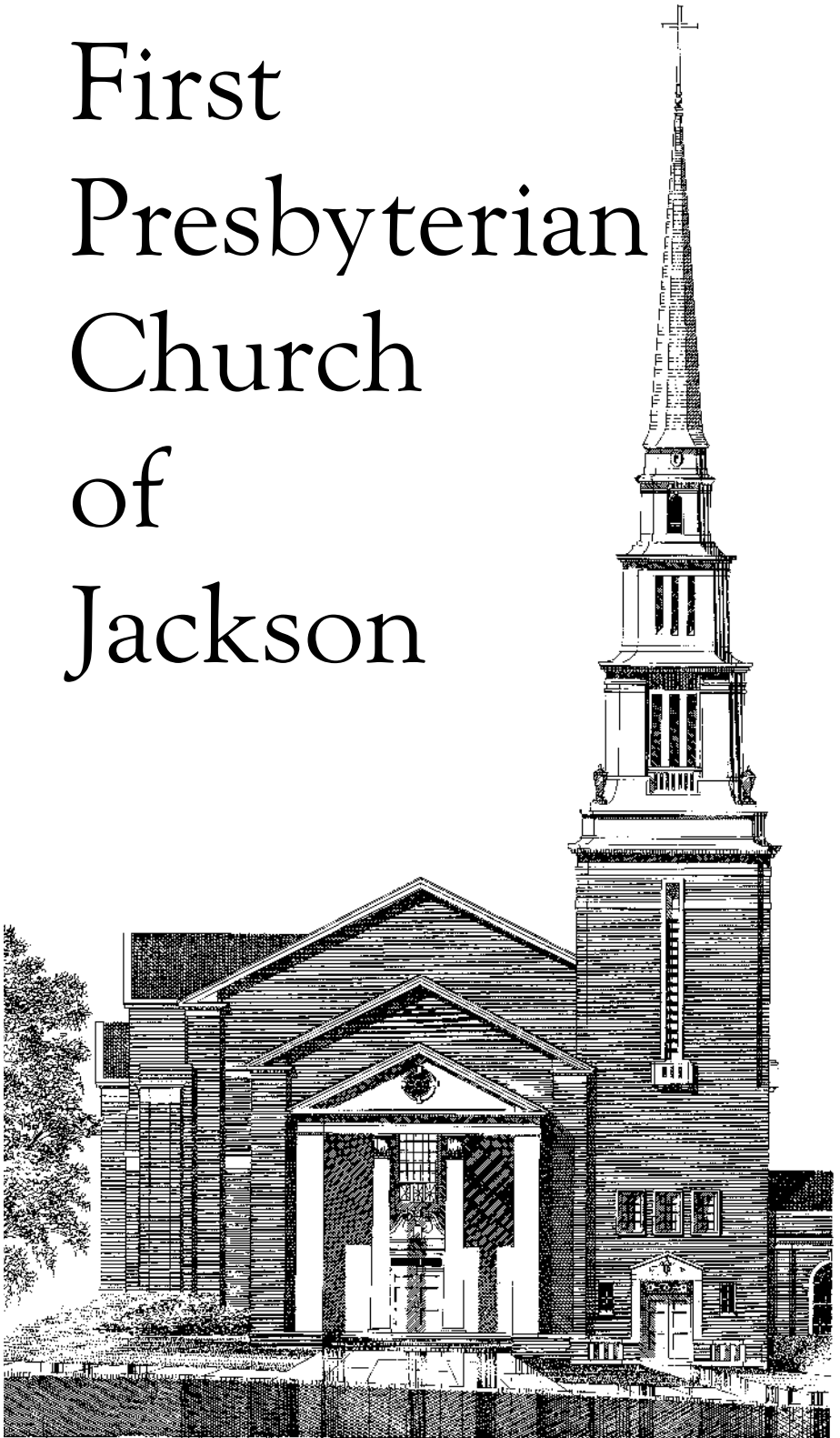


The  
First  
Presbyterian  
Church  
of  
Jackson



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

# THE LORD'S DAY

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

The Reverend Dr. David T. A. Strain — Senior Minister  
The Reverend Mr. David L. Felker — Executive Minister

## APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

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

The Prelude — “Adoration” ..... John Stainer  
The First Presbyterian Brass Ensemble

The Introit — “Let Thy Holy Presence” ..... Paul Tschnesnokoff

The Call to Worship — Hebrews 12:22–24, 28–29

The Hymn No. 700 — “Come, We That Love the Lord”

## SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Invocation

The Doxology ..... (Tune: *Regent Square*)

**Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son.  
Laud and honor to the Spirit, ever Three and ever One.  
One in might, and One in glory, while unending ages run.**

The Prayer of Confession — Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to You, O LORD!  
**O Lord, hear my voice!**

Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!  
**If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?**

But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared.  
**I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I hope;  
my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning,  
more than watchmen for the morning.**

O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love,  
and with Him is plentiful redemption. And He will redeem Israel  
from all His iniquities.

The Assurance of Pardon

The Offering

The Offertory — “Redeemer of Israel” ..... Mack Wilberg

Redeemer of Israel, our only delight, on whom for a blessing we call,  
Our shadow by day, and our pillar by night, our King, our Deliverer, our all!  
We know He is coming to gather His sheep and lead them to Zion in love;  
For why in the valley of death should they weep or in the lone wilderness rove?  
How long we have wandered as strangers in sin, and cried in the desert for Thee!  
Our foes have rejoiced when our sorrows they've seen, but Israel will shortly be free.  
As children of Zion, good tidings for us: the tokens already appear.  
Fear not, and be just, for the kingdom is ours. The hour of redemption is near.

The Hymn No. 381 — “Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”

The Pastoral Prayer

## HEARING GOD’S VOICE

The Old Testament Reading — Psalm 132 ..... (pew Bible page 519)

The Prayer of Illumination

The New Testament Reading — John 5:16–30..... (pew Bible page 890)

The Sermon — Heaven: The Way to Heaven .....Dr. Strain

The Hymn No. 706 (stzs. 1-4) — “Jesus Lives, and So Shall I”

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

**Jesus lives and death is now but my entrance into glory.  
Courage, then, my soul, for thou hast a crown of life before thee;  
Thou shalt find thy hopes were just: Jesus is the Christian’s trust.**

The Postlude — “I Thank Thee, Dear God” .....J. S. Bach

# EVENING WORSHIP

Six O’Clock

The Reverend Mr. Scott H. Miller — Young Adults & College Minister  
Dr. R. Anthony Doggett — Senior Minister’s Intern

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

The Recognition of the Children’s Catechism Recitation

The Prelude — “Fantasy on Amazing Grace” ..... Del Borgo  
The First Presbyterian String Ensemble

The Call to Worship — Psalm 43:3-5

The Hymn No. 441 — “Jesus Shall Reign”

The Invocation

The Hymn — “Come, Ye Sinners” ..... (hymn sheet)

The Greetings

The Evening Prayer ..... Mr. Paul Stephenson, Ruling Elder

The Offering

The Offertory — “My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness”..... Getty/Townend

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

Q43. Can anyone be saved through the covenant of life? A. **No. No one can be saved through the covenant of life.**

Q44. Why can’t anyone be saved through the covenant of life? A. **Because all have broken it and are condemned by it.**

Q45. How did you break the covenant of life? A. **Adam represented all people, and so I fell with Adam in his first sin.**

The Meditation & Prayer.....Mr. Wiley Lowry, Minister of Teaching & Pastoral Care

The Hymn (stzs. 1 &2) — “All I Have Is Christ”..... (hymn sheet)

The Prayer of Illumination

The Reading of Holy Scripture — 1 Kings 17:8-24..... (pew Bible page 299)

The Sermon — **Indispensable: A Widow in Zarephath** ..... Mr. Miller

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

**Now Lord, I would be Yours alone, and live so all might see  
The strength to follow Your commands could never come from me.  
Oh Father, use my ransomed life in any way you choose,  
And let my song forever be my only boast is You.  
Hallelujah! All I have is Christ. Hallelujah! Jesus is my life.**

The Postlude — “Psalm 20” ..... Benedetto Marcello

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

# SERVICE GUIDE

## GUIDE TO THE MORNING SERVICE

### WHY DO WE HAVE A PRAYER OF CONFESSION?

The Christian is one who has been given truth to confess. The heart of our confession is the good news that God has come in the flesh to redeem helpless sinners from our natural state of sin and misery. But it is the bad news of our natural sin and misery that makes the good news intelligible. This is why it is necessary and truly beneficial that we, as God's people, corporately confess our sins in worship. Corporate confession is one way that we reorient ourselves to the shocking reality of the kindness, mercy, and inestimable love of God—"for even while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8).

