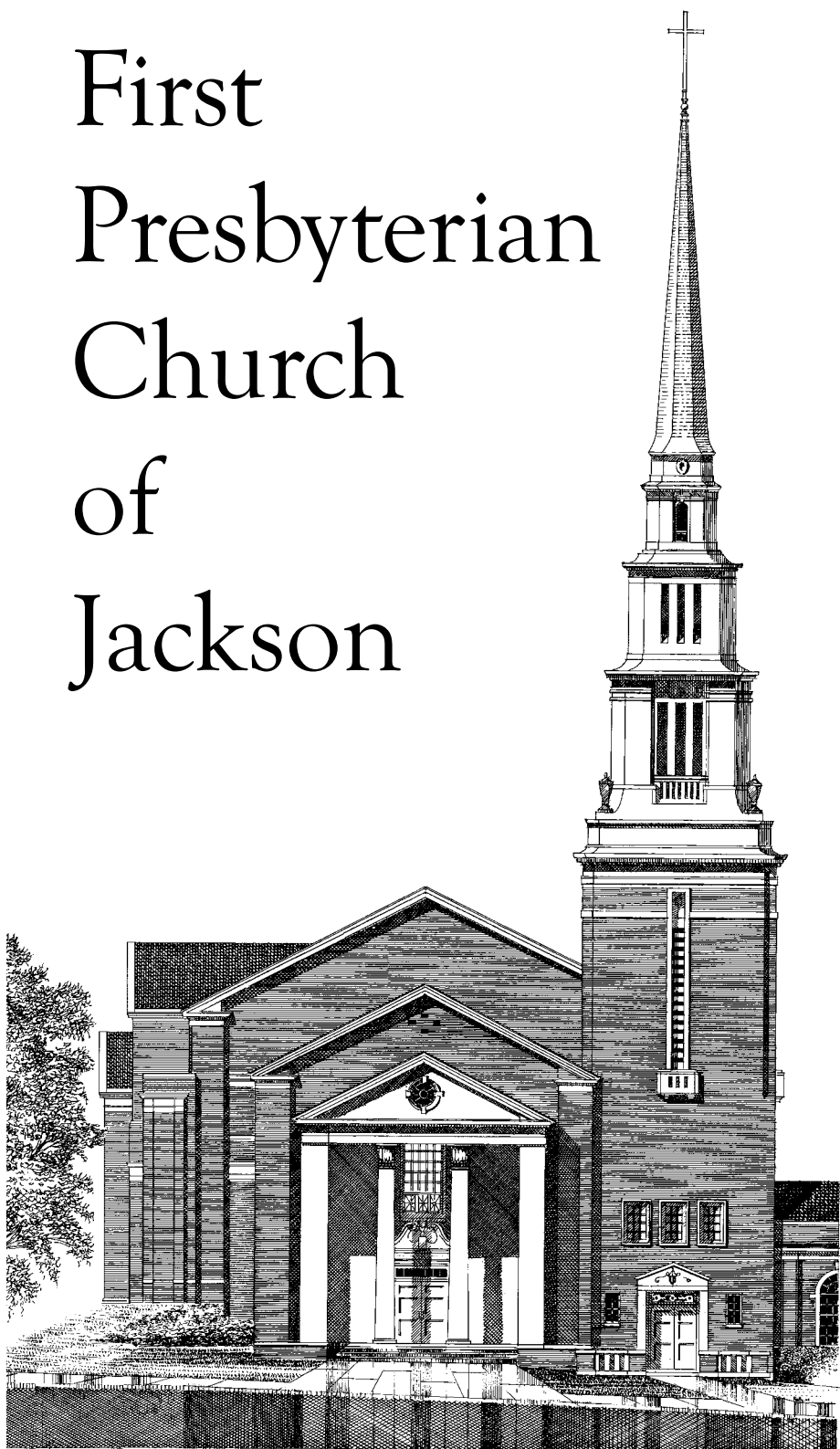


The  
First  
Presbyterian  
Church  
of  
Jackson



*"To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever"*

# THE LORD'S DAY

The Fourth Day of December, Two Thousand Twenty-Two  
MORNING WORSHIP  
Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'Clock

