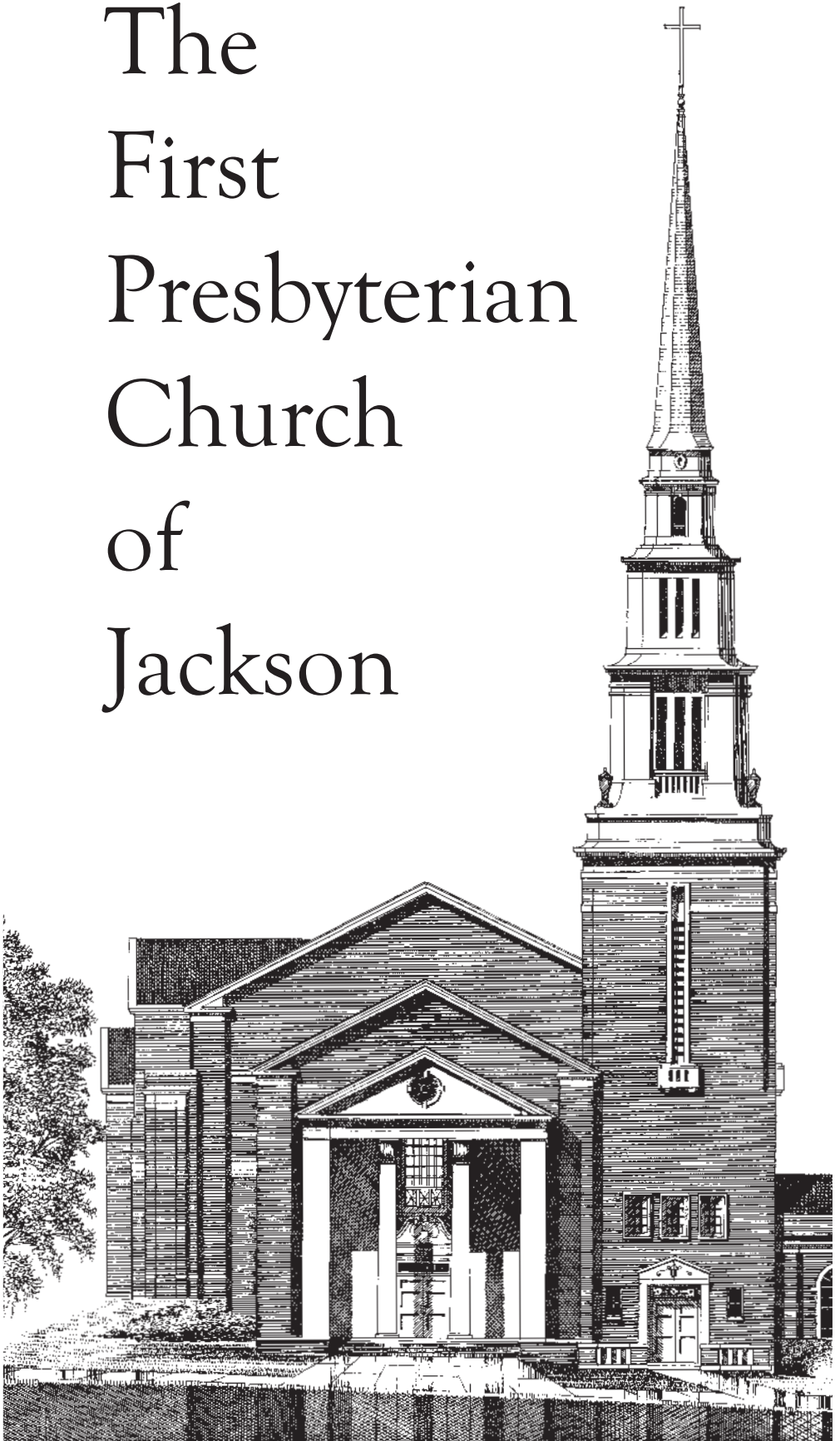


The  
First  
Presbyterian  
Church  
of  
Jackson



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

# THE LORD'S DAY

The Fifteenth Day of March, Two Thousand Fifteen  
MORNING WORSHIP  
Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'Clock  
Senior 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** — "Air" ..... Gottlieb Muffat  
Connie S. Wadsworth, Organ

**The Introit** — "Almighty God of our Fathers" ..... Will James

**The Call to Worship**

\*‡ **The Psalm of Praise No. 3** — "Give to Our God Immortal Praise" (Psalm 136)

‡ **The Prayer of Adoration and Confession**

\*‡ **The Doxology** "Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Him, all creatures here below;  
praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen."

