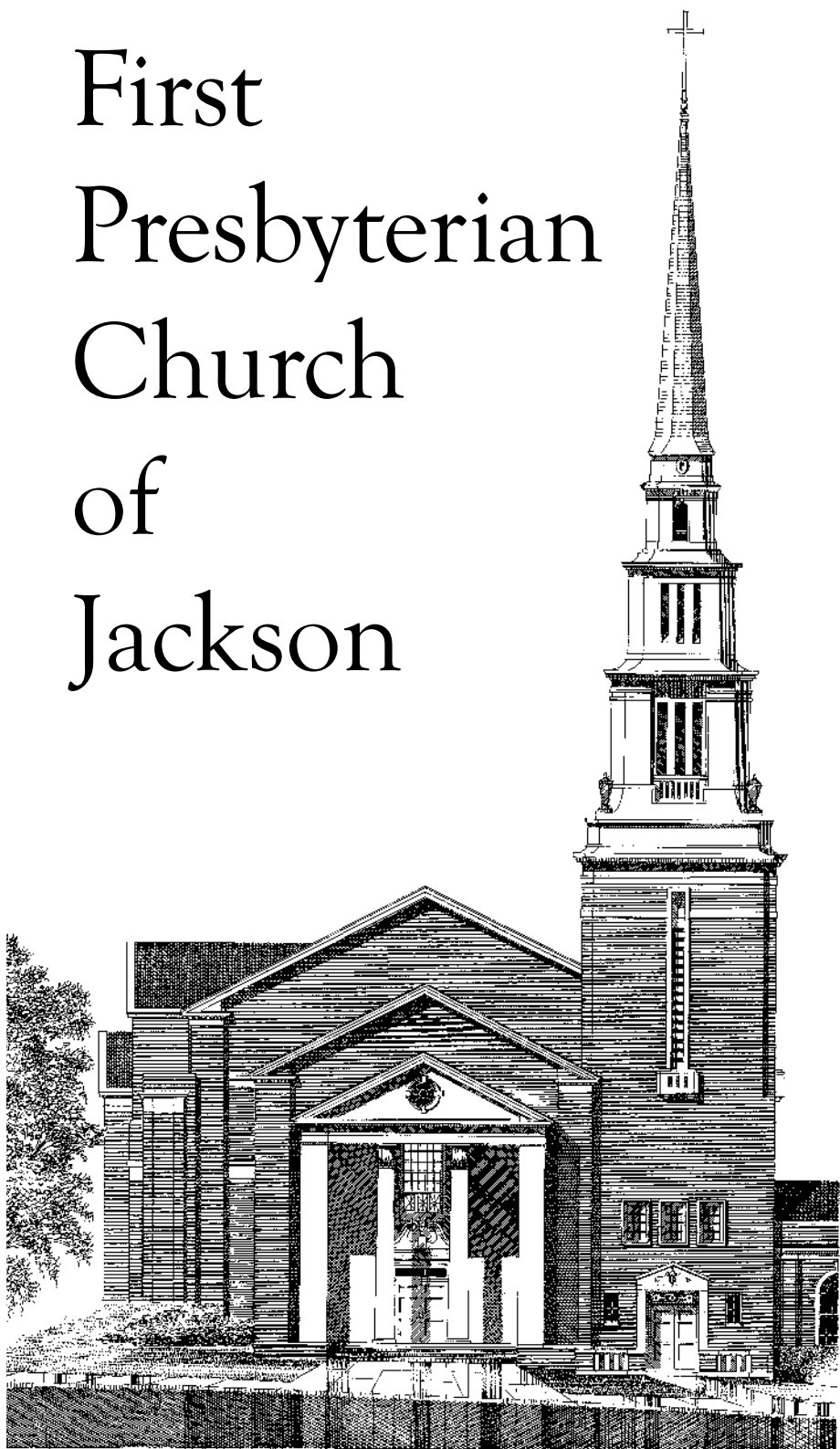


The First Presbyterian Church of Jackson



“To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever”

THE LORD'S DAY

The Seventeenth Day of March, Two Thousand Twenty-Four
MORNING WORSHIP

Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'Clock

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

The Reverend Mr. James C. Peipon
Minister of Missions

APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

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

The Prelude — "Amazing Grace" Duane Funderburk
Bonnie Brown, Violin; Nancy Bateman, Cello; Rae Shannon, Piano

The Introit — "Behold, Now, Praise the Lord"

The Call to Worship — John 4:23-24

The Hymn No. 6 — "O Come, My Soul, Bless Thou the Lord" (Psalm 103)

SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Prayer of Adoration and Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

The Doxology — "Gloria Patri" tune: *Gloria Patri* (Greatorex)
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.

