

The
First
Presbyterian
Church
of
Jackson



“To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever”

THE LORD'S DAY

The Fifteenth Day of October, 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 — "Lyrical Andante"..... Max Reger
Bonnie Brown, Violin I Ausra Jasineviciute, Viola
Emily Williams, Violin II Nancy Bateman, Cello
Glenn Hale, Contra Bass

The Introit — "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"..... William Croft

The Call to Worship — Psalm 1

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

**but his delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law he meditates day and night.**

He is like a tree planted by streams of water
that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither.
In all that he does, he prospers.

The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

**for the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.**

The Hymn No. 100 — "Holy, Holy, Holy!"

SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Prayer of Adoration and Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

The Doxology

All praise we give to God, the Holy Trinity.
We praise the Father, Son and Spirit joyfully.
Creator God, our Shepherd, Savior, Lord and King.
To Thee we sing!

The Offering

The Offertory — "God So Loved the World"..... John Stainer

God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,
That whoso believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world,
but that the world through Him might be saved.
God so loved the world....

HEARING GOD'S VOICE

The Prayer of Illumination

The Reading of Holy Scripture — Psalm 119:65-72..... (pew Bible page 513)

The Sermon — **A Lamp to Our Feet: Affliction Our Teacher.....**Dr. Strain

The Hymn No. 378 — “Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face”

The Lord's Supper

The Words of Institution

The Invitation

The Prayer of Consecration

The Communion with Our Lord Jesus Christ and His People

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Hymn No. 252 (stzs. 1-3) — “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

Were the whole realm of nature mine,

That were a present far too small;

Love so amazing, so divine,

Demands my soul, my life, my all.

The Postlude — “Concerto Grosso No. 11”(Giga) Arcangelo Corelli

GUIDE TO THE MORNING SERVICE

This Lord's Day is a special occasion as we have the joy of partaking of the Lord's Table together. The sacrament of the "Lord's Supper" was instituted by Christ for the church in every age. Augustine, one of the early church fathers, referred to the sacrament as "a visible word" because it proclaims to us "the Lord's death until He comes" (1 Corinthians 11:23-26). As we come to the Table today, it may help you to prepare your hearts by pondering the significance of the Lord's Table.

THE LORD'S TABLE

The phrase itself conveys something very important about what is taking place during this component of our worship service. First, it is a table and not an altar. An altar is a place where sacrifices are offered to God. Christ has "offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, [and] he sat down at the right hand of God" (Hebrews 10:12). Again, "for by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified" (Hebrews 10:14). We have no need of an altar because the cross of Christ is the only altar of God. Second, it is the table of the Lord. He is the host of the meal and, hence, possesses the prerogative to invite us to meet and sup with him. Therefore, as the term "Communion Service" denotes, it is a fellowship meal of Christ with His people.

It is oftentimes easy to miss the significance of Church architecture, but in reality, our sanctuary is designed to speak to us about the grace, beauty, and majesty of God. And the Lord's Table beautifully communicates this. Our communion table sits in the front of the sanctuary on the floor with the congregation in order to remind us that it is in Christ's sacrificial death that we are truly united to Him and also to one another. The table remains on the floor to show us that the body and blood of Christ are for the entire covenant community.

CHRIST'S PRESENCE

Another important question to ask when thinking on this sacrament is, "In what way is Christ present within it?" Sincere Christians throughout the ages have struggled to answer this question because within the ordinance there is certainly an aura of mystery. But we must remember that while the elements remain bread and wine, the presence of Christ is truly among us by His Spirit. The Spirit alone is able to make the sacrament of the Lord's Supper beneficial to our souls by penetrating our hearts and stirring our affections for Christ. Hence, let us be prepared to feast at the Lord's Table by asking the Spirit of God to convict us of sin, to supply grace to truly repent, and to savor Christ more and more. As we partake the emblems of Christ's suffering, let us remember that God confirms the benefits of His suffering: pardon, reconciliation, and eternal life through this covenant meal. Let us in turn reaffirm our covenant privileges and responsibilities to God as we anticipate His return.

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" 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 and Pastoral Care

The Reverend Dr. Charlie Wingard — Minister of Shepherding

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

The Prelude — “O Rest in the Lord” Felix Mendelssohn

Bonnie Brown, Violin; William Wymond, Organ

The Call to Worship — 1 Corinthians 1:20, 22-24

The Hymn No. 12 — “Exalt the Lord, His Praise Proclaim”

The Invocation

The Hymn — “Ten Thousand Times Ten Thousand” (hymn sheet)

The Greetings

The Evening Prayer Mr. Stuart Clarke, Ruling Elder

The Offering

The Offertory — “O Shout to the Lord” Getty and De Barra

Oh, shout for joy unto the Lord, worship Him with thanksgiving.

Let all the earth bring songs of praise; telling of His greatness.

