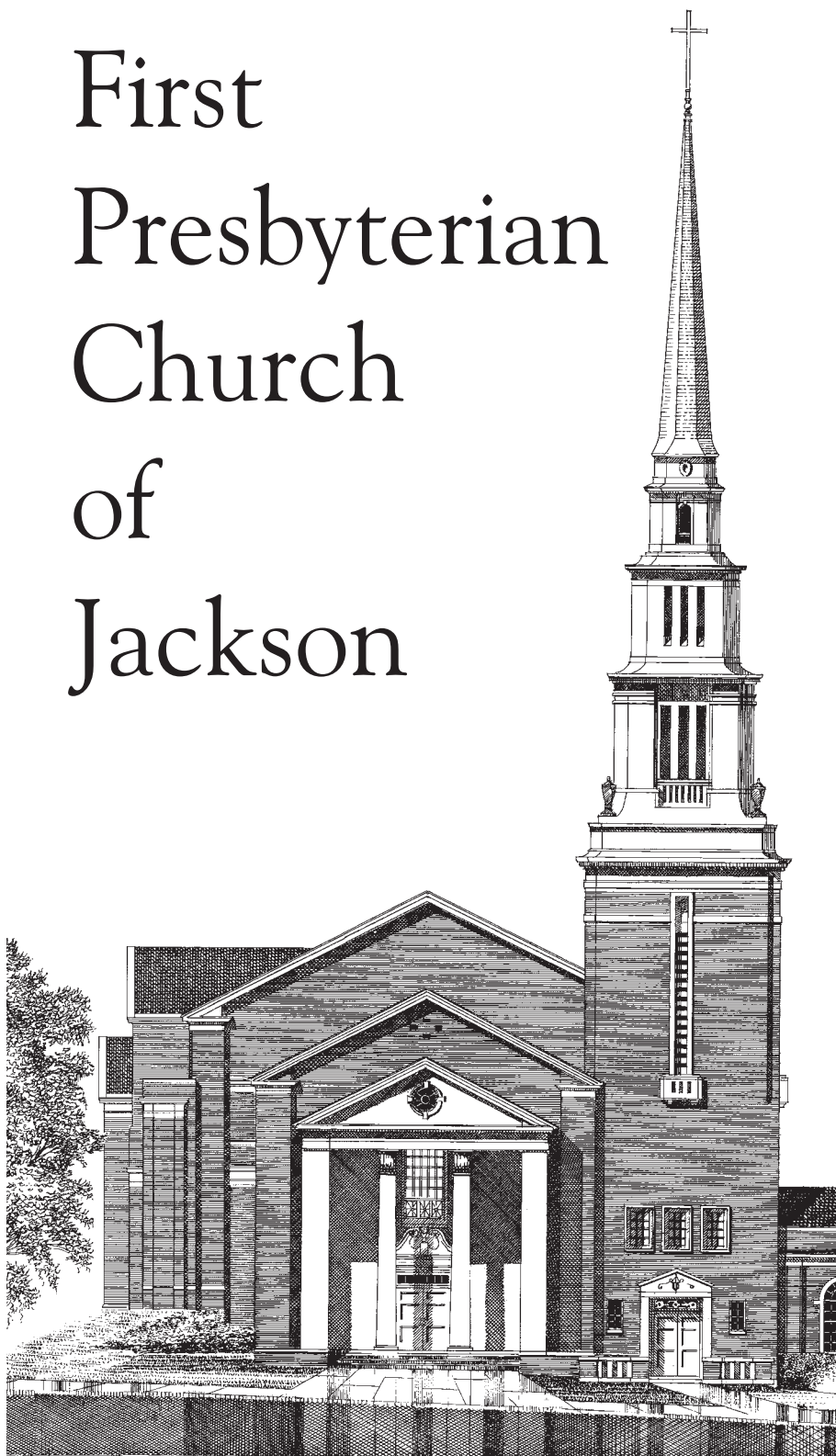


The
First
Presbyterian
Church
of
Jackson



“To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever”

THE LORD'S DAY

The Twenty-Third Day of August, Two Thousand Twenty
MORNING WORSHIP

Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'Clock

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

The Reverend Dr. Cory C. Brock — Minister of Young Adults & College

APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

The Prelude — “Benedictus” Max Reger
William Wymond, Organ

The Greetings and Announcements (8:25 and 10:55 a.m.)

