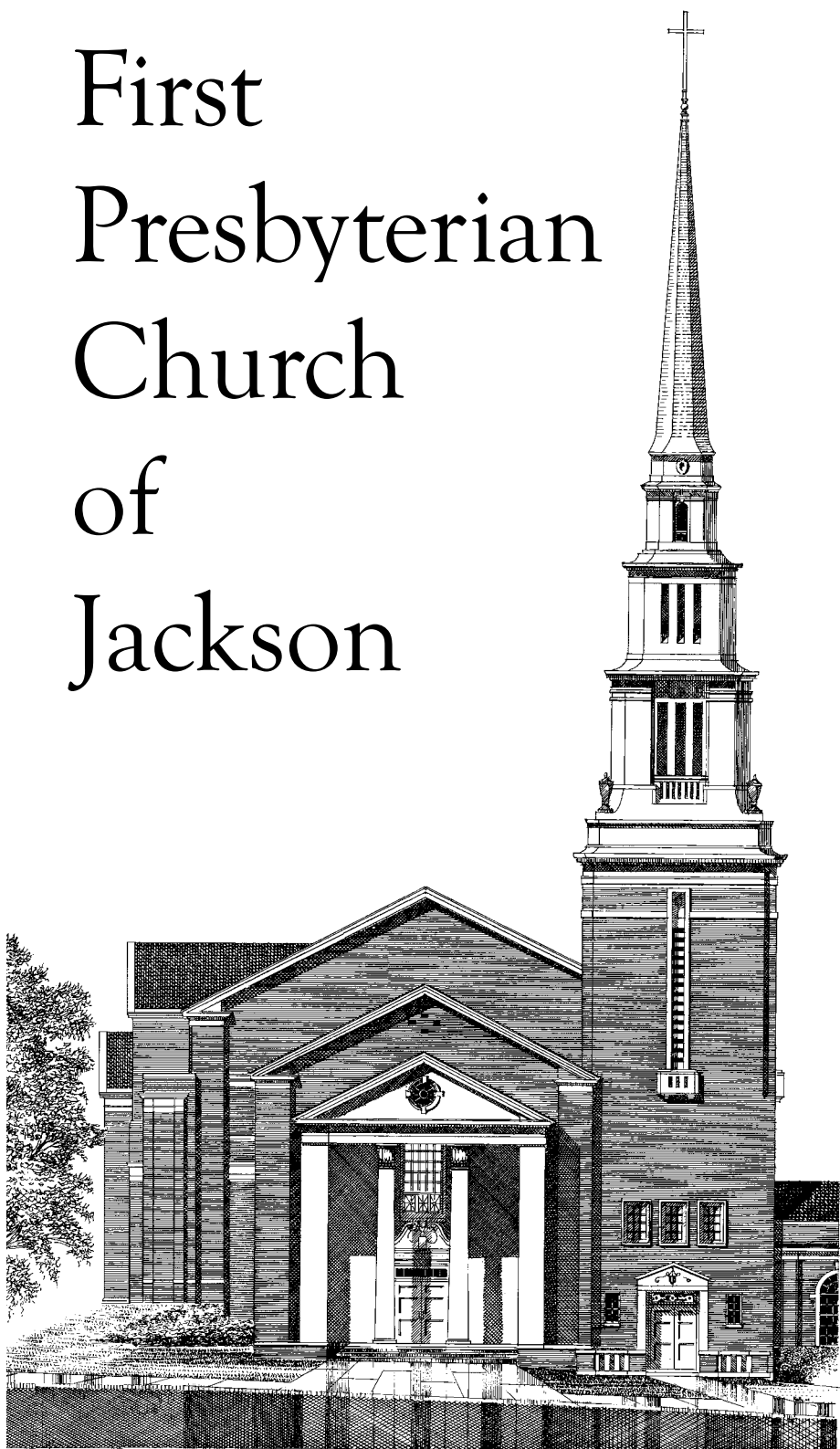


The  
First  
Presbyterian  
Church  
of  
Jackson



*“To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever”*

# THE LORD'S DAY

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

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

The Reverend Mr. William E. Dempsey  
Minister of Congregational and Pastoral Care

## APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

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

The Recognition of the *Shorter Catechism* Recitation (8:30 a.m.)