Know that the Lord we praise is God, He is God, our Maker,

And we are His, a people called sheep within His pasture.

Oh enter in His gates with praise, His courts with thanksgiving.

For He is good, His love endures morning after morning.

Oh shout for joy unto the Lord! See the way is open

To live in peace beneath His grace, every sin forgiven.

For He, who knew no mark of sin, took our sin upon Him;

That we might be the righteousness of the God in heaven.

Oh, enter His gates with praise. . .

Oh, shout for joy unto the Lord through the hours of darkness.

For day by day His faithful hand ever stays upon us.

With every morning rise we kneel all our lives we offer,

To be a living sacrifice wholly to the Saviour.

Oh enter in His gates. . . .

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!

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

Q88. What is the third commandment? A. **The third commandment is “You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain.”**

Q89. What does the third commandment teach you? A. **To treat God's name, word and works with reverence.**

The Meditation & Prayer Mr. Jennings Duncan, Congregational Care Intern

The Hymn (stzs. 1-3) — “In the Cross Alone I Glory” (hymn sheet)

The Prayer of Illumination

The Reading of Holy Scripture — Acts 6:8-8:1a (pew Bible page 914)

The Sermon — Beginning from Jerusalem: Martyr Mr. Lowry

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

Never will I seek the glory that was never meant for me;

Always heavenward reflecting, all to Jesus to receive, all to Jesus to receive.

In the cross alone I glory, nothing of my own to give,

Only that which Christ has offered for my soul,

For my soul that I may live, for my soul that I may live.

The Postlude — “Finale” G. F. Handel

*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.

FPC THIS WEEK

Sunday, October 15, 2023

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship.....	Sanctuary
11:00 a.m.	Children's Churchtime (for age 3 and 4 by Sept. 1).....	M135
9:45 a.m.	Communicant Meet & Greet.....	LH
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School.....	Various Locations
4:30 p.m.	Student Choir Rehearsal.....	MS
5:00 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer Group.....	WH 202A
5:00 p.m.	Missionary Prayer Time.....	Parlor
6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship Service.....	Sanctuary (age 4 through 3rd grade dismissed for Children's Classes)
7:30 p.m.	Senior High Insight.....	the Jordan Home (9 Pond Side Dr.)

Monday, October 16, 2023

12:00 p.m.	Circle 14.....	MH 205
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Tuesday, October 17, 2023

6:30 a.m.	Men's Breakfast Series.....	MH
9:00 a.m.	Sew & Sow.....	WH 302
9:30 a.m.	French Camp Quilters.....	Bookstore
6:00 p.m.	MOMS at Night Bible Study.....	MH
6:45 p.m.	Internationals Class.....	PH

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

9:00 a.m.	MOMS Bible Study.....	MH
9:30 a.m.	GriefShare.....	Parlor
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 Adult Programs	
	D Groups.....	Various Locations
	Evangelism Training.....	WH 202B
	Foundations Class.....	WH 204
	Old Testament Survey.....	MH
	Prayer Meeting and Bible Study.....	Session Room
	Women's Bible Study: Luke.....	WH 202A
6:00 p.m.	College Bible Study.....	YH Intern Suite
6:00 p.m.	Children's Choirs.....	Various Locations
6:00 p.m.	Sixth Grade Fellowship.....	Playground
6:00 p.m.	Junior and Senior High D Groups.....	YH
7:10 p.m.	Brass Ensemble Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary

Thursday, October 19, 2023

9:15 a.m.	Women's Bible Study - Isaiah: The Lord Saves.....	PH
9:45 a.m.	Women's Bible Study - Covenant: God's Amazing Grace.....	MH

Friday, October 20, 2023

5 p.m.	Junior High Fall Retreat Registration.....	MH
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Saturday, October 21, 2023

7:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer Meeting.....	WH 202
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Sunday, October 22, 2023

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship.....	Sanctuary
11:00 a.m.	Children's Churchtime (for age 3 and 4 by Sept. 1).....	M135
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School.....	Various Locations
4:30 p.m.	Student Choir Rehearsal.....	MS
5:00 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer Group.....	WH 202A
5:00 p.m.	Missionary Prayer Time.....	Parlor
6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship Service.....	Sanctuary

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ONE SUNDAY — NOVEMBER 12

On November 12, our entire church will come together for One Sunday: one Sunday school, one worship service, and a church-wide lunch. Don't miss this special day in the life of our church as we celebrate the work God is doing at First Pres through your giving and generosity! For lunch, come enjoy some brisket and fellowship as we hear about the many ministries that seek to glorify God with the help of your service and your giving. No need to bring anything – just bring your family and join us!