The Reverend Dr. David T. A. Strain — Senior Minister  
The Reverend Mr. James C. Peipon — Assistant Minister of Music & Worship

## APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

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

The Prelude — "Go Tell It on the Mountain"..... A.D. Miller  
Rae Shannon, Organ

The Introit — "Yea, Lord, We Greet Thee"..... arr. David Willcocks

The Call to Worship

The Hymn No. 213 — "What Child Is This"

## SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Invocation

The Doxology

Good Christian men rejoice with heart and soul and voice.  
Now you hear of endless bliss; Jesus Christ was born for this.  
He hath opened heaven's door, and man is blessed evermore.  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

The Prayer of Adoration and Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

The Offering

The Anthem — "Here Is the Little Door"..... Herbert Howells

Here is the little door, lift up the latch, oh lift!  
We need not wander more but enter with our gift;  
Our gift of finest gold. Gold that was never bought nor sold;  
Myrrh to be strewn about His bed;  
Incense in clouds about His Head; All for the Child that stirs not in His sleep,  
but holy slumber holds with ass and sheep.  
Bend low about His bed, for each he has a gift;  
See how His eyes awake, lift up your hands, O lift!  
For gold, he gives a keen-edged sword (Defend with it Thy little Lord!)  
For incense, smoke of battle red.  
Myrrh for the honored happy dead; Gifts for his children, terrible and sweet,  
touched by such tiny hands and Oh such tiny feet.  
Text by Frances Chesterton

The Hymn No. 210 — "Silent Night! Holy Night!"

The Pastoral Prayer

## HEARING GOD'S VOICE

**The Old Testament Reading** — Isaiah 7:10-17 ..... (pew Bible page 572)

**The New Testament Reading** — Matthew 5:17-20..... (pew Bible page 810)

**The Sermon** — **Christmas According to Jesus: Fulfillment** .....Dr. Strain

**The Hymn No. 211 (stzs. 1-3)** — “God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”

**The Benediction**

**The Congregational Response**

The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind,  
And left their flocks afeeding, in tempest, storm and wind:  
And went to Bethlehem straightway, the Son of God to find,  
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

**The Postlude** — “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”.....Denis Bedard

## WELCOME

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church! We are so glad you are here. If you are a visitor, we would love to know more about you. Please leave your contact information in the “Welcome Pad” located at the end of your pew. We will follow up with you to introduce ourselves and tell you about ways to get plugged in to the church.

# EVENING WORSHIP

Six O'Clock

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

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

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

The Prelude — “Concerto in B” (Second Movement) .....O. Rieding  
Dominica Sanduleac, Violin; Svetlana Sanduleac, Piano

The Call to Worship

The Hymn No. 214 — “Angels We Have Heard on High”

The Invocation

The Christmas Anthem — “Knock, Knock, Knock”  
The Four and Five Year Old’s Choir  
Kristi Jordan, Director; Christina Perkins, Accompanist

The Congregational Carol No. 201 (stzs. 1, 2, & 4) —  
“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

The Christmas Anthem — “Go Tell It on the Mountain”  
The First and Second Grade Choir  
Dr. Margaret Wadsworth, Director; Kimberly Sumrall, Accompanist

The Congregational Carol No. 204 (stzs. 1 & 3) — “Away in a Manger”

The Christmas Anthem — “Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond All Splendor”  
The Third Through Fifth Grade Choir  
Lauren Randle, Director; Caitlin Vickery, Accompanist

The Greetings

The Evening Prayer ..... Mr. Bill Stone, Ruling Elder

The Offering

The Offertory — “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”.... Ancient Plainsong Chant  
Lydian Peipon, Piano

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

Q6. Is there more than one true God? **No. There is only one true God.**

\*The Meditation and Prayer.....Mr. Grant Carter, Students & Families Intern

The Carol No. 196 (stzs. 1 & 3) — “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

The Prayer of Illumination

The Reading of Holy Scripture — Luke 18:1-34 .....(pew Bible page 877)

The Sermon — On the Way to Jerusalem: Empty-handed.....Mr. Lowry

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

Born Thy People to deliver, born a child and yet a king.  
Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne.