The Introit — “Let Thy Holy Presence” Tschesnokoff

The Call to Worship

The Hymn No. 168 — “I Greet Thee Who My Sure Redeemer Art”

1. I greet thee, who my sure Redeemer art,
my only trust and Savior of my heart,
who pain didst undergo for my poor sake;
I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.
2. Thou art the King of mercy and of grace,
reigning omnipotent in ev'ry place:
so come, O King, and our whole being sway;
shine on us with the light of thy pure day.
3. Thou art the Life, by which alone we live,
and all our substance and our strength receive;
O comfort us in death's approaching hour,
strong-hearted then to face it by thy pow'r.
4. Thou hast the true and perfect gentleness,
no harshness hast thou and no bitterness:
make us to taste the sweet grace found in thee
and ever stay in thy sweet unity.
5. Our hope is in no other save in thee;
our faith is built upon thy promise free;
O grant to us such stronger hope and sure
that we can boldly conquer and endure.

SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Prayer of Adoration and Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

The Doxology

Alleluia! Alleluia! Glory be to God on high;
Alleluia to the Savior, who has won the victory.
Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity.
Alleluia! Alleluia to the Triune Majesty.

The Public Profession of Faith.....(see guide)

The Biblical Basis
The Introduction of New Members
The Questions of Membership
The Prayer
The Declaration
The Blessing

The Pastoral Prayer

The Offering — “Holy God, We Praise Your Name” Arr. Wymond

Choir and congregation:

1. Holy God, we praise Thy Name! Lord of all we bow before Thee,
All on earth Thy scepter claim, All in heaven above adore Thee.
Infinite Thy vast domain. Everlasting is Thy reign.

Choir alone:

2. Hark! The loud celestial hymn angel choirs above are raising.
Cherubim and Seraphim in unceasing chorus praising.
Fill the heavens with sweet accord. Holy, Holy, Holy Lord.

Choir and congregation:

3. Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Spirit, Three we name Thee,
While in essence only One, undivided God we claim Thee.
And adoring bend the knee, while we own the mystery. Amen.

HEARING GOD’S VOICE

The New Testament Reading — John 17:1-5

When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.

The Sermon — *The High Priestly Prayer: A Prayer for Glorification ...* Dr. Strain

The Benediction

The Postlude — “Fanfare” (Parsifal) Richard Wagner

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 invite everyone here to participate with our congregation as we sing, pray, and give attention to God’s Word.

EVENING WORSHIP

Six O'Clock

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

The Reverend Dr. Edward A. Hartman — Minister of Mission & Outreach

The Prelude — “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” William M. Runyan
Zakary Joyner, Violin; Rae Shannon, piano

The Greetings and Announcements (5:55 p.m.)

The Call to Worship

The Hymn No. 465 — “Marvelous Grace of Our Loving Lord”

1. Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,
grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt,
yonder on Calvary’s mount out-poured,
there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

Refrain:

Grace, grace, God’s grace,
grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
grace, grace, God’s grace,
grace that is greater than all our sin.

2. Sin and despair like the sea waves cold,
threaten the soul with infinite loss;
grace that is greater, yes, grace untold,
points to the Refuge, the mighty cross.

Refrain

3. Dark is the stain that we cannot hide,
What can avail to wash it away?
Look! there is flowing a crimson tide;
Whiter than snow you may be today.