INTERNATIONALS CLASS — HELP NEEDED

Volunteers are needed for the Internationals Class. Last month, we had the second largest International crowd since COVID! Through you, an International Partner may experience the grace of God and have their entire life transformed. Enjoy an incredible blessing as you meet the “world” by simply sharing the love of Christ as an American Partner on any Tuesday night this fall. It's easy and fun! Find out more by texting Kathryn or Steve Edwards at 601-668-7422 or emailing Alice5176@aol.com.

CRATES FOR UKRAINE — DUE NOVEMBER 21

The war in Ukraine has now been ongoing for over 18 months, and yet the need for aid remains urgent. Our missionaries and local partners in Ukraine report that they are receiving more requests for aid right now than they have at any point during the war. The aid that they are distributing is the aid that you have sent! This fall, gathering aid will be simpler than it ever has been. We will provide you with a crate and the exact list of items that needs to go into it. We encourage you to think creatively about working together as a family, Sunday school class, neighborhood, or any other group. For more information, please contact missiondepartment@fpcjackson.org. To sign up to adopt a crate, please visit: fpcj.ms/crates-for-ukraine.

SANCTUARY AUDIO FOR HEARING ASSISTANCE

FPC has recently partnered with Sanctuary Audio to help improve the listening experience in our sanctuary. The program can be used through earbuds or any bluetooth-enabled hearing aid. Below are the directions for using Sanctuary Audio via your phone or tablet. If you have questions, please contact Matthew Burrow at matthewb@fpcjackson.org.

1. Connect your headphones or earbuds to your phone/device.
2. Connect your phone/device to WiFi network “FPC Guest.”
3. Download app called “Listen Everywhere.”
4. Open the “Listen Everywhere” App.
5. Tap “Venue Scan” until the App connects with FPC Jackson.
6. Select “FPC Jackson” channel.
7. Enjoy listening to the Sanctuary audio!

KIDCHECK — NEW CHECK-IN SYSTEM IN THE NURSERY

At First Presbyterian Church, the safety and security of our children is very important to us! That's why we've chosen KidCheck as our children's check-in solution for the nursery at FPC! To create a free account, visit go.kidcheck.com and select “Create Your KidCheck Account”. Or download the KidCheck Mobile App from the App Store or Google Play Store to create, manage, and update your account right on your mobile device.

BAPTISM — NOVEMBER 19

The next baptism is scheduled for Sunday, November 19. Spaces are available for both services. To make a reservation, please contact Emily Eastman at emilye@fpcjackson.org.

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.

P & J – P & J serve with World Outreach planting churches in Central Asia.

Daniel & Molly Tortorici – Daniel serves with RUF as the Associate Campus Minister at the University of Alabama. email: Daniel.tortorici@RUF.org

FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary are from the wedding of Helen Irene Turner and Ryan Benjamin Farthing and are placed in loving memory of grandparents of the bride: Mr. Robert Jones, Sr., Mr. Richard Sturtevant, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Ellington Turner; and grandparents of the groom: Mrs. William Isaacs and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Farthing.

IN MEMORIAM

Mr. William M. (Bill) Aden — October 4, 2023

COMMUNION — TODAY

Communion will be observed in the morning worship services today. Please begin prayerfully preparing your hearts and minds to receive the Lord's Supper. Professionally prepared, gluten-free elements will be available to pick up on the table on the south wall of the Greeting Courtyard.

COMMUNICANT MEET & GREET — TODAY

Parents of sixth graders, today is our Communicant Meet & Greet. Join us with your child at 9:45 a.m. in Lowe Hall. The Communicant Class will meet in January and is geared toward sixth, seventh, and eighth graders interested in becoming communing members of the church. For more information about this process visit fpcjackson.org/communicant.

CHURCHWIDE SURVEY

Over the past few years we have seen God at work in and through our congregation, and we are so thankful for His provision in the life of our church. Amidst all the exciting activity and growth we have seen, we want to be good shepherds of each individual who worships here. Therefore, over the next three weeks, we will conduct a survey designed to gauge the spiritual health of our congregation and church. Expect to see the survey released electronically this week, and please take time to respond. Paper copies of the survey will be available at the reception desk and in the Greeting Courtyard for those who cannot complete the digital version.

JOHN REED MILLER LECTURE SERIES — OCTOBER 25

All our adult Midweek programs will pause on Wednesday, October 25, as we gather in the Sanctuary for the John Reed Miller Lecture by Jason Helopoulos, senior pastor of University Reformed Church in East Lansing, Michigan.

REFORMATION SUNDAY SERVICE — OCTOBER 29

First Presbyterian Church and Pear Orchard Presbyterian Church will host a special Reformation Sunday service for the Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley, October 29, at 6 p.m. here at FPC. Dr. Bruce Baugus will preach, and we will have a special program for children (age 4-third grade).

MEN'S MINISTRY BARBECUE — NOVEMBER 2

Men, invite a friend and join us on Thursday, November 2, at 6 p.m. for some great barbecue and casual time together at the Creekmore property. You will find directions and registration at fpcjackson.org/events.