The Sacrament of Baptism

The Words of Institution
The Introduction of the Covenant Children and Their Families
The Biblical Promise
The Questions to the Parents and Congregation
The Prayer of Consecration
The Baptism
The Baptismal Benediction

The Hymn No. 184 (stzs. 1 & 6) — "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

The Offering

The Offertory — "When I Can Read My Title Clear"... arr. Shelton Ridge Love
When I can read my title clear to mansions in the skies,
I'll bid farewell to every fear and wipe my weeping eyes.
When I can read my title clear to mansions in the skies,
I'll bid farewell to every fear and wipe my weeping eyes.
And wipe my weeping eye, and wipe my weeping eyes.
I'll bid farewell to every fear and wipe my weeping eyes.

Then not a wave of care will roll across my peaceful breast.
When I shall bathe my weary soul in seas of heavenly rest.
In seas of heavenly rest, in seas of heavenly rest, heavenly rest,
And I will bathe my weary soul in seas of heavenly rest.

Let cares like mighty torrents come and storms of sorrow fall!
May I but safely reach my home, my God, my heaven, my all.
My God, my heaven, my all, my God, my heaven, my all.
May I but safely reach my home, my God, my heaven.
My God, my all, my God, my heaven, my all.

HEARING GOD’S VOICE

The Prayer of Illumination

The Reading of Holy Scripture — Psalm 119:129-136..... (pew Bible page 515)

The Sermon — A Lamp to Our Feet: Light in the Darkness.....Dr. Strain

The Hymn No. 598 — “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

Spirit of the Living God, fall fresh on me.
Spirit of the Living God, fall fresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.

The Postlude — “Immortal Invisible” Duane Funderburk

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.

VOWS OF BAPTISM

In order for the congregation to participate in the sacrament of baptism and to refresh our own commitment to these vows, they are included below:

TO THE PARENTS

1. Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you claim God's covenant promises on (his) behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for (his) salvation, as you do for your own?
3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before (him) a godly example, that you will pray with and for (him), that you will teach (him) the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring (him) up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

TO THE CONGREGATION

Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM WILL BE ADMINISTERED TO

Parker Frances Ellison
daughter of Lee and Bonney Ellison

Lyle Robert Lofton
son of Jennie Katherine and Corey Lofton

Alice Nan Terry
daughter of Austin and Anna Terry

Sarah Margaret Triplett
daughter of Les and Anna Beth Triplett

Bennett Randall Weems
son of Randall and Mary Clark Weems

Lucy Elizabeth Young
daughter of Frances and John Young

The next baptism date is May 19, 2024.
Spaces are available for both the 8:30 and 11 a.m. services.
Please email emilye@fpcjackson.org to reserve a place.

EVENING WORSHIP

Six O’Clock

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

Dr. Rupert Hunt Taylor
Discipleship Staff

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

The Prelude — “Nearer My God to Thee” Marshall McDonald
Zachary Horne, Cello; Rebekah Lipscombe, Piano

The Call to Worship — Titus 3:4-7

The Hymn — “On Jordan’s Stormy Banks” (hymn sheet)

The Invocation

The Anthem — “Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy” Gordon Young
The Student Choir

The Greetings

The Evening Prayer Dr. Zeb Henson, Ruling Elder

The Offering

The Offertory — “Beneath the Cross of Jesus” Jeremy Yowell
Zachary Horne, Cello

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

Q118. What is the third petition? (of the Lord’s Prayer) A. **The third petition is,
“Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.”**

Q119. What does it mean to pray, “Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven”?
A. **We are asking God to make us able and willing to serve Him on
earth just as He is served in heaven.**