The Prelude — “All Things Bright and Beautiful” ..... arr. Catherine McMichael  
Nancy Bateman, Cello; Emily Williams, Violin; Rae Shannon, Piano

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

The Call to Worship — Romans 11:33–12:1

The Hymn No. 44 — “How Great Thou Art”

The Invocation

The Doxology ..... W. Wymond

All glory, laud, and honor to You, Redeemer King,  
We lift our voice in Worship, together praise we sing.  
You made the earth, the heavens, the stars, the seas, all things.  
Now, joyfully, Lord Jesus Christ, our hearts to You we bring.

The Prayer of Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

The Confession of Faith — Romans 8:28–39

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup> For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. <sup>30</sup> And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

<sup>31</sup> What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup> He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup> Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. <sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? <sup>36</sup> As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;  
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

<sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## SEEKING GOD’S FACE

The Psalm 119:161-168.....tune: *Hamburg*

**Though rulers hound me without cause, my heart fears nothing but your word;  
For in your promise I rejoice like one who finds great spoil, O Lord.**

**All falsehood I abhor and hate; with all my heart I love your law.  
I praise you seven times a day, for your commands I hold in awe.**

**Great peace have those who love your law; they will not stumble in the way.  
I wait for your salvation, Lord, and your commands I will obey.**

**I will observe your statutes, Lord; my love for them is great and true.  
Your laws and precepts I obey, for all my ways are known to you.**

The Pastoral Prayer

The Offering

The Offertory — “Beneath the Cross of Jesus” .....arr. Benjamin Harlan

Beneath the Cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand;  
the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land,  
A home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,  
from the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day.

Upon the cross of Jesus, mine eye at times can see  
the very dying form of One who suffered there for me.  
And from my smitten heart, with tears, two wonders I confess;  
the wonder of His glorious love and my unworthiness.

I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place;  
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of His face;  
Content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,  
my sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross!

## HEARING GOD’S WORD

The Prayer for Illumination

The Old Testament Reading — Psalm 119:161-168 .....pew Bible page 516

The Sermon — A Lamp to Our Feet: I Love the Book..... Dr. Strain

The Hymn No. 342 (stz. 1-4) — “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

**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 Postlude — “Pompous March” ..... Gordon Young

# SERVICE GUIDE

## CATECHISM RECITATION

*"I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you."* -Psalm 119:11

This morning, Lydian Peipon will receive his Bible for recitation of the *Westminster Shorter Catechism*, which consists of 107 questions and answers.

This evening, Finley Felker will receive her Bible for recitation of *The Children's Catechism*, which consists of 150 questions and answers.

Catechism memory work begins at First Presbyterian Church 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.

### Paul's Second Missionary Journey (Acts 15:36–18:22) C. A.D. 49–51

Paul and Silas revisited the places in Asia Minor where Paul had preached on his first journey (cf. map, p. 2110), while Barnabas took John Mark and sailed to Cyprus. Paul and Silas visited Derbe, Lystra, and Antioch in Pisidia. From there Paul and Silas traveled to Troas, where Paul received a vision of a man from Macedonia calling to them. Crossing into Europe, they passed through several towns along the Egnatian Way and traveled to the cities of Athens and Corinth in southern Greece. Then, sailing to Ephesus and Caesarea, they visited the church in Jerusalem before returning to Antioch of Syria.



## 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

**Mr. William H. Skinner**  
Senior Minister's and Discipleship Intern

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

The Recognition of the *Children's Catechism* Recitation

The Prelude — "Andante in D" .....Antonio Moranto  
The FPC String Ensemble

The Call to Worship — Psalm 72:5, 8

The Hymn No. 441 — "Jesus Shall Reign"

The Invocation

The Hymn — "Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder" ..... hymn sheet

The Greetings

The Evening Prayer.....Mr. Alan Walters, Ruling Elder

The Offering

The Offertory — "Come, Ye Sinners" ..... arr. W. Wymond  
The FPC String Ensemble

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

Q137. What sign is used in the Lord's Supper? **A. Eating bread and drinking wine to remember the suffering and death of Jesus.**

