

The  
First  
Presbyterian  
Church  
of  
Jackson



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

# THE LORD'S DAY

The Eighth Day of September Two Thousand Twenty-Four  
MORNING WORSHIP  
Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'Clock

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

The Reverend Mr. Stephen A. Biggs  
Minister of Students and Families

## APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

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

The Scripture Memory Passage — Matthew 5:1-6

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

<sup>2</sup> And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup> "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

The Prelude — "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" ..... arr. Duane Funderburk  
Nancy Bateman, Cello; Rae Shannon, Piano

The Introit — "Almighty God of Our Fathers"

The Call to Worship

The Hymn No. 168 — "I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art"

The Invocation

The Doxology

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above ye Heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

The Prayer of Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

## SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Hymn No. 140 — "O Word of God Incarnate"

The Scripture Reading — Matthew 5:17-20.....pew Bible page 810

The Pastoral Prayer

## The Offering

**The Offertory** — “There Is a Fountain” .....William Cowper / Dan Forrest, arr.

There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Immanuel’s veins;  
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains.  
Lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains.  
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day;  
And there, may I, though vile as he, wash all my sins away.  
Wash all my sins away, wash all my sins away.  
And there, May I, though vile as he, was all my sins away.

When this poor lisping, stammering tongue lies silent in the grave,  
Then in a nobler, sweeter song, I’ll sing Thy power to save.  
I’ll sing Thy power to save, I’ll sing Thy power to save,  
Then in a nobler, sweeter song, I’ll sing Thy power to save.  
Thy power to save!

## HEARING GOD’S WORD

**The Prayer for Illumination**

**The Scripture Reading** — Leviticus 1:1–17 .....pew Bible page 81

**The Sermon** — **Drawing Near to God: Devotion** ..... Dr. Strain

**The Hymn No. 246 (stz. 1–4)** — “Man of Sorrows! What a Name”

**The Benediction**

**The Congregational Response**

**When he comes, our glorious King,  
all His ransomed home to bring,  
then anew this song we’ll sing:  
Hallelujah! what a Savior!**

**The Postlude** — “Fanfare” ..... C.S. Lang

## 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 Mr. David L. Felker**  
Executive Minister

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

The Prelude — “Holy, Holy, Holy” .....Dykes / arr. Sjolund/Lipscombe  
Rebekah Lipscombe, Piano

The Call to Worship — Psalm 98:1, 3

The Hymn No. 705 — “I Know Whom I Have Believed”

The Invocation

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

The Greetings

The South Africa Mission Report .....Mr. Stephen Kruger, Team Member

The Evening Prayer..... Mr. Kruger

The Offering

The Offertory — “Sheep May Safely Graze” .....Bach / arr. Coates

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

Q14. Where do we learn how to love and obey God? **A. In the Bible alone.**

Q15. Who wrote the Bible? **A. Chosen men who were inspired by the Holy Spirit.**

\* The Meditation & Prayer .....Dr. Rupert Hunt Taylor, Discipleship Ministry

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

The Prayer of Illumination

The Reading of Holy Scripture — Acts 20:2–16 ..... pew Bible page 929

The Sermon — **Going to Rome: Burning the Midnight Oil**..... 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 ages 4 through 3rd 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



## PAUL'S THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY (ACTS 18:22-21:17)

C. A.D. 52-57

Paul's third missionary journey traversed much the same ground as his second (cf. map, p. 2118). Passing through Galatia and Phrygia, he proceeded directly to the great port city of Ephesus. After three years of preaching and teaching there, Paul traveled again through Macedonia and Achaia, strengthening the believers, and then finished with a visit to Jerusalem.

# FPC THIS WEEK

## Sunday, September 8, 2024

|                   |  |                                      |
|-------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. | Morning Worship  | Sanctuary                            |
| 9:45 a.m.         | Sunday School  | Various Locations                    |
| 11 a.m.           | Children's Churchtime (for age 3 and 4 by Sept. 1)                                 | MB 135                               |
| 4:30 p.m.         | Student Choir Rehearsal  | MS                                   |
| 5:00 p.m.         | Intercessory Prayer Group  | WH 202A                              |
| 6:00 p.m.         | Evening Worship<br>(age four through third grade dismissed for children's classes) | Sanctuary                            |
| 7:30 p.m.         | Senior High Insight  | the Russ Home (2337 Twin Lakes Cir.) |

## Monday, September 9, 2024

|            |                           |         |
|------------|---------------------------|---------|
| 10:30 a.m. | Caregivers' Support Group | WH 202B |
| 5:30 p.m.  | Diaconate Meeting         | PH      |
| 6:30 p.m.  | Session Meeting           | MS      |