The Meditation & Prayer Mr. David Felker, Executive Minister

The Hymn No. 332 (stzs. 1-3) — “Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove”

The Prayer of Illumination

The Reading of Holy Scripture — Acts 12:25-13:12 (pew Bible page 921)

The Sermon — **To the Gentiles: Not Against Flesh and Blood** Mr. Lowry

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

**Come, Holy Spirit, heav’nly Dove,
With all your quick’ning pow’rs;
Come, shed abroad a Savior’s love,
And that shall kindle ours.**

The Postlude

*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, March 17, 2024

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

Monday, March 18, 2024

10:00 a.m.	Circle 5	Home of Mary Jane Finney
12:00 p.m.	Circle 14	MH
5:30 p.m.	Deacons Meeting	PH
6:30 p.m.	Session Meeting	MS

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

6:30 a.m.	Men's Breakfast Series	MH
9:00 a.m.	Crafts for Missions	WH 302
9:30 a.m.	French Camp Quilters	Bookstore
10:00 a.m.	Circle 9	WH 204
10:00 a.m.	Circle 11	Home of Frenchie Graham
10:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study	WH 305
6:00 p.m.	MOMS at Night	MH
6:45 p.m.	Internationals Class	PH

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

9:00 a.m.	MOMS Bible Study	MH
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
	Foundations	WH 204
	Growth Class	Patterson Hall
	Prayer Meeting	Session Room
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
7:15 p.m.	Brass Ensemble Rehearsal	Sanctuary

Thursday, March 21, 2024

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

Saturday, March 23, 2024

7:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer Meeting	WH 202
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Sunday, March 24, 2024

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship	Sanctuary
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School	Various Locations
11:00 a.m.	Children's Churchtime (for age 3 and 4 by Sept. 1)	M135
4:30 p.m.	Student Choir Rehearsal	MS
4:00 p.m.	Beth Israel Cemetery Tour	Hutton Chapel
5:00 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer Group	WH 202 A
5:00 p.m.	Prayer for Global Missions	Parlor
6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship	Sanctuary (age four through third grade dismissed for children's classes)
7:30 p.m.	Senior High Insight	the Russ Home (2337 Twin Lakes Cir.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BETH ISRAEL CEMETERY TOUR — MARCH 24

On March 24 at 4 p.m., there will be a guided tour of the Beth Israel Cemetery across the street from the church. We hope to have some members of the Beth Israel congregation join us as we learn more about the history of the Jewish community and the history of Jackson. Please come for a brief introduction in Hutton Chapel starting at 4 p.m. before we walk over to the cemetery for the tour.

FOUNDATIONS CLASS — BEGINS MARCH 24

The next offering of the Foundations Class during the Sunday School hour will begin March 24. Foundations is the place to begin if you are considering membership at FPC or would like to know more about our church and the basics of our faith and practice. During the class we will learn what we share in common with all Bible-believing Christians, as well as about the distinctives of Presbyterianism. We will hear from ministry leaders about what's taking place at First Pres, while providing a great opportunity to meet others who have recently found a home here at FPC.

DELIGHTING & DIGGING DEEP IN THE WORD — APRIL 5 & 6

Women's Ministry Seminars with Jen Wilkin

Jen Wilkin is an author and Bible teacher. Come as she shows us the joy we can experience as we delight in God's word and the ways in which we can dig deep for ourselves. Join us Friday, April 5, 6-8 p.m. and Saturday, April 6, from 8:30-11:30 a.m. You may register for one or both of the sessions at fpcj.ms/delight-in-the-word. There is a nursery available.

Friday night's session will help us explore the truth that the righteous and the wicked are separated by what they delight in: the one true God of the Bible, or the ways of the world. We will focus on how we can become people who delight in the Word of God. Saturday morning, we will explore what solid Bible study and teaching look like as well as some practical steps to take. This workshop will be designed to sharpen our skills in studying the Bible. It will also be instructive for those already teaching, or hoping to teach, the Bible.