The Postlude — “My Sheep Were Grazing”..... English Carol

\*Children age 4 through 3rd grade will be dismissed to a children’s devotional and may be picked up after the service in room 133, just outside the sanctuary doors.

# FPC OFFICERS

## ELDERS

J. Mark Baird  
Kyle Ball  
John H. Bowen III  
David L. Bowling  
Max Purvis Bowman  
Forrest G. Bratley, Jr.  
Sharkey Burke  
Don B. Cannada  
Stuart Clarke  
C. David Cleland  
Reid Cotten  
John A. Crawford  
John A. Crawford, Jr.  
Holt Crews  
Robert A. Cunningham  
Edward J. Currie, Jr.  
Arthur Davis  
Stephen M. Edwards  
T. David Elkin

George R. Fair  
Spence Flatgard  
W. Craig Flowers  
Marcial D. Forester, Jr.  
Alan Futvoye  
Claude W. Harbarger  
William K. Harper  
Samuel D. Hensley  
Zeb Henson  
Larry Houchins  
Paul Hurst  
W. Wayne Husband  
W. Harper Keeler  
Crane D. Kipp  
George W. May, Jr.  
John H. McVey, Sr.  
Hu Meena  
Robert B. Mims  
Jimmy Moore

William D. Payne, Sr.  
Thomas I. Rice III  
Richard L. Ridgway  
Benjamin W. Roberson  
Stephen W. Rosenblatt  
Richard W. Russ  
John Lowe Smith  
Paul H. Stephenson III  
William O. Stone, Jr.  
Daniel B. Story II  
Tian C. Teh  
Timothy M. Threadgill  
Mike Tramel  
R. Barry Vickery  
Alan H. Walters  
T. Calvin Wells  
Marcus Wilson  
Mark J. Windham

## ELDERS EMERITI

Buddy Bartling  
John Buchanan  
Bill Cox Jr.  
Doug Dale  
Owen Elder  
Bebo Elkin  
Ken Fairly

Harry Fulcher  
Dick Johnson  
Robert Y. Love, Jr.  
Buz Lowry  
Jim Moore  
Doyle Moorhead  
Lee Owen

Joel G. Payne, Jr.  
William M. Penn  
Mark Sorgenfrei  
Marvin Stockett  
Orrin Swayze  
Jim Tohill  
Noel Toler

## DEACONS

Hall Bailey  
Kenneth C. Ball  
Matt Ballew, III  
Charles F. Barbour  
Will Barbour  
Victor E. Blaylock  
Walter J. Brand  
James Brown  
Beau Burrow  
C. Glen Bush, Jr.  
John D. Case  
William L. Crim Jr.  
Thomas D. Dale, Jr.  
John Davis  
Paul Davis  
Price Davis  
Dave Dear  
Auston R. Edwards  
Jamey Elkin  
Parker L. Ellison  
Bailey Fair  
Paul Forster  
Dave Fulcher  
Matthew S. Glover  
Frank G. Graham, Jr.  
Matthew Graves  
Henry W. Greaves, Sr.

Bo Gregg  
Anthony Hall  
Ty Hardy  
Allen Holiman  
Josh Hollingsworth  
Rob Jones  
J. Dallis Ketchum  
Stephen Kruger  
Robert Lake  
Robert Leard  
David Luter  
Mike Manning  
David Marchetti  
Harrison Matheny  
John McBride  
Douglas M. McDaniel  
Jason McNeel  
Read Meadows  
Doug Morgan  
Mike Myers  
John Neill  
Nathan Oakley  
Rob C. Oates, Jr.  
J. Lee Owen III  
R. Phillip Parker  
Virgil Payne  
Jim Poole

Trey Porter  
James E. Prince III  
Jonathan Randle  
Doug Redman  
Weston Russ  
Bryan Rutledge  
Malcolm Saxon  
Ken Seawright  
Jeff Skelton  
Taylor Smith  
Cary Spence  
Ernie Strahan  
Jeff Sumrall  
Stewart C. Swayze  
Ford Terry  
Hugh D. Trussell II  
Matthew Turnage  
J. Wilbourn Vise  
Arthur Wadsworth  
H. Coles Wilkins  
Joseph T. Wilkins III  
Neil Witherow  
Walt Wofford, Jr.  
Chris Wyatt  
Chase Wynn