Our confession of sin also reminds us that we are ever dependent on His grace, because, in this life, we are ever struggling with the darkness of our own sinful hearts. The Bible is crystal clear that even though we've been justified by the blood of Christ, as long as we are on this earthly pilgrimage, we will always be at war with our sin (Col. 3:5). When we confess our sins together, we stop hiding, and we allow the light of God's grace to expose our deeds. And it is in this act of confession that His mercy renews us, fixes our eyes once again upon Christ, and cleanses our consciences to serve the Lord with gladness, joy, and hope—hope that even we can be made clean by the precious blood of Christ!

## GUIDE TO THE EVENING SERVICE

### CHILDREN'S CATECHISM RECITATION

Catechism memory work begins at First Pres with the Children's Catechism in three-year-old Sunday School. That study continues throughout children's Sunday School and the Catechism Class on Sunday Evenings. The Catechism is a summary of what the Bible teaches in systematic question and answer form. Committing it to memory is invaluable in the life of a believer, as it helps to build a solid foundation for a life of faith.

This evening, Boyd Douglas Payne will receive his Bible for recitation of *The Children's Catechism*, which consists of 150 questions and answers.

## 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.

# FPC THIS WEEK

## Sunday, May 14, 2023

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship .....	Sanctuary
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School..... See signs in Greeting Courtyard for locations	
11:00 a.m.	Children's Churchtime for age 3 and 4.....	MB 135
5:00 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer Group .....	WH 202A
6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship Service.....	Sanctuary (age 4 through 3rd grade dismissed for Children's Classes)
7:00 p.m.	Reception for Lee J. and Molly Webb .....	MH

## Tuesday, May 16, 2023

9:30 a.m.	French Camp Quilters .....	Library
6:00 p.m.	MOMS at Night .....	MH

## Wednesday, May 17, 2023

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.	Adults' Missions in May.....	MH
6:00 p.m.	Children's Missions in May .....	Various Locations
6:00 p.m.	Junior and Senior High D Groups .....	YH

## Thursday, May 18, 2023

9:30 a.m.	French Camp Quilters .....	Library
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## Saturday, May 20, 2023

7:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer Meeting .....	WH 202
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## Sunday, May 21, 2023

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship .....	Sanctuary
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School..... See signs in Greeting Courtyard for locations	
11:00 a.m.	Children's Churchtime for age 3 and 4.....	MB 135
5:00 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer Group .....	WH 202A
3:30 p.m.	Fellowship and Games .....	Twin Lakes
5:00 p.m.	Evening Worship Service.....	Twin Lakes

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

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## JUNIOR HIGH RYM — JUNE 26-30

This summer FPCYM will be taking a group of Junior High students (rising seventh through rising ninth) to RYM, June 26–30. The cost is \$400, and a \$50 deposit is due at registration. For more information and to register visit [fpcj.ms/youth](http://fpcj.ms/youth).

## MOTHER DAUGHTER SISTER FRIEND DINNER

*Save the Date!*

Our Mother Daughter Sister Friend Dinner will be Tuesday, June 27, 6–8 p.m. God's people have always celebrated experiencing His grace in their lives through music — be it psalms, hymns, or spiritual songs. Join us as Sarah Little leads us through learning more about these musical treasures of our faith and as we sing them together. Be on the lookout for more information.

## THE FIRST WORD

The First Word is our weekly emailed newsletter featuring sermon notes and audio, missionary reports and prayer requests, event information, and announcements. Manage your subscription at [fpcj.ms/subscribe](http://fpcj.ms/subscribe). Or with questions or for more information, you may email [communications@fpcjackson.org](mailto:communications@fpcjackson.org).

