

# THE LORD'S DAY

The Fifth Day of January Two Thousand Twenty-Five  
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 5:13-18

<sup>13</sup> “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

<sup>14</sup> “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.  
<sup>15</sup> Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

<sup>17</sup> “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. <sup>18</sup> For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

The Prelude — “My Song Is Love Unknown” .....arr. Molly Ijames  
Nancy Bateman, Cello; Emily Williams, Violin; Rae Shannon, Piano

The Call to Worship — Psalm 145:-3,8-9, 21

The Hymn No. 76 — “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven” (Psalm 103)

The Invocation

The Doxology

O Father, you are sovereign!  
We see you dimly now,  
but soon before your triumph  
earth’s every knee shall bow.

The Prayer of Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

## SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Hymn No. 316 — “The Mighty God, the Lord” (Psalm 50:1-6)

The Scripture Reading — Matthew 6:16-18.....pew Bible page 811

The Pastoral Prayer

The Offering

The Offertory..... Kim Porter, Solo

## HEARING GOD’S WORD

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — Daniel 1.....pew Bible page 737

The Sermon — The Lord Reigns: The Way the World Works..... Dr. Strain

The Hymn No. 598 (stz. 1-2) — “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death, and hell’s Destruction, land me safe on Canaan’s side;  
Songs of praises, songs of praises,  
I will ever give to Thee, I will ever give to Thee.

The Postlude — “Because He Lives” .....Bill Gaither

## 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 Dr. David T. A. Strain**  
Senior Minister

**Mr. George W. Herndon**  
Students and Families Intern

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

**The Prelude** — “This Is My Father’s World” ..... Trad./arr. Rice  
Rebekah Lipscombe, Piano

**The Call to Worship** — Psalm 2

**The Hymn No. 347** — “The Church’s One Foundation”

**The Invocation**

**The Hymn** — “The Sands of Time Are Sinking” ..... hymn sheet

**The Greetings**

**The Evening Prayer**..... Dr. Ken Ball, Ruling Elder

**The Offering**

**The Offertory** — “He’s Always Been Faithful” ..... Groves  
Daniel Kim, Baritone; Rebekah Lipscombe, Piano

**The Hymn (stz. 1-3)** — “Come, Ye Sinners” ..... hymn sheet

**The Prayer of Illumination**

**The Scripture Reading** — Daniel 2..... pew Bible page 737

**The Sermon** — **The Lord Reigns: There Is a God in Heaven**.....Dr. Strain

**The Benediction**

**The Congregational Response**

Lo! Th’ incarnate God ascended,  
Pleads the merit of His blood;  
Venture on Him, venture wholly,  
Let no other trust intrude:  
None but Jesus, none but Jesus,  
Can do helpless sinners good.

**The Postlude**

# THE CHURCH OFFICERS

## THE SESSION

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

Hall Bailey	Steve Edwards	Wayne Husband	Steve Rosenblatt
Mark Baird	David Elkin	Rob Jones	John Lowe Smith
Kyle Ball	Parker Ellison	Harper Keeler	Bill Stone
Ken Ball	George Fair	Crane Kipp	Danny Story
Max Bowman	Spence Flatgard	Stephen Kruger	Tian Teh
Bud Bratley	Craig Flowers	George May	Tim Threadgill
Sharkey Burke	Marcy Forester	Doug McDaniel	Mike Tramel
Stuart Clarke	Dave Fulcher	John McVey	Barry Vickery
David Cleland	Matt Graves	Hu Meena	Alan Walters
Reid Cotten	Claude Harbarger	Jimmy Moore	Cal Wells
Jack Crawford	William Harper	John Neill	Marcus Wilson
Holt Crews	Sam Hensley	Phillip Parker	Mark Windham
Bob Cunningham	Zeb Henson	Bill Payne	
Ned Currie	Larry Houchins	Richard Ridgway	
Arthur Davis	Paul Hurst	Ben Roberson	

## Elders Emeriti

Buddy Bartling, Bo Bowen, David Bowling, John Buchanan, Don Cannada, Bill Cox, Jr., John Crawford, Doug Dale, Sr., Owen Elder, Bebo Elkin, Ken Fairly, Alan Futvoye, Dick Johnson, Rob Love, Buz Lowry, Robert Mims, Jim Moore, Doyle Moorhead, Lee Owen, Jojo Payne, Bill Penn, Tom Rice, Richard Russ, Mark Sorgenfrei, Marvin Stockett, Orrin Swayze, Jim Tohill, Noel Toler

## THE DIACONATE

Charles Barbour	Bailey Fair	Guy McClain	Cary Spence
Will Barbour	Paul Forster	Jason McNeel	Ernie Strahan
Walter Brand	Matt Glover	Read Meadows	Jeff Sumrall
Jay Brown	Henry Greaves	Sanford Moore	Stewart Swayze
Turner Brown	Bo Gregg	Doug Morgan	Ford Terry
Jesse Browning	William Griffin	Mike Myers	Bowen Thigpen
Brooks Buchanan	Anthony Hall	Nathan Oakley	Lee Thorne
Matthew Burrow	Ty Hardy	Rob Oates	Les Triplett
Beau Burrow	Michael Hogue	Lee Owen	Hugh Trussell
Glen Bush	Allen Holiman	Virgil Payne	Matthew Turnage
David Case	Josh Hollingsworth	Matt Peaster	Will Vise
Bill Crim	Harrison Hood	Jim Poole	Arthur Wadsworth
T Dale	Dallis Ketchum	Trey Porter	Alan J. Walters
Paul Davis	Rob Lake	Jim Prince	Lee J. Webb
Price Davis	Willem Lamar	Jonathan Randle	Coles Wilkins Jr
John Davis	Robert Leard	Weston Russ	Neil Witherow
Dave Dear III	Alston Ludwig	Bryan Rutledge	Walt Wofford
William Denney	David Luter	Ken Seawright	Chris Wyatt
Gary Dye	David Marchetti	Jeff Skelton	Chase Wynn
Auston Edwards	Harrison Matheny	Brian Smith	
Jamey Elkin	John McBride	Taylor Smith	