**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** — "Bound for the Promised Land" ..... Mack Wilberg  
With Kathryn Edwards, Pianist

"On Jordan's stormy banks I stand and cast a wishful eye,  
To Canaan's fair and happy land where my possessions lie.  
There gen'rous fruits that never fail on trees immortal grow;  
There rocks and hills and brooks and vales with milk and honey flow.  
I am bound for the promised land, I'm bound for the promised land,  
O who will come and go with me? I am bound for the promised land.  
I am bound for the promised land . . .  
O the transporting rapt'rous scene that rises to my sight,  
Sweet fields arrayed in living green and rivers of delight.  
When shall I reach that happy place and be forever blessed?  
When shall I see my Father's face and in His bosom rest?  
I am bound for the promised land . . ."

**The Prayer of Illumination**

**The Reading of Holy Scripture** — Exodus 15: 22-27 (Pew Bible pages 57-58)

**The Sermon** — *God Rescues: "The Bitter Blessing of a Wilderness Life"* ... Mr. Strain

\*‡ **The Hymn of Response No. 600** — "He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought!"

\*‡ **The Benediction**

**The Response** — "Seven-Fold Amen" ..... Peter Lutkin

**The Postlude** — "Prelude and Fugue in A Minor" ..... J.S. Bach

\*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 Dr. Edward A. Hartman  
Minister of Mission and Outreach

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

**The Prelude** — "Londonderry Air" ..... Trad. arr. by J. Hunt  
FPC Brass

**The Call to Worship**

‡ **The Hymn of Praise No. 94** — "How Firm a Foundation"

‡ **The Invocation**

\* **The Evening Hymn** — "Jesus, I Come" (See Evening Guide)

\* **The Greetings**

**The Evening Prayer** — Ruling Elder Bill Payne

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

**The Offertory** — "Give Me Jesus" .....Southern Spiritual  
Kim Porter, Soloist

**The Young Children's Devotional**

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

**The Song No. 708 (Stz. 1)** — "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"

**The Children's Catechism No. 49**

Q. "What did God promise to do in the covenant of grace?"

A. "To justify and sanctify those for whom Christ died."

**The Scripture** — Romans 5:10-18; 8:38-39; II Corinthians 2:13

**The Meditation**.....Joe Johnson, Young Adults Intern

**The Prayer**.....(The children dismissed following the prayer)

‡ **The Hymn No. 246 (Stz. 1-4)** — "Man of Sorrows! What a Name"

**The Prayer of Illumination**

**The Reading of Holy Scripture** — Jude 1-16 (Pew Bible page 1027)

**The Sermon** — *A Faith Worth Fighting For: "Rules of Engagement"* ....Mr. Strain

‡ **The Benediction and Response**

"When he comes, our glorious King,  
all his ransomed home to bring,  
then anew this song we'll sing:  
Halleluja! What a Savior!"

**The Postlude** — "O Father, You Are Sovereign" .....St. Theodulph  
FPC Brass

\*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.

# JESUS, I COME

Words by William Sleeper  
Music by Greg Thompson

1. Out of my bon - dage, sor - row and night,  
 2. Out of my shame - ful fail - ure and loss,  
 3. Out of un - rest and ar - ro - gant pride,  
 4. Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,  
 Je - sus, I come; Je - sus, I come.  
 Je - sus, I come; Je - sus, I come.  
 Je - sus, I come; Je - sus, I come.  
 In - to Thy free - dom, glad - ness, and light  
 In - to the glo - rious gain of Thy cross,  
 In - to Thy bless - ed will to a - bide,  
 In - to the joy and light of Thy home,  
 Je - sus, I come to Thee.  
 Je - sus, I come to Thee.  
 Je - sus, I come to Thee.  
 Je - sus, I come to Thee.  
 Out of my sick - ness in - to Thy health,  
 Out of earth's sor - rows in - to Thy balm,  
 Out of my self - to dwell in Thy love,  
 Out of the depths of ru - in un - told,  
 Out of my want - ing and in - to Thy wealth,  
 Out of life's storms - ing and in - to Thy calm,  
 Out of de - spair in - to rap - tures a - bove,  
 In - to the peace of Thy shel - ter - ing fold,  
 Out of my sin and in - to Thy self,  
 Out of dis - tress in - to jub - i - lant psalm,  
 Up - ward for - ev - er on wings like dove,  
 Ev - er Thy glo - rious face to be - hold,  
 Je - sus, I come to Thee.  
 Je - sus, I come to Thee.  
 Je - sus, I come to Thee.  
 Je - sus, I come to Thee.

