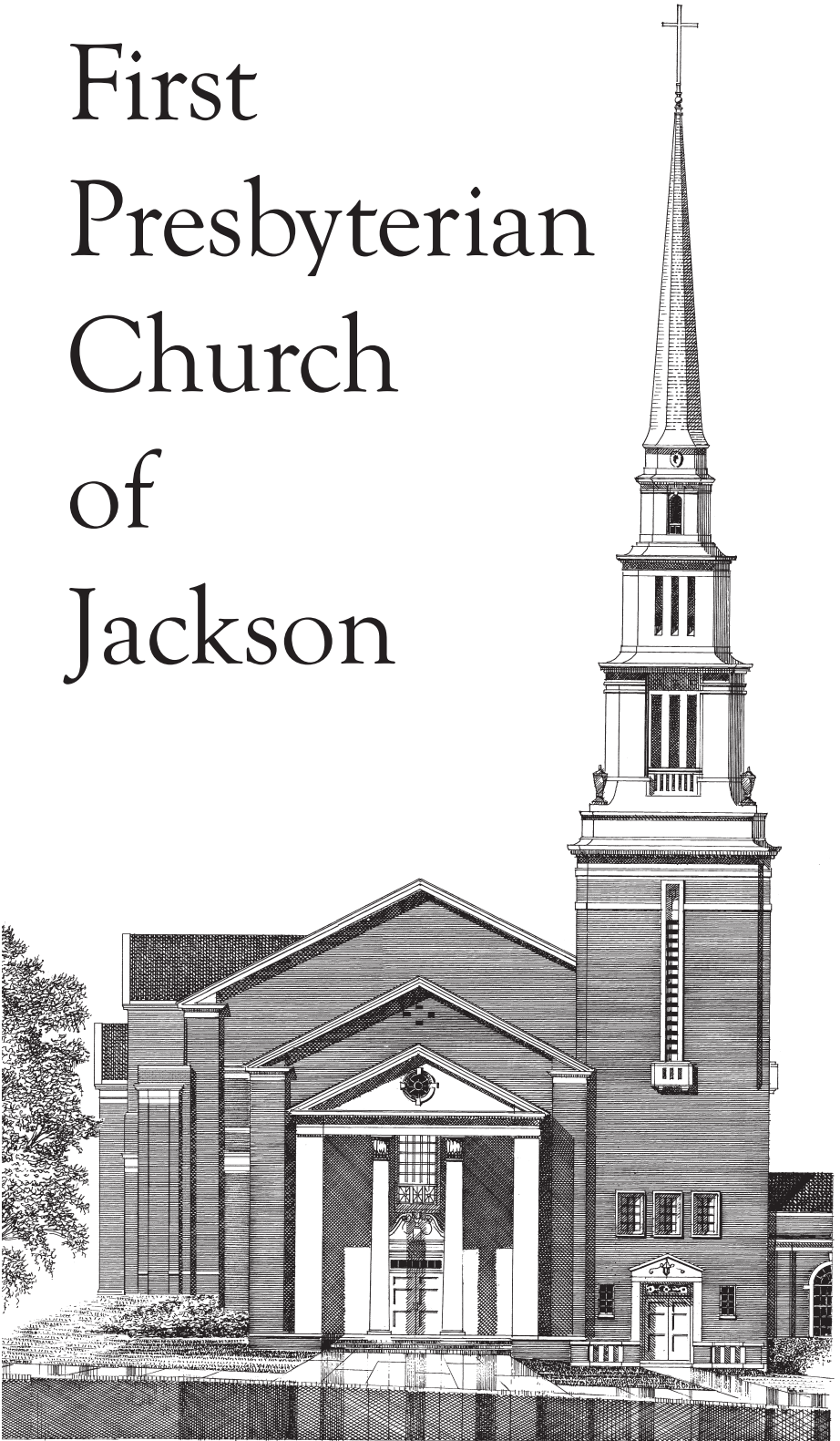


The First Presbyterian Church of Jackson



“To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever”

THE LORD'S DAY

The Twenty-third Day of May, Two Thousand Twenty-One
MORNING WORSHIP
Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'Clock

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

APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

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

The Prelude — “Adagio in G” Tomaso Albinoni
Shellie Kemp, Violin I; Bonnie Brown, Violin II; Austra Jasineviciute, Viola;
Nancy Bateman, Cello; Glenn Hale, Contrabass; Rae Shannon, Organ

The Introit — “Worthy Is the Lamb” (*Messiah*) G. F. Handel

The Call to Worship

The Hymn No. 76 — “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Invocation

The Doxology

Glory be to God the Father, and to Christ His only Son;
Praise we too the Holy Spirit, binding all the church as one:
As it was in the beginning now and evermore shall be;
Glory, honor, praise and blessing all creation sings to Thee!