Refrain

The Invocation

The Hymn — “Wonderful Words of Life”

1. Sing them over again to me, wonderful words of life;
Let me more of their beauty see, wonderful words of life.
Words of life and beauty, teach me faith and duty:

Refrain:

Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life;
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.

Christ, the blessed One, gives to all, wonderful words of life;
Sinner, list to the loving call, wonderful words of life.
All so freely given, wooing us to heaven:

Refrain

Sweetly echo the gospel call, wonderful words of life;
Offer pardon and peace to all, wonderful words of life.
Jesus, only Savior, sanctify forever:

Refrain

The Greetings

The Pastoral Prayer

The Young Children’s Devotional

The Hymn — “With Great Gentleness”

1. Come to Jesus, He will never cast you out
Come you thirsty, put aside your fear, your doubt
With great gentleness, with great gentleness,
He draws you, how He draws you,
See how He draws you to Himself.

2. Come to Jesus, He will satisfy your heart
With His presence, be your lantern in the dark
With great gentleness, with great gentleness,
He draws you, how He draws you,
See how He draws you to Himself.

The Prayer of Illumination

The Reading of Holy Scripture — Hebrews 2:1-4

Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. ² For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, ³ how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, ⁴ while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

The Sermon — *Hebrews*: Recapture the Wonder.....Mr. Lowry

The Benediction

The Postlude — “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” Len D. Bobo

VISION
 First Presbyterian Church of Jackson
 exists to glorify God
 by making disciples
 on the North State Street corridor,
 in the greater Jackson area,
 and around the world.

GUIDE TO THE MORNING SERVICE

THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

This week we have the happy occasion to receive new members into our church family during the morning worship service.

Why must we be members of a local church? The Bible uses metaphors to define “the Church.” The Church is one body in Christ. We are all members of the same body, and we belong to one another (Romans 12:5). The Church is one family. To be a member of any family, we are to be either born in it or adopted into it. Since we are all born as “children of wrath” (Ephesians 2:3), we must be adopted; and God has adopted us into His community of the Trinity. We have one Father, one Savior and elder Brother, and one Spirit of adoption by Whom we are made members of the family (Romans 8:15-17). Therefore, as Scripture repeatedly addresses us, we are brothers, sisters, fathers, and mothers to one another. So, why must we become members of a local church? It is because, having been united to Christ, we are necessarily united to all those who are united to Him. Therefore, we are entitled to the watchful care, instruction, prayers, and government of the church, and other rights and privileges that come with it.

Who can be a member of the church? Any person who is called a Christian by having made a credible profession of faith, having been baptized in a Bible-believing church, and having been admitted by the Session (the body of elders) to the Lord’s Table can be a communing member of First Presbyterian Church. Children of believer(s) are, by virtue of their birth in a believing household and in covenant with God, children of the covenant. However, they may not partake of the Lord’s Table as a way to protect them from eating and drinking judgment upon themselves, if they were to do so in an unworthy manner (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). Hence, our children are called non-communing members of the church. We hope that all our covenant children would embrace the gospel and become communing members. While only the communing members are entitled to all the rights and privileges of the church, all members of the church family are, however, entitled to the watchful care, instruction, prayers, and government of the church.

QUESTIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Having discussed why and who can become members of First Presbyterian Church, let us look briefly at the questions for membership:

1. Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure and without hope, save in His sovereign mercy?
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?
3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?
4. Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
5. Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

QUESTIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP (CONTINUED)

The first three of five questions seek to show to us our hellish plight before God, bring us to a point of desperate need for the person and work of Jesus, and rely upon the life-giving power in none but the Holy Spirit alone. We would do well to bring these grand truths of the gospel in our prayers every day. While the first three questions speak of our relation to each person of the Godhead, the next two questions speak of our relation to the Church of God which the Father loves, the Son died and rose to save, and the Spirit now indwells. Since each Person of the Trinity is interested and invested in the Church, we who are called by His name must do likewise. May we who are members of the covenant community pray for the welfare of the Church and of First Presbyterian Church. May we seek to live lives in which the gospel has pervaded every sphere. May we be growing disciples seeking to learn more of our God, His great majesty, and His magnificent Fatherhood. May we grow as committed members by regularly worshiping and seeking to gather with our family as often as opportunities provide us. May we be humble followers submitting to the wise leadership and discipline of those who care for our souls. May we grow to love the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ.