ENCOUNTER RETREAT — APRIL 5-7

Junior High Presbytery-Wide Retreat

Sixth through ninth grade students, join us for a junior high presbytery-wide retreat on April 5-7 at Twin Lakes Camp in Florence, MS. We will join with churches from the Mississippi Valley Presbytery for a great weekend full of games, shared meals, and fellowship with other students. Our speaker Zack Owens will be teaching on the topic Belonging to God. The cost is \$115, and registration closes March 29. Register online at fpcj.ms/events.

SENIOR ADULTS DAY TRIP TO COLUMBUS — APRIL 12

Experience a day of fellowship and enjoy all that Columbus has to offer. As part of the itinerary, we will tour the home of our state's famous author, Tennessee Williams, as well as the Southside Historic District. We will wind down over a delicious lunch at Harvey's on Main Street. We will depart from the church campus at 7:30 a.m. and depart from Columbus by 4 p.m. To register, please email the Administrative Assistant for Congregational Care, Emily Eastman, at ccare@fpcjackson.org, or call her office at 601-326-9243. The cost is \$25. Please plan to bring money for your meal.

VBS DONATIONS FOR OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

This year's VBS is scheduled for June 3-7. During the week, we are partnering with Operation Christmas Child! Throughout the week, our children will be packing shoeboxes, and the offering collected by our children during VBS will go toward mailing our shoeboxes. Would you consider donating new items to be included in our Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes? Suggested items include: stuffed animals, balls, brushes, combs, toothbrushes, washcloths, school supplies, socks, flip-flops, chalk, jump ropes, and stickers. Items may be dropped off in the donation box in the Welcome Center. Please no food or liquids.

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.

Mike & Stacy – Mike, serving with Commission to Every Nation in Lebanon, coaches church planters around the world, and Stacy serves as a trainer with Parakaleo. email: wiebes4@gmail.com

Ro & Anna Taylor – Ro serves as Campus Minister with Reformed University Fellowship at Delta State University. email: ro.taylor@ruf.org

IN MEMORIAM

Mr. Paul E. Moyers — March 6, 2024

FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Florence and Fred Wallace.

A LIGHT TO THE NATIONS

Global Missions Conference 2024

What a joy it was to spend time with so many of our supported missionaries and learn about their work for the gospel of Christ during the Missions Conference. We are honored to support them through both prayer and financial giving. Our financial support of missionaries and ministries is entirely dependent on your generous giving! Our goal for 2024-2025 is to give \$1 million for missions. Set up your recurring gift to the missions fund at fpcj.ms/give.

With a goal of growing each of our hearts for giving towards missions, we encourage our church members to complete a missions pledge (either by returning the paper card or online at fpcj.ms/missions-conference). Our church commends pledging as a useful, time-tested tool for our individual growth in the area of giving. It is our hope that pledging will help each of us fulfill an individual commitment for missions throughout this year.

SENIOR SEND-OFFS — DEADLINE TODAY!

FPC, help us create journals for our graduating seniors. The Students & Families ministry will create a collection of words of encouragement and wisdom for these students as they start a new chapter. Help us fill these journals with messages from the FPC Jackson family to serve as reminders of our love for them and God's covenant promises to them. Send a note to this collective journal for the graduating class of 2024 by emailing maryhelenm@fpcjackson.org.

ONLINE OR NON-TRADITIONAL GIVING CARDS

Beginning March 24

Because the Offering is a meaningful part of our worship services at FPC, we want to enable those who give online or in a non-traditional way to actively participate in that part of our worship service along with those who put their checks or cash in the offering plate as it is passed. In 2023, nearly 30% of gifts to First Presbyterian Church were made through either online giving on FPC's website and app or through ACH transfers or other electronic means. We praise the Lord and thank you for all of these gifts to FPC! No matter the means you use to support FPC financially, you should be able to participate in the Offering portion of the Sunday worship service. So, beginning next Sunday, March 24, "Online or Non-Traditional Giving Cards" will be made available in the tract racks located outside the sanctuary doors. We invite our online givers (or anyone making a gift to the Church outside of the worship service) to take one of these cards and to place it in the offering plate when it is passed as part of your worship and as a tangible expression of your gift to the church. Thank you for supporting First Presbyterian Church in its work and worship!