## DEACONS EMERITI

John Allgood  
David Baird  
Lewis Bell  
Barry Cannada  
John Cox  
Paul Cox  
Bobby Dye

Larry Edwards  
Robert G. Feild  
Gary Herring  
Jim House  
Carey Johnston  
Bobby Miller  
Walter Newman

Lee Paris II  
Cy Rosenblatt  
Bill Sneed  
Joe Uithoven  
Wirt Yerger, Jr.  
Johnny Young

# FPC THIS WEEK

## Sunday, December 4, 2022

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship	Sanctuary
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School	See signs in Greeting Courtyard for locations
4:30 p.m.	Student Choir Rehearsal	MS
5:00 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer Group	WH 202A
5:00 p.m.	New Members Received	PH
6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship	Sanctuary (age 4 through 3rd grade dismissed for Children's Classes)
7:00 p.m.	Reception for Mark Magee	LH
7:30 p.m.	Senior High Insight	the Henson Home(4 Pond Side Dr.)

## Monday, December 5, 2022

9:30 a.m.	WIC Council Meeting	PH
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## Tuesday, December 6, 2022

9:30 a.m.	French Camp Quilters	Library
11:00 a.m.	Women's Christmas Brunch	MH
6:45 p.m.	Internationals Class	PH

## Wednesday, December 7, 2022

10:30 a.m.	Men's Bible Study	SC213
5:00 p.m.	Midweek Dinner	MH
5:30 p.m.	Children's Playtime	Playground
5:50 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal	MS
6:00 p.m.	Midweek Hymn Sing	MH
7:15 p.m.	Senior High Girls Small Group	the Henson Home (4 Pond Side Dr.)
7:15 p.m.	12th Grade Guys Small Group	El Charro

## Thursday, December 8, 2022

5:00 p.m.	10th Grade Guys Small Group	Cane's in Flowood
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## Friday, December 9, 2022

7:00 a.m.	11th Grade Guys Small Group	Primos in Flowood
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## Saturday, December 10, 2022

7:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast	WH 202
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## Sunday, December 11, 2022

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship	Sanctuary
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School	See signs in Greeting Courtyard
4:40 p.m.	Student Choir Rehearsal	MS
5:00 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer Group	WH 202A
6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship Service	Sanctuary (Children age 4 through 3rd grade dismissed for Children's Classes)
7:30 p.m.	Senior High Insight Christmas Party	the Biggs Home (4025 Crane Blvd.)

LH—Lowe Hall MB—Main Building MH—Miller Hall MS—Music Suite  
PH—Patterson Hall SC—Study Center WH—Westminster Hall YH—Youth House

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **CAROLS IN THE PARK — DECEMBER 14**

We are excited to host Carols in the Park at Laurel Park this year. This will be a neighborhood event with free food, hot chocolate, a performance by the Bells of Faith from Mustard Seed, and Christmas carols. Please save the date and invite your friends and neighbors! Volunteers are needed for this event. To volunteer, please contact Jo Lynn Mayfield at 601-973-9125 or [jollynm@fpcjackson.org](mailto:jollynm@fpcjackson.org).

## **NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER CHILDREN'S OFFERING**

The Children's Sunday School Christmas Offering for November and December is "Winter Warmth for Ukraine Children." The offering will be designated to a Presbyterian church in Kyiv to purchase winter coats, hats, mittens, shoes, and treats for the church's children. Please share with your child the need to bring an offering, and how it will be used to bring warmth and comfort to Ukrainian children at Christmas.

## **SENIOR HIGH WINTER RETREAT 2023**

Mark your calendar for our annual Winter Retreat this year at Tanglewood Camp, January 14-16, 2023. Stephen Biggs will be speaking on different aspects of Christian identity. Register soon in the app. The cost is \$180. Registration will close January 6. Contact [youthhouse@fpcjackson.org](mailto:youthhouse@fpcjackson.org) with questions.