NEW MEMBERS

On August 2, 2020, the following new members were welcomed into our fellowship:

Mr. Robert McConnell Anderson
Miss Margaret Lyons Barbour
Mr. Matthew Alexander Burrow
Miss Margaret Elizabeth Dickie
Mr. Matthew Taylor Graves
Mr. and Mrs. James Austin (Ali) Hudson
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bruce (Emily) Payne III
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Hamilton (Taylor) Peaster
Mr. Charles W. Pickering Jr.
Mr. Jackson Bienville Skipper
Mr. Joel Strain
Mr. Joseph Jonathan Shideler
Miss Campbell Watkins Wyatt
Mr. and Mrs. and Lee Vaughn (Margaret) Webb
Miss Sarah Helen Greaves
Miss Leigh Henson
Miss Anne Melton Hewitt
Mr. and Mrs. Alston Frank (Lauren) Ludwig
Miss Charlotte Elaine Oates
Miss Christy Kathleen Rutledge
Mr. Owen Timothy Turpin
Mr. and Mrs. Walker Louis (Allison) Sayle
Mr. Wesley Bryant Rule

ANNOUNCEMENTS

II THESSALONIANS 3:1 — *“Finally, brethren, pray for us...”*

Clarke & Khrystyia Norton – Serving as church planters in Lviv, Ukraine.
Email: hecnorton@gmail.com.

Chris Moody – Serving as an intern with Christian Medical & Dental Association in Jackson at UMMC. Email: 6christopher@gmail.com.

IN MEMORIAM

Scottye Hooker — August 8, 2020

FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory of David B. Wilson, Sarah G. Wilson, and Elizabeth W. Wilson from their children.

STEWARDSHIP NEEDS

Offering plates are located at the exits of the sanctuary to receive gifts. We also offer alternative ways for members and regular givers to send offerings:

- Give online: fpcj.ms/give.
- Download our app on IOS and Android (FPC Jackson) and click “giving.”
- Send your offering through the mail to the church office.
- Give by text: Text “fpcjackson” to 779-77.

MISSION FIRST SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION

Mission First is still in need of a few items: dry erase markers, dry erasers, and hand sanitizer (large containers or pump dispensers). Items may be dropped off in the white collection bin located inside the Day School entrance near the information desk. For more information, contact Ashley Meena or Anne Pringle.

MOMS FALL STUDY

The Book of Jonah: It's Not About the Fish!

Ladies, we hope you'll join us for MOMS this fall! 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. This semester, we will study the book of Jonah through virtual weekly lectures, led by church member, Jane Wiggins. A link to her weekly talks will also be available to enjoy at your convenience. Please contact Joanna McNeel at moms@fpcjackson.org.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY BIBLE STUDY

Join us this fall on Thursday mornings at 9:45 as we study Ephesians. Our Ministry Team is planning for how to safely gather to study God's Word together. We will make every effort to allow for proper physical distancing, and we ask that you wear a mask. There will also be a virtual option for this study. If you are uncomfortable or unable to attend a Bible study, you may request to have the homework lessons and video lectures emailed to your inbox weekly. If you would like to be a part of this study, please email lisao@fpcjackson.org. (Please indicate if you would like to participate in person or virtually.)

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Parents, please bring your children, sixth grade and younger, to our Drive Thru Pick-up on Saturday, August 29, from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. to receive a free snow cone. Children in the rising four-year-old through rising fifth grade classes will also receive their September Sunday School materials. You may drive up to the Belhaven Street *porte cochere*.