaker this year will be The Reverend Dr. Douglas F. Kelly, Richard Jordan Professor of Theology, Reformed Theological Seminary, Charlotte, NC. 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 Lisa Repair at lisar@fpcjackson.org or 601-326-9243.

### **PRISON MINISTRY UPDATE**

Many thanks to all who donated items for the Christmas bags for the women prisoners at Central Mississippi Correctional Facility in Pearl! Volunteers assembled 300 bags, which was a significant increase from the number assembled last year. FPC provided one third of the total bags collected. The bags were delivered to the prisoners and were, for many of them, the only gift they received this Christmas. Thank you for sharing the love of Christ with these women.

### **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 of those who have family members (spouses, children, siblings, parents) who struggle with addiction 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 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: 601-353-8316.

# THE CHURCH DIRECTORY

Church Offices:  
1390 N. State Street  
Jackson, Mississippi 39202  
601-353-8316 • FAX 601-973-9119

website - [www.fpcjackson.org](http://www.fpcjackson.org)  
WLBT TV3 10:00 A.M. Sunday  
WTWV TV14 Memphis Sunday

## CHURCH STAFF

The Reverend Mr. David T. A. Strain - Senior Minister  
The Reverend Mr. Ralph S. Kelley - Executive Minister

### MINISTERS OFFICE:

David Day, Director of Communications  
Lou Ann Flatgard, Administrative Assistant  
Marie Phillips, Administrative Assistant  
Joe Bynum, Senior Minister's Intern  
Wes Strebeck, Senior Minister's Intern

### WOMEN AND CHILDREN:

Donna Dobbs, Director  
Kimberly Wilkins, Children's Director  
Anna Henson, Assistant Children's Director  
Rebecca Redman, Women & Children's Coordinator  
Omega Stephens, Administrative Assistant  
Kelley Beth Prabhakar, Intern

### NURSERY:

Gena Dear, Coordinator  
Hellen Powell, Assistant  
Carolyn Anderson  
Sherry Anderson  
Irene Ballard  
Gloria Collier  
Angela Dunson  
Mary Gray  
Lee Alice Harris  
Ella Johnson  
Lillie Newell  
Leslie Olowu  
Lawanda Palmer  
Louvenia Palmer  
Willie Ann Parnell  
Monica Pittman  
Mary Ross  
Dorothy Shelby  
Carol Tisdale  
Georgia Trunnell  
Mary Sue Trunnell

### DISCIPLESHIP:

Gabe Fluhrer, Minister  
Gary Sinclair, Assistant  
Lisa Repair, Administrative Assistant

### MUSIC AND MEDIA:

Bill Wymond, Minister of Music  
Willard Harrell, Music Assistant  
Connie Wadsworth, Organist  
Janie Clarke, Children's Choirs Director  
Heather Hunt, Assistant Children's Choirs Director  
Trey Porter, TV Ministry Producer  
Kenneth Smith, Assistant TV Production  
Tian Teh, Assistant TV Production  
Mark Phillips, Sanctuary Sound Technician  
Ginny Warren, Administrative Assistant  
Jonathan Hunt, Intern

### MISSION AND OUTREACH:

Ed Hartman, Minister  
Christina Meenan, Administrative Assistant  
John Prabhakar, Intern

Boopie Beard, Learning Resource Center Director  
Mary Ball, Editor of *The First Epistle*  
Ruth Smith, Wedding Coordinator

### THE DAY SCHOOL

[www.fpds.org](http://www.fpds.org)  
(601) 355-1731 FAX (601) 355-1739  
Gary Herring, Headmaster  
Paula Clark, Director of Instruction and Curriculum  
Emily Oswalt, Director of Instruction and Curriculum  
Carolyn Wilkinson, Administrative Assistant  
Susan Graves, Front Desk  
Cheryl Gibbs, Bookkeeper  
Jeannie Vickers, Asst. Bookkeeper

### CONGREGATIONAL CARE:

Billy Dempsey, Minister  
Wiley Lowry, Minister of Pastoral Care  
Briester Ware, Minister of Pastoral Care  
Lisa Walters, Administrative Assistant  
Jason Wegener, Congregational Care Intern

### STUDENTS AND FAMILIES MINISTRY:

Andrew Triolo, Director  
Augusta Fair, Assistant  
James Ritchey, Assistant  
Laura Rutledge, Assistant  
Julia Wright, Assistant  
Jenny Sanders, Administrative Assistant  
Martin Antoon, Intern

### BUSINESS OFFICE:

Earl Davis, Business Administrator  
Jimmi Phillips, Financial Associate  
Barbara Eichelberger, Administrative Assistant  
Lynn Smith, Receptionist

### SECURITY:

Don McCluskey, Security Director  
Richard Barnes, Security  
Sam Hilliker, Security  
Patrick McCluskey, Security  
Clinton Miller, Security  
Edmond Monroe, Security  
Craig Stewart, Security  
Diana Stewart, Security  
Vernon Williams, Security

### FACILITIES:

Tim Derrick, Maintenance Manager  
Claude (Bear) Lawson  
Johnny McGee

### CUSTODIAL:

Jim Williams, Jr., Supervisor  
Travis Caldwell, Asst. Supervisor  
Michael Barber  
Bobby Bowie  
Demarcus Jackson  
Michael Jackson  
Josh Knight

### FOOD SERVICE:

Irene Underwood, Hostess  
Mary Carson  
Laura Jackson  
Lorene Kelly

### YOUNG ADULTS/COLLEGE

David Felker, Minister  
Anna Woodyard, Young Adults/Covenant College Students  
Joe Johnson, Young Adults Intern  
Kelly Jackson, College Coordinator  
Wil Nettleton, College Intern  
Jenny Sanders, Administrative Assistant

### TWIN LAKES CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER

[www.twinklakescamp.org](http://www.twinklakescamp.org)  
Florence, MS  
(601) 845-6858  
Mark Magee, Executive Director  
Andrew Vincent, Camp Director  
Matthew Elliott, Asst. Camp and Program Director  
Shannon Craft, Reservationist  
Grant Lyons, Hosting Director  
Lisa Smith, Secretary and Camp Registrar  
Warner Mitchell, Maintenance Superintendent  
Fred Rice, Maintenance  
Bobbie Godbey, Food Service Director  
Emma Williams, Head Cook  
Rita Breedon, Housekeeping

### MINISTRIES SUPPORTED BY THE CHURCH

(Benevolence Committee)

#### DENOMINATIONAL

PCA Discipleship Ministries Committee  
PCA General Administration Committee  
The Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley

#### INSTITUTIONAL

Belhaven University  
Covenant College  
First Presbyterian Day School  
French Camp Academy  
John Reed Miller Lecture Series  
Palmer Home  
Reformed Theological Seminary

#### MISSION TO JACKSON

Beginning Again in Christ  
Bethany Christian Services  
Center for Pregnancy Choices  
Child Evangelism Fellowship  
Deacons / MTJ Special Fund  
Friends of Alcoholics  
Jackson Youth for Christ  
Gateway Rescue Mission  
Lantern Medical Clinic  
Mission First  
Mustard Seed  
Neighborhood Christian Center

Pioneer Ministries  
Young Life

#### OUTREACH

Fellowship of Christian Athletes  
Pastor's Special Fund  
Reformed University Ministries  
Television Ministry  
Young Business Leaders