## Tuesday, September 10, 2024

|           |                        |           |
|-----------|------------------------|-----------|
| 6:30 a.m. | Men's Breakfast Series | MH        |
| 9:30 a.m. | French Camp Quilters   | Bookstore |
| 9:30 a.m. | Sew & Sow              | WH 302    |
| 6:45 p.m. | Internationals Class   | PH        |

## Wednesday, September 11, 2024

|                |   |                       |
|----------------|---|-----------------------|
| 9:00 a.m.      | MOMS Welcome Back Coffee                            | MH                    |
| 9:30 a.m.      | GriefShare  | Parlor                |
| 5:00-6:00 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.      | Adult Midweek Programs                              |                       |
|                | Devoted to God in a Digital Age with Dr. John Fesko | MH                    |
|                | Membership Class                                    | WH 204                |
|                | D Groups  | Various               |
|                | Prayer Meeting & Bible Study                        | Session Room          |
|                | Don't Waste Your Life: Take Risks for Christ        | WH 202B               |
|                | College D Group                                     | WH 302                |
| 6:00 p.m.      | Children's Choirs                                   | Playground            |
| 6:00 p.m.      | Junior High & Senior High D Groups                  | YH & Baird Center Gym |
| 7:10 p.m.      | Brass Ensemble Rehearsal                            | Sanctuary             |

## Thursday, September 12, 2024

|           |   |           |
|-----------|---|-----------|
| 9:30 a.m. | Women's Bible Study: Hebrews: Jesus Is Better | PH        |
| 9:30 a.m. | French Camp Quilters                          | Bookstore |

## Friday, September 13, 2024

|          |                        |    |
|----------|------------------------|----|
| 6-8 p.m. | Father Daughter Dinner | MH |
|----------|------------------------|----|

## Saturday, September 14, 2024

|           |                           |               |
|-----------|---------------------------|---------------|
| 7:30 a.m. | Men's Prayer Breakfast    | PH            |
| All Day   | Mississippi Book Festival | State Capital |

## Sunday, September 15, 2024

|                   |  |                                  |
|-------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. | Morning Worship  | Sanctuary                        |
| 9:45 a.m.         | Sunday School  | Various Locations                |
| 11 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 202A                          |
| 5:00 p.m.         | Prayer for Global Missions   | Parlor                           |
| 6:00 p.m.         | Evening Worship<br>(age four through third grade dismissed for children's classes) | Sanctuary                        |
| 7:30 p.m.         | Senior High Insight  | the Boyd Home (2693 Lake Circle) |
| 7:30 p.m.         | Young Adults Sunday Night Fellowship   | the Strain Home                  |

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY CIRCLES — MEETING THIS WEEK

A Circle is a group of women who meet monthly (September – May) for Bible study, prayer, fellowship, and to learn of opportunities for service and missions within our church. To register, contact Lisa Oswald at 769-333-5802 or [lisa@fpcjackson.org](mailto:lisa@fpcjackson.org). This year, we continue our study of the Book of Joshua which reminds us of God's promises beginning with Abraham and stretching forward to us today.

### *Monday, September 9*

|           |            |                       |
|-----------|------------|-----------------------|
| Circle 8  | 9:30 a.m.  | The Orchard           |
| Circle 2  | 10:00 a.m. | Home of Fair Hurst    |
| Circle 3  | 10:00 a.m. | Westminster Hall 204  |
| Circle 4  | 10:00 a.m. | Parlor                |
| Circle 5  | 10:00 a.m. | Home of Laura Husband |
| Circle 14 | 12:00 p.m. | Miller Hall           |
| Circle 6  | 6:30 p.m.  | Home of Beth Archer   |

### *Tuesday, September 10*

|           |            |                         |
|-----------|------------|-------------------------|
| Circle 7  | 10:00 a.m. | Home of Kathryn Cotten  |
| Circle 9  | 10:00 a.m. | Westminster Hall 204    |
| Circle 11 | 10:00 a.m. | Home of Frenchie Graham |
| Circle 12 | 10:30 a.m. | St. Catherine's         |

## MOMS BIBLE STUDY

We hope you'll join us for MOMS this fall! This year we will have two options: one meeting every Wednesday morning and one meeting two Tuesday nights each month. MOMS is a Bible study for expectant moms, those who hope to become moms, and those whose youngest child is in the sixth grade or below. This semester, led by church member Jane Wiggins, we will study the first eleven chapters of Genesis. A nursery and homeschool room is available, but space is limited. Register on the church website at [fpcj.ms/women](http://fpcj.ms/women). For more information, email [moms@fpcjackson.org](mailto:moms@fpcjackson.org) or [momsatnight@gmail.com](mailto:momsatnight@gmail.com).

## WOMEN'S THURSDAY BIBLE STUDIES

This year, we have two Thursday Bible study options. One will begin September 12 studying the Book of Hebrews. The other will begin on September 19 studying the stories of Ruth and Esther. A nursery is available by request at registration online at [fpcj.ms/women](http://fpcj.ms/women).