The Corporate Prayer of Confession

O most great, most just and gracious God;
You are of purer eyes than to behold iniquity;
And yet You have promised mercy through Jesus Christ
to all that repent and believe in Him.
We confess that we have all sinned and come short of the glory of God.
We have neglected and abused Your holy worship.
We have dealt unjustly and uncharitably with our neighbors.
We have not sought first Your kingdom.
You have revealed Your wonderful love to us in Christ
and offered us pardon and salvation in Him;
but we have turned away.
We have run into temptation;
and the sin that we should have hated, we have committed.
Have mercy on us, most merciful Father!
In Your Son is our salvation, in Your promises our hope.
Take us for Your children and give us the Spirit of your Son,
and in the end receive us into Your glory,
through Jesus Christ our only Savior. Amen.
Richard Baxter (modernized language)

The Assurance of Pardon

The Offering

The Anthem — “He, Watching Over Israel” (*Elijah*)Felix Mendelssohn
He, watching over Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps:
Shouldst thou, walking in grief languish,
He will quicken thee.
He watching over Israel slumbers not, nor sleeps.

The Hymn No. 87 — “The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want” (Psalm 23)

The Pastoral Prayer

HEARING GOD’S VOICE

The Old Testament Reading — Psalm 113 (Pew Bible page 510)

The New Testament Reading — Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (Pew Bible page 818)

The Sermon — The Seeds Sown on Good Soil Dr. Strain

The Hymn No. 535 — “O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!”

The Benediction

The Postlude — “La Rejouissance”.....G. F. Handel

GUIDE TO THE MORNING SERVICE

The Prayer of Confession is a response to our singing of the doxology in this morning's worship service. It is only by reflecting upon the true nature of God and adoring His faithfulness to us that we are able to truly contemplate upon the depth, extent, and magnitude of our sin. The Prayer of Confession is made so that we confess our sin and experience true repentance by reflecting upon God's goodness even in our times of straying. Thus, it is through this time of corporate prayer, patterned after the New Testament church, that we are ready to continue in our corporate worship of God.

Why do we have corporate prayer? In preaching on the pilgrimage of the Christian in this life, the eighteenth century pastor-theologian from New England, Jonathan Edwards said, "To go to heaven fully to enjoy God, is infinitely better than the most pleasant accommodations here." The time of corporate worship and particularly prayer is its closest semblance on earth since we gather with the saints of God to worship and delight ourselves in God.

What is a prayer of confession? The minister leads us in a Prayer of Confession to remove any human barrier that might come in the way of our blessing from God. We remind ourselves of who we are both in ourselves and in God. We remind ourselves that though we are His sheep, we are like lost sheep. During this time, the minister leads us in confessing the times we have desired the things of this world that are in opposition to the things of God. May we, in joining the minister with heartfelt agreement, confess and repent of the times we have left undone those things we ought to have done, and have done those things which we ought not to have done.

Let us join our hearts in prayer in order that the Spirit of Christ may bring conviction for impenitent hearts, encouragement to weary souls, knit us together in a bond of fellowship and praise, and bring us into an intimate communion with our Savior. Let us pray with the goal to enjoy ourselves in bringing honor and glory due His name.

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.

VISITORS

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church! We are so glad you are here. You can text **fpcjwelcome** to 955-77 to learn more about how to get connected to the life of our church.

EVENING WORSHIP

Six O’Clock

The Reverend Mr. David L. Felker — Minister of Discipleship

The Reverend Mr. Gary W. Sinclair — FPDS Chaplain

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

The Prelude — “Elevation” Dom Paul Benoit
William Wymond, Organ

The Call to Worship

The Hymn No. 172 — “Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder”

The Invocation

The Hymn — “We Will Feast in the House of Zion”..... (Hymn sheet)

The Greetings

The Missionary Report Ty and Ginna Nash (MTW)

The Evening Prayer Mr. David Cleland

The Offering

The Young Children’s Devotional — The *Children’s Catechism*

Q16. Who were our first parents? A: Adam and Eve

Q17. How did God create man? A: God created man, male and female, after His own image.

Q18. Of what were our first parents made? A: God made Adam’s body out of the ground and Eve’s body out of a rib from Adam.

**The Meditation and Prayer Ed Hartman, Minister of Mission & Outreach

The Hymn (Stzs. 1 & 2) — “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”.... (Hymn sheet)

The Prayer of Illumination

The Reading of Holy Scripture — Nehemiah 6:1-14..... (Pew Bible page 401)

The Sermon — O God, Strengthen My Hands Mr. Felker

The Benediction

The Response — “How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”

I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no power, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom

The Postlude — “Psalm 20” Benedetto Marcello

FPC THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 23, 2021

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship	Sanctuary
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School.....	Various Locations
6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship	Sanctuary

Monday, May 24, 2021

10:00 a.m. - noon	Student Ministry Study Break	PJ's Coffee
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Wednesday, May 26, 2021

5:00 p.m.	Midweek Dinner	MH
5:30 p.m.	Children's Playtime	Playground/LH
5:45 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
6:00 p.m.	Midweek Adult Electives	
	Prayer Meeting and Bible Study	PH
	D Groups.....	Various Locations
6:00 p.m.	Missions in May Children's Program.....	Various Locations
6:00 p.m.	Junior High & Senior High D Groups	YH