## **WINTER GRACE SERVICE — JANUARY 8**

It is often during this season of great joy that we are also acutely aware of our losses, fears, doubts, and struggles. As we celebrate the birth of Immanuel, God with us, we often feel alone and far from Him. That is why it is so important to remember that Christ shares our life in joy and sorrow, death and new birth, despair and promise. Join us at evening worship on January 8 for a service of hope and healing for all those who are "bruised and broken by the fall."

## **GRIEFSHARE MINISTRY**

GriefShare is a ministry of support and encouragement for those grieving the death of a loved one. Using the Bible and the shared experience of others, participants will discover how to navigate the profound difficulties of bereavement. Our next 13-week GriefShare course will begin Wednesday, January 11, at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor. To register, please contact Emily Eastman at 601-326-9243 or [emilye@fpcjackson.org](mailto:emilye@fpcjackson.org).

## **FOUNDATIONS CLASS**

The spring Foundations Class begins January 18, at 6 p.m. This class is for visitors and members who want to know more about our church and its ministries, our denomination, Presbyterian doctrine and beliefs. The class will be taught by David Strain. To sign up, please email [ccare@fpcjackson.org](mailto:ccare@fpcjackson.org).

## **YEAR END GIVING REMINDERS**

### *Support the Work of First Presbyterian Church*

Contributions must be received by FPC on or before December 31 or postmarked by December 31 in order to be deductible for the 2022 tax year. The Business Office will be open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on December 30. On Saturday, December 31, security will be on site to receive any contributions. Additionally, you may give online through midnight on December 31 at [fpcj.ms/give](https://fpcj.ms/give) or via the church app.

Any gifts received in person or postmarked after December 31 must be applied to the 2023 tax year. For information about how to donate stock to First Presbyterian Church, please contact the Business Office at 601-973-9100 or [businessoffice@fpcjackson.org](mailto:businessoffice@fpcjackson.org).

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

**Bruce & Pam** – Serving as leader of the East African ministry training team with Mission to the World in Uganda. For more information, please contact the Mission Department.

**The PEARSON Foundation** – Supported through Mission to Jackson with guidance from the Benevolence Committee, the PEARSON Foundation provides mentorship and discipleship to students through in-school mentoring, faith-based community mentoring in cooperation with the city of Pearl Youth Court, and after-school tutoring and mentoring at three locations in Pearl. Email: pearson39208@gmail.com.

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**IN MEMORIAM** Gretchen J. Clarke — November 24, 2022

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## FLOWERS

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

## ELDER ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT

On November 20, 2022, the congregation of FPC approved a resolution to conduct an elder election on April 16, 2023. As outlined in the resolution, the nomination period will last through December 22. Nominations may be made in person at the church reception desk or online via our website at [fpcj.ms/elder-election](http://fpcj.ms/elder-election). Please prayerfully consider the guidelines for the office of Elder provided on the website before submitting a nomination.

## RETIREMENT RECEPTION FOR MARK MAGEE — TONIGHT

Join us tonight following evening worship to celebrate the retirement of Twin Lakes Executive Director Mark Magee. Mark has served Twin Lakes faithfully for 30 years. Please help us thank him for his service and wish him well in retirement. The reception will be in Lowe Hall.

## NEW MEMBERS MEETING

As a reminder to all those in the membership process, the meeting for new members to be received will be this evening at 5 p.m. in Patterson Hall.

## WOMEN’S MINISTRY CHRISTMAS BRUNCH — DECEMBER 6

### GIFTS OF GRACE


Throughout our lives, we can see God’s hand protecting, providing, and guiding us — even if we are unaware of it at the time. Each of those blessings or deliverances is a gift of grace from our loving Lord. Please join us on December 6, at 11 a.m., for a delicious holiday brunch as we hear our own Mary Ball testify about the gifts of grace in her own life. Register online at [fpcj.ms/women](http://fpcj.ms/women) or on the church app.


## MIDWEEK HYMN SING — DECEMBER 7

Join us on December 7 for a gathering of all ages for a Christmas hymn sing concluding our fall Midweek programming. Bring the family, and join us for dinner at 5 p.m. and the hymn sing at 6 p.m. A nursery will be available for children age three and younger.

## CONNECT WITH US!

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


 [info@fpcjackson.org](mailto:info@fpcjackson.org)

 601-353-8316

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 @FPCJxnMS

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