## ACORN FUND

It is the start of a new school year for First Presbyterian Day School, a ministry of our church! Please be in prayer for the 600 students who fill the halls of our building each school day, and as you are able, consider a gift to the FPDS Acorn Fund. The Acorn Fund is our school's new annual fund and another way you as a church member can support the ministry of the school. Gifts to the Acorn Fund benefit each and every student, as the school uses your gifts to recruit and retain the best teachers, provide academic excellence, and keep tuition competitive. Most importantly, a gift to the Acorn Fund is your opportunity to partner with FPDS as we grow our children from acorns of faith into "oaks of righteousness" (Isaiah 61:3). A gift to the Acorn Fund can be made at [fpds.org/give](http://fpds.org/give), through the church app by selecting "Acorn Fund," or by mailing a check made payable to First Presbyterian Day School—Acorn Fund to 1390 N. State Street, Jackson, MS 39202.

## SUPPORT GROUPS

If you are struggling with alcohol or other chemical dependence and would like to get together with people who share the same struggles, we have a small and very safe group that meets regularly for just that purpose. This discreet, weekly meeting is one of friendship, encouragement, biblical reflection, and prayer. For more information, please call or text 601-260-1636. Also, twice each month a group of those who have loved ones who struggle with addiction/alcoholism meet for a time of mutual encouragement and Christ-centered counsel. Anonymity is required. For more information concerning the place and time of these meetings, call or text 601-260-0388.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 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 [jollynm@fpcjackson.org](mailto:jollynm@fpcjackson.org).

**Deddy S** – Serving in Asia as a church planter.

**Johnathan Smith** – Johnathan serves with RUF as an intern at Belhaven University. email: [johnathan.smith@ruf.org](mailto:johnathan.smith@ruf.org)

**The Center for Pregnancy Choices** – Supported through Mission to Jackson under the guidance of the Benevolence Committee, the CPC offers alternatives to abortion for women experiencing crisis pregnancies, while declaring the good news about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, with an emphasis on abstinence education and presenting adoption as a loving option.

## SOUTH AFRICA TRIP REPORT — TONIGHT

Join us tonight during the evening worship service when we will hear a report from Stephen Kruger about the FPC mission trip to South Africa.

## DEVOTED: LEARNING TO LIVE FOR GOD’S GLORY

This year, our churchwide teaching theme calls us to devote our hearts to the only One who is worthy of our worship and praise, to the One who is before all things and in whom all things are held together. The Bible teaches us that we were created to glorify God. Every aspect of our lives, from the big moments to the mundane daily tasks, should be directed to the glory of our Creator and Lord. That is our life purpose! We are called to “take every thought captive to make it obedient to Christ” and pursue holiness in every endeavor. This is not a pursuit of perfect performance but a response to the grace we have been shown by the One who is truly holy. For more information, to watch the Devoted video, read Devoted prayers, and to get started with the Devoted reading list, visit [fpcj.ms/devoted](https://fpcj.ms/devoted).

## CAREGIVERS MINISTRY — SEPTEMBER 9

The Caregivers’ Support Group will meet Monday, September 9, in Westminster Hall 202B from 10:30 a.m.–12 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. If you have any questions, please contact Ken Fairly at 601-941-5004.

## TUESDAY MEN’S BREAKFAST SERIES — BEGINS SEPTEMBER 10

All FPC men are invited to join us this fall semester for our Tuesday Men’s Breakfast, September 10–October 22, at 6:30 a.m. Join us for a big breakfast and fellowship across age and stage, followed by a study of the Sermon on the Mount in conjunction with our churchwide teaching theme, Devoted: Learning to Live for God’s Glory, led by David Strain. Sign up online at [fpcj.ms/men](https://fpcj.ms/men) to pay for breakfast and buy breakfast for your guest!

## SMART GIVING WORKSHOP — OCTOBER 3

FPC is excited to host a Smart Giving Workshop in partnership with the PCA Foundation on October 3 from 5:30–7:30 p.m. with dinner provided. The PCA Foundation’s mission is to enable Christians to give more and more effectively to advance the Kingdom. FPC is hosting this seminar in order to equip members of our congregation with information on effective ways to support gospel-ministry, both in the long-term and the short-term.

At this workshop, an experienced gift strategist will provide an introduction to estate planning concepts and tools, and show participants how to maximize how much they can give for Kingdom impact by employing tax efficient giving strategies. Register at [fpcj.ms/events](https://fpcj.ms/events).

## SERVE DAY 2024 — SAVE THE DATE!

Save the date for the third annual FPC Serve Day: October 12. Mark your calendars now and plan to spend the day with your church family serving our community!