Saturday, May 29, 2021

7:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer Meeting.....	MH 205B
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Sunday, May 30, 2021


8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship	Sanctuary
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School.....	Various Locations
6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship	Sanctuary

LH—Lowe Hall MH—Miller Hall SC—Study Center
WH—Westminster Hall YH—Youth House

CONNECT WITH US!

www.fpcjackson.org

 info@fpcjackson.org

 601-353-8316

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

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 FPC Jackson MS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BROADCAST VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteer with the FPC Broadcast Ministry. Anyone over the age of 16 is qualified for this work and no experience is necessary. We will provide you with all the training you need. If you can play a video game or take a photo with a smartphone, you can volunteer for this ministry. Email Trey Porter at tvroom@fpcjackson.org to volunteer.

MOTHER/DAUGHTER/SISTER/FRIEND PICNIC

Join us for an indoor picnic in Miller Hall on June 22 at 11:30 with speaker, Lisa Turner, Director of Women's Ministry at Independent Presbyterian Church in Memphis. The cost is \$8. There is a child's meal option of Chick-fil-A and pizza, and playground is available for boys age 12 and under. Sign up on the FPC website or app or call 601-973-9115.

WOMEN'S SUMMER BOOK CLUB

We invite you to a summer book club on July 20 from 5:30 - 9:00 p.m. in Miller Hall. We will enjoy a meal together, and Shirley Windham will lead our discussion of *A Place To Belong: Loving the People God Loves*, by Megan Hill. The cost of the meal is \$8, and copies of the book are available for purchase in the bookstore. Sign up on the website or app or email lisao@fpcjackson.org.

SEW AND SOW SUMMER SEWING CAMP

Sew and Sow will offer a summer sewing camp July 12 - 16 from 9:00 a.m. - noon. Beginners are welcome! The cost of the camp is \$5. Children ages 8 and under should be accompanied by an adult. A nursery is available upon request. To sign up, contact Sharon Gatlin at 601-497-5807 or shargatl@gmail.com. You may also sign up on the website or app.

REACH

BUILDING FOR A PURPOSE

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS MADE A COMMITMENT TO OUR BUILDING CAMPAIGN AND THE FUTURE OF OUR MINISTRY. IF YOU HAVE NOT YET MADE YOUR PLEDGE, YOU CAN STILL DO SO BY FILLING OUT A PLEDGE CARD OR VISITING OUR WEBSITE.

WWW.REACHFPC.ORG

601-353-8316 REACH@FPCJACKSON.ORG

**MAKE YOUR
REACH PLEDGE TODAY!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Paul and Laura Chinchin – Paul serves as the head of mission for African Bible Colleges and Laura is the vice principal of ABC Christian Academy and is involved with teacher recruiting and development.

Email: paulchinchin@africanbiblecolleges.net

The PEARSON Foundation – Supported through Mission to Jackson and provides mentorship and discipleship to students through in-school mentoring, faith-based community mentoring in cooperation with the city of Pearl Youth Court, after-school tutoring and mentoring at three locations in Pearl.

Email: pearson39208@gmail.com

FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary are from the wedding of Julia Lee Ashley and David Alexander East and are given to the glory of God and in honor of Reverend Jeff Jordan and his ministry with Reformed University Fellowship at Mississippi College.

BACKYARD BIBLE SCHOOL 2021 — JUNE 7, 8, & 9

Registration is open for children and teen helpers for Backyard Bible School at fpcj.ms/vbs. There is still a need for adult volunteers. If you would like to volunteer, contact BBS Director Cassie Graves at cgraves7@gmail.com or 601-624-1987. Craft donations may be left at the donation box next to the Info Desk. Items needed: small glue sticks and eight-count packs of crayons.

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED

Our next date for receiving new members will be Sunday, June 6. New member forms are due Wednesday, May 26. Email ccare@fpcjackson.org for more info.

SUMMER MIDWEEK — BEGINNING JUNE 16

Our Midweek ministry is an opportunity for fellowship and spiritual formation with ministry opportunities for the whole family. Our summer Midweek ministry kicks off on June 16, and we have six teaching elective options for adults:

Revisiting the Problem of Anxiety — Cory Brock

Hope Exchange: Mercy Ministry Training for Each of Us — Levi Gill

Foundations Class — David Strain and other FPC ministers

Learn the basics about our church and the PCA denomination. This class is specifically geared to newcomers, but any church members are welcome to attend. Register by emailing ccare@fpcjackson.org.

Engaged and Newlywed Class — various staff and local counselors

Register by emailing youngadults@fpcjackson.org.

Teacher Training — Dr. Charlie Wingard

This training is for anyone who teaches at FPC or is interested in doing so in the future. Whether you teach Sunday school, a D Group, women's Bible study, or a small group, take advantage of this resource!

Prayer Meeting and Bible Study

For more information visit fpcjackson.org/midweek. With any questions, contact discipleship@fpcjackson.org.