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL — JUNE 5-9

Registration is open! Come join us this summer as we see how God Revives His People. Sign up online at [fpcj.ms/vbs](http://fpcj.ms/vbs) by May 14 (TODAY!) to guarantee a t-shirt.

If you are willing to volunteer, we have a place for you. Volunteers serve as Table Guides (leading children to their various activities and encouraging them with their scripture memory verses), craft volunteers, song leaders, music accompanists, and general floaters. If you would like to help with various pre-VBS tasks or help the week of VBS, please contact VBS Director Joanna McNeel at [joanna.b.mcneel@gmail.com](mailto:joanna.b.mcneel@gmail.com).

## VBS TEACHER REFRESHMENTS

As our church seeks to teach our children that God Revives His People, our VBS teachers need nourishment! Please sign up to provide refreshments and bless the entire VBS team with some tasty treats. We'd love for you to sign-up online at: [perfectpotluck.com](http://perfectpotluck.com) Use the coordinator name: **Forster** and the password: **fpcj**

If you prefer, you can contact our snack coordinator, Ann Lowrey Forster, at [annlowrey.forster@gmail.com](mailto:annlowrey.forster@gmail.com) or our VBS director, Joanna McNeel, at [joanna.b.mcneel@gmail.com](mailto:joanna.b.mcneel@gmail.com). Snacks are needed Monday-Thursday only. Past favorites have included: pimento cheese/cheese balls, chicken salad, miniature pizzas, finger sandwiches, fruit, lemon squares, brownies, and cookies; but whatever you come up with will be perfect!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

For detailed prayer requests and contact information for our supported missionaries and ministry partners, please contact Jo Lynn at [jolynnm@fpcjackson.org](mailto:jolynnm@fpcjackson.org).

**Andrew Sheppard** – Andrew serves in evangelism, discipleship, and mentoring of university students with Mission to the World in Ukraine.

**Bentley & Sarah Love Crawford** – Bentley serves as the RUF Campus Minister at Belhaven University. email: [bentley.crawford@ruf.org](mailto:bentley.crawford@ruf.org)

## IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Luther Harrison “Harry” Fulcher, Jr. — May 6, 2023  
Mr. Kenneth Ray Adams — April 28, 2023

## FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary are placed in honor of Frances and George Holman on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary (May 18) by their five children and their families.

## RECEPTION FOR LEE J. AND MOLLY WEBB — TONIGHT

Please join us tonight after the evening worship service for a reception honoring Lee J. and Molly Webb. The reception will be in Miller Hall immediately following the service. Come and express your appreciation for all that Lee J. has done for our church as Executive Director and wish them well in their next endeavor.

## BAPTISM

The next baptism is scheduled for Sunday, May 21. Spaces are available for both services. To make your reservation, please contact Emily Eastman at [emilye@fpcjackson.org](mailto:emilye@fpcjackson.org).

## EVENING WORSHIP AT TWIN LAKES — MAY 21

Our evening worship service next week will be held at Twin Lakes. This casual service will begin at 5 p.m., but we encourage you to come early for a time of play and fellowship before the service. Beginning at 3:30 p.m., we will have games and ice cream and treats to enjoy! Dress comfortably and come to enjoy a service surrounded by the beauty of God’s creation. If you prefer not to drive to Twin Lakes, we would love to provide a ride for you. Please contact Emily Eastman at [ccare@fpcjackson.org](mailto:ccare@fpcjackson.org) to let us know if you need a ride.

## SUMMER PREACHING SCHEDULE

Please pray for Senior Minister David Strain and his family as they prepare for a sabbatical this summer. During the weeks he will be away from us, we will have the opportunity to hear from several guest ministers. David’s last Sunday with us will be May 21, and he will return in August.

May 28 – Jonny Gibson	July 9 – Caleb Cangelosi
June 4 – Sandy Wilson	July 16 – Brian Sorgenfrei
June 11 – Guy Richard	July 23 – Wiley Lowry
July 25 – To Be Announced	July 30 – Derek Thomas
July 2 – Nate Shurden	