Q138. What does the bread represent? **A. Christ's body sacrificed for our sins.**

Q139. What does the wine represent? **A. Christ's blood shed for our sins.**

Q140. Who may rightly partake of the Lord's Supper? **A. Those who repent of their sins, trust in Christ, live a godly life, and profess their faith before the Church.**

\* The Meditation & Prayer .....Mr. David Felker, Executive Minister

The Hymn (stz. 1-2) — "A Debtor to Mercy Alone" ..... hymn sheet

The Prayer for Illumination

The Reading of Holy Scripture — Acts 18:1-22 ..... pew Bible page 927

The Sermon — To the Gentiles: Not Everyone Can Go to Corinth...Mr. Lowry

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

**My name from the palms of Your hands eternity will not erase.  
Impressed on Your heart it remains in marks of indelible grace.  
Yes, I to the end will endure, until I bow down at Your throne,  
Forever and always secure, a debtor to mercy alone.**

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, May 12, 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, May 13, 2024

6:15 a.m.	Mission Trip to St. George, Utah, Departure	
9:30 a.m.	Circle 8.....	The Orchard
10:00 a.m.	Circle 3.....	WH 204
10:00 a.m.	Circle 4.....	Parlor
10:00 a.m.	Circle 5.....	Home of Shirley Windham
11:00 a.m.	Caregivers' Support Group.....	WH 202B
12:00 p.m.	Circle 14.....	MH
6:30 p.m.	Circle 6.....	Home of Beth Archer

## Tuesday, May 14, 2024

9:30 a.m.	Sew and Sow.....	WH 302
9:30 a.m.	French Camp Quilters.....	Bookstore
10:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study .....	WH 30
10:00 a.m.	Circle 9.....	WH 204
10:00 a.m.	Circle 11.....	Home of Frenchie Graham

## Wednesday, May 15, 2024

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
	New Testament Survey with Guy Waters.....	Miller Hall
	Prayer Meeting .....	Session Room
6:00 p.m.	Children's Missions in May .....	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

## Saturday, May 18, 2024

7:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer Meeting .....	PH
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## Sunday, May 19, 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)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 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](https://fpcjackson.org/fpcj.ms/subscribe). Or with questions or for more information, you may email [communications@fpcjackson.org](mailto:communications@fpcjackson.org).

## 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Check out FPC's 2023 Annual Report online at [fpcj.ms/annual-report](https://fpcjackson.org/fpcj.ms/annual-report) or pick up a copy around the church. This report aims to clarify how money given to our church is utilized. Two separate funds with two separate priorities are used at FPC: Ministry Expenses and Missions. The report also illustrates the connection between our giving and the ministry value gained, including highlights of a number of ministries within FPC.

## PHONE CHANGES FOR FPC STAFF

You may have noticed some changes to our phone numbers here at FPC in recent weeks. We are in the midst of a transition of our phones, and many of our staff extensions and direct lines have changed. You can find our staff direct lines online at [fpcjackson.org/staff](https://fpcjackson.org/staff), or you may always call our main line which remains unchanged at 601-353-8316, and our church receptionist, Anna Kathryn Clarke Hoehner, will direct you.

## MATCHING GIFT TO SUPPORT OUR FPDS TEACHERS

Join us in celebrating a generous matching gift made by an anonymous donor for the benefit of FPDS teachers. Between now and May 31, any gift given to First Presbyterian Day School and designated to benefit teacher retention and appreciation will be matched dollar-for-dollar, up to \$25,000. If you would like to assist FPDS in its priority of retaining and showing appreciation to these teachers, our partners in ministry, you may give online at [fpcj.ms/give](https://fpcjackson.org/fpcj.ms/give), selecting the fund "FPDS — Teachers," or via check with "FPDS — Teachers" noted on the memo line.

## BILL WYMOND MUSIC MINISTRY INTERN FUND

In honor of Dr. Bill Wymond's ministry and legacy at First Presbyterian Church, we are excited to announce the launch of the Bill Wymond Music Ministry Internship Fund. Gifts made to this fund will be used to create an internship within FPC's music ministry as a training ground for college students or seminarians who have a desire to pursue a calling to music ministry or to a ministry in which their music training will be an essential component. If you would like to honor Dr. Wymond or to partner with FPC in this ministry priority, please consider making a gift via check or online with "Bill Wymond Internship Fund" on the memo line. If you would like to discuss making a gift, please contact Chase Wynn, Director of Giving and Stewardship, at [chasew@fpcjackson.org](mailto:chasew@fpcjackson.org).