# A GUIDE TO THE MORNING SERVICE

## 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.

### WLC Q. 167 — *How is our baptism to be improved by us?*

“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.”

## MARCH CIRCLES

### MONDAY, March 16

**Circle 2:** *Fair Hurst*

10:00 a.m. - home of Anna Brand  
100 Oakridge Trail, Flowood

**Circle 4:** *Rebecca Redman*

10:00 a.m. - Church Parlor

**Circle 5:** *Laura Blaylock & Bess Corbitt*

9:45 a.m. - Church Library

**Circle 6:** *Fran Askew*

6:00 p.m. Fellowship  
6:30 p.m. Meeting - home of Beth Archer  
2257 East Northside Drive

**Circle 7:** *Marian Ware*

5:30 p.m. (dinner) - Miller Hall

**Circle 8:** *Janet Davis*

9:30 a.m. - The Orchard

**Circle 14** *Susan Turner & Marty May*

12:00 p.m. - Miller Hall

### TUESDAY, March 17

**Circle 9:** *Gayle Poole & Grace Toler*

10:00 a.m. - Church Parlor

**Circle 13:** *Karen Crawford*

12:00 p.m. - Miller Hall  
(please call Karen- 601-668-5299 to reserve lunch)



# FPC THIS WEEK

SUNDAY • MARCH 15, 2015

<b>Sunday</b>	<p><b>Pre-Service Announcements</b> — 8:20 a.m. in the Sanctuary  <b>Prayer for Worship Service</b> — 9:00 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. in M133  <b>The Learning Resource Center</b> — 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.                      (Library only)  <b>Sunday School</b> — 9:40 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. in various locations  <b>College Sunday School</b> — 9:50 a.m. in the CH  <b>Pre-Service Announcements</b> — 10:50 a.m. in the Sanctuary  <b>The Student Choir</b> — 4:40 p.m. in MS  <b>The Learning Resource Center</b> — 5:30 p.m. – 5:55 p.m.                      (Library only)  <b>Pre-Service Announcements</b> — 5:50 p.m. in the Sanctuary  <b>No Senior High Insight</b></p>
<b>Monday</b>	<p><b>Circles Meet This Week</b>  <b>Mission Conference Committee Meeting</b> — 12:00 noon in MH  <b>Neighborhood Christian Center Tutoring</b> — 3:00 p.m. in SC210  <b>Scouts</b> — 7:00 p.m. in PH/SC210</p>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<p><b>“Truth At Dawn” Men’s Bible Study</b> — 6:30 a.m. in WH202  <b>Crafts for Missions</b> — 9:00 a.m. in SC211  <b>The Learning Resource Center</b> — 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  <b>Student Ministry Committee Meeting</b> — 11:45 a.m. in MH  <b>Christian Education Committee Meeting</b> — 12:00 noon in MH  <b>Neighborhood Christian Center Tutoring</b> — 3:00 p.m. in SC210  <b>Shepherding Committee Meeting</b> — 5:30 p.m. in SC215  <b>Internationals Class</b> — 6:45 p.m. in PH</p>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<p><b>MOMS Bible Study</b> — 9:00 a.m. in PH/SC  <b>Men’s Bible Study</b> — 10:00 a.m. in the SR  <b>The Learning Resource Center</b> — 10:00 a.m. – 6:25 p.m.  <b>MOMS Ministry Team</b> — 11:15 a.m. in MH  <b>Parents’ Prayer Lunch</b> — 12:00 p.m. in YH  <b>MNA Committee Meeting</b> — 12:00 noon in MH  <b>Family Night Supper</b> — 5:00 p.m. in MH  <b>Junior High Large Group</b> — 5:00 p.m. in the YH  <b>College Coffee and Conversation</b> — 5:15 p.m. in WH204  <b>Children’s Activities</b> — 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. in the Gym/                      Company Room  <b>Peru Mission Trip Team Meeting</b> — 5:30 p.m. in WH202  <b>The Choir</b> — 5:50 p.m. in MS  <b>Children’s Choirs</b> — 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in various locations  <b>Sixth Grade Fellowship</b> — 6:30 p.m. in SC321/Gym  <b>Discipleship Groups</b> — 6:30 p.m. in various locations  <b>Mid-Week Bible Study and Prayer Meeting</b> — 6:30 p.m. in PH</p>
<b>Thursday</b>	<p><b>“12 Extraordinary Women” Ladies Bible Study</b> — 9:00 a.m. in SC  <b>Genesis Ladies Bible Study</b> — 9:45 a.m. in MH  <b>The Learning Resource Center</b> — 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  <b>MTW Committee Meeting</b> — 12:00 noon in MH  <b>Cub Blue &amp; Gold Banquet</b> — 6:00 p.m. in MH  <b>Thursday Night Fellowship</b> — 7:00 p.m. at the home of the                      Wades (2417 Eastover Drive)</p>
<b>Friday</b>	<p><b>Sew and Sow</b> — 9:00 a.m. in SC211 A/B  <b>Men of Covenant Special Edition Dinner</b> — 6:30 p.m. in MH</p>
<b>Saturday</b>	<p><b>Men’s Prayer Breakfast</b> — 7:30 a.m. in MH  <b>Men of the Covenant Special Edition Vicksburg Trip</b> — 7:30 a.m.                      Pinehurst parking lot</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..." — **Amadeus & Monika** – Serving with International Messengers in Eastern Europe. For contact information, please call the Mission and Outreach Department. **Johnathan & Morgan Keenan** – serving as campus minister with Reformed University Fellowship at the University of Memphis. Mailing address: 5251 Laurie Lane, Memphis, TN 38120. Email: Johnathan.keenan@ruf.org