## VBS DONATIONS NEEDED

This year's VBS is scheduled for June 3–7, and we are partnering with Operation Christmas Child! Throughout the week, sixth graders will be packing shoeboxes, and the offering collected by our children during VBS will go toward mailing our shoeboxes. Suggested (new) 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.

## VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for table guides (who lead children to their various activities and encourage them with their scripture memory verses), craft volunteers, song leaders, music accompanists, and general floaters. If you are interested email Mary Jordan Lamar at [mmcdill88@gmail.com](mailto:mmcdill88@gmail.com) or Kimberly Wilkins at [kimberlyw@fpcjackson.org](mailto:kimberlyw@fpcjackson.org).

## BRASS ENSEMBLE OPPORTUNITIES

Brass players, the FPC brass ensemble would love for you to join us! The group is composed of brass players of all ages who enjoy using their talents in the service of Lord's Day worship. Rehearsals are Wednesday nights at 7:10 p.m. in the sanctuary. If interested, please contact Nathan Oakley at [oakley.nathan@gmail.com](mailto:oakley.nathan@gmail.com) for more information.

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## **II THESSALONIANS 3:1 — “FINALLY, BRETHERN, PRAY FOR US...”**

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

**Julian & Rachel Bacon** – Julian serves as a church planter with MTW Europe in Brussels, Belgium. email: [julian@mtwbelgium.com](mailto:julian@mtwbelgium.com)

**Children of Abraham** – Bassam Chedid founded the Children of Abraham ministry in 1977 to communicate the saving message of Christ to a largely un-evangelized Arabic community in and beyond North America. email: [chedid@cs.com](mailto:chedid@cs.com)

**Gateway Rescue Mission** – Supported through Mission to Jackson, Gateway offers life-changing hope through the gospel of Jesus Christ to homeless men, women and children through programs to deliver food, shelter, counseling, and discipleship.

## **FLOWERS**

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Sydney Mann and Braden Robinson by her parents, Janet and Doug Mann.

## **CAREGIVERS MINISTRY — MAY 13**

Caregivers, join us Monday, May 13 in Westminster hall 202B from 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. The purpose of our Caregivers' Ministry is to gather similarly situated caregivers who desire to learn, share stories, and grieve as we walk together through the valley of a loved one's suffering with dementia and dementia-related illness. The meeting will provide a safe and friendly forum to talk with others who understand the toils of caregiving for the cognitively impaired. We'll provide resources which are available to the caregiver as well as to the loved one for whom care is being provided. Ultimately, we'll leave each participant with the promise of the gospel and the hope and rest we find in Christ Jesus our Savior. If you have any questions, please contact Ken Fairly at 601-941-5004.

## **BAPTISM — MAY 19**

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](mailto:emilye@fpcjackson.org) to reserve a place.

## **SENIOR ADULTS LUNCHEON — JUNE 14**

Join us for an afternoon of food, fellowship, and fun on June 14, at 11:30 a.m. at Wade and Betsy Creekmore's cottage located at 143 McHarris Rd. in Madison. We will have a lunch followed by a short message. The cost of the event is \$3 per person. If you would like to attend, please RSVP by contacting Emily Eastman at 601-326-9243 or [emilye@fpcjackson.org](mailto:emilye@fpcjackson.org).

## **JOIN FPC!**

The next offering of the Foundations Class during the Sunday School hour will begin June 2. 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.

## **DAVID FELKER SABBATICAL**

In the spring of 2023, the Management Committee of the Session approved a sabbatical for David Felker, which begins on May 23, 2024. The term “sabbatical” is derived from the word “sabbath” and is therefore intended to be a dedicated time of rest and rejuvenation. Please join us in praying for David and his family as they prepare to take a summer away from daily ministerial duties. We hope you will also commit to praying for the Felker family during their time away — that the time would be restorative and that they would have the opportunity for personal and spiritual renewal.