## BAPTISM

This morning the sacrament of covenant baptism will be administered to Stella Maris Nicholas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Reed Nicholas, and Luke Bradley Riles, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Walter Riles.

## IN MEMORIAM

Mrs. Marcus (Martha) Wilson — March 10, 2015

## FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Florence and Fred Wallace.

## MISSION PLEDGE CARDS

As of last Sunday, 190 cards were received for a total of \$504,177. If you have not turned in your Mission Pledge card, we encourage you to bring it next Sunday and place it in the regular offering plate as an act of worship.

## COLLEGE COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

College students, join us Wednesdays at 5:15 p.m. beginning March 18 for coffee, a small pre-meal snack, and a "flash devotional" to stimulate thought and conversation. Our topic this semester is *Interruptions*. Feel free to bring friends!

## MEN OF THE COVENANT FOR MARCH

Men, you'll want to join us Friday evening, March 20, and Saturday morning, March 21, for a special time of challenge and encouragement with Dr. Harry Reeder, Senior Pastor of Briarwood PCA in Birmingham. The Friday evening event will include dinner at 6:30 p.m. in Miller Hall, during which Dr. Reeder will speak on Christian character and leadership. Saturday morning, we'll tour the Vicksburg battlefield, where Dr. Reeder will illustrate those same points. Our theme for the event is "Act Like Men." Cost will be \$55.00 per person. Sign up through the church office at 601-353-8316.

## SPRING INQUIRERS' CLASS

The Spring Inquirers' class begins Sunday, March 22, at 9:40 a.m. in the Session Room (located off the Greeting Courtyard) and meets each Sunday during this Sunday School quarter. The class is for members and visitors who want to know more about our church and its ministries, our denomination, Presbyterian doctrine and beliefs, church history, and church government. To sign up, please contact Omega Stephens at 601-973-9115 or [omegas@fpcjackson.org](mailto:omegas@fpcjackson.org).

## NEW EVENING SERMON SERIES: JUDE

How does the Church suffer? How must the Church live? Jude, the brother of Jesus, helps us see that the questions that concern the Church today are the same as those facing the Church 2000 years ago. The struggle: False teaching is being smuggled into the Church. The response: The Church must contend for the faith, stand firm in the truth, and proclaim the message of salvation, so that all people might be snatched from the fire. Please join us on Sunday evenings in March as our Senior Minister, David Strain, expounds the epistle of Jude.

## INTERESTED IN JOINING FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH?

If you are interested in joining First Presbyterian Church, please note that our next joining date is Sunday, April 12. Each person joining FPC is asked to fill out a new member form and turn it in by Wednesday, April 1. Any forms received after April 1, will be held for the next joining date. The new member forms can be obtained from Lisa Walters or in the Session Room (located off the Greeting Courtyard) after the morning worship services. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Walters at [lisaw@fpcjackson.org](mailto:lisaw@fpcjackson.org) or 601-973-9102.

## CONNECT WITH FPC ONLINE

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

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

# 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**