## Deacons Emeriti

John Allgood, Matt Ballew, Lewis Bell, Vic Blaylock, Barry Cannada, John Cox, Paul Cox, Bobby Dye, Larry Edwards, Robert Feild, Buddy Graham, Gary Herring, Jim House, Carey Johnston, Mike Manning, Robert Miller, Walter Newman, Lee Paris II, Cy Rosenblatt, William F. Sneed, Joe Uithoven, Joe Wilkins, Johnny Young

# 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).

**Jonas & Patricia Stava** – Jonas serves with MTW as a church planter in Stange, Norway.  
email: [pattielee@icloud.com](mailto:pattielee@icloud.com)

**Brock & Katie Larson** – Brock serves as a church planter in Fargo, ND.  
email: [brock@christcovenantfargo.org](mailto:brock@christcovenantfargo.org)

**Mustard Seed** – Supported through Mission to Jackson under the guidance of the Benevolence Committee, the Mustard Seed is a Christian organization seeking to meet the spiritual, physical, emotional, and intellectual needs of adults with developmental disabilities. website: <https://mustardseedms.org>

## IN MEMORIAM

Mrs. Barbara N. Kroeze — December 10, 2024

## FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Henry Williams by his wife, Ann.

## JANUARY INTENSIVE: THE LORD REIGNS

The Book of Daniel is filled with some of the most recognizable stories in the Bible. From the lion's den to the fiery furnace, these stories are imprinted on our minds at the earliest ages. But, in reading the text of Daniel, it quickly becomes clear that there are many parts of this prophetic book that are hard to understand. If we come to the text expecting to find the exciting adventures of our childhood Bible books, we may be surprised to find it full of strange imagery and complicated symbols. Still, Daniel was not written to confound, but to encourage God's suffering people. It is honest about the challenges of living for God in a hostile culture. And it shows us the Lord's faithfulness to His people, His sovereignty over history, and His grand design to bring salvation to the ends of the earth.

That's a message we all need to hear, which is why, for our upcoming January Intensive, David Strain will lead us through Daniel's twelve chapters on Sunday mornings, Sunday evenings, and Wednesday nights. Come and get a better grasp on this inspiring book. Better still, come and be comforted amidst a dark and chaotic world, and emboldened to stand firm in your faith as Daniel reminds you that “The Lord Reigns.”

### *Daniel ESV Scripture Journal*

Beginning today, we have copies of a Daniel Scripture Journal available for you to use throughout the January Intensive. Drop by the Welcome Center or Greeting Courtyard to pick up a copy for you and your family.

### *Children's Daniel Workbooks*

The Children's Ministry has prepared a weekly workbook for children, age 4-12. Pick up a copy of the week 1 workbook (which begins January 5) in the Welcome Center or Tree House.

## COMMUNION — NEXT WEEK

Communion will be observed in the morning worship services next week. 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.

## BAPTISM — JANUARY 19

The next baptism is scheduled for Sunday, January 19. Spaces are available for both services. To make a reservation, please contact Emily Eastman at [emilye@fpcjackson.org](mailto:emilye@fpcjackson.org).

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## FAMILIES COUNT

Our next Families Count class, held during the Midweek time slot, is scheduled to begin January 8, and will run for six weeks. **Known volunteer needs for the upcoming class include childcare from 7 p.m. until close to 8 p.m. for a one-year-old child.** It is possible that additional children will be signed up in the next few weeks as well. If you have an interest in loving on these families in this way, please contact Carol Anne Miconi at 601-506-5033 or [carolannem@fpcjackson.org](mailto:carolannem@fpcjackson.org).

## GRIEFSHARE MINISTRY — BEGINNING JANUARY 15

GriefShare is a ministry of support and encouragement for those grieving the death of a loved one. Using the Bible and the shared experience of others, participants will discover how to navigate the profound difficulties of bereavement. Our next 13-week GriefShare course will begin Wednesday, January 15, at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor. To register, please contact Emily Eastman at 601-326-9243 or [emilye@fpcjackson.org](mailto:emilye@fpcjackson.org).

## EXPERIENCE DANIEL: A FAMILY EVENT — JANUARY 26

Come and experience the book of Daniel with your family through interactive crafts and experiential learning on Sunday, January 26, 4:45-5:45 p.m., in the Tree House. This event is geared toward families with elementary-aged children, but all ages are welcome! There will be a few stations featuring different stories from the book of Daniel that will allow you to move at your own pace.

## JOIN FPC!

If you are interested in joining First Presbyterian Church, please note that the next date to join is January 26. New member forms can be found online at [fpcj.ms/membership](http://fpcj.ms/membership) or in the greeting courtyard outside the sanctuary. Forms are due by January 15. If you have any questions about the membership process at FPC, please email [ccare@fpcjackson.org](mailto:ccare@fpcjackson.org).

## MEMBERSHIP CLASS — FEBRUARY 5

The next offering of the Membership Class will begin February 5 and will meet on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. This 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.

## YOUNG ADULTS RETREAT — FEBRUARY 15-16

The Young Adults Retreat will be held February 15-16, at Twin Lakes Camp, with speaker, Austin Braasch, RUF Ole Miss. This event is a great time to get away for a night, spend time with others, and sit under the preached Word. Register online at [fpcj.ms/events](http://fpcj.ms/events).

## PERU MISSION TRIP — JUNE 2025

Join us June 20-28, 2025, for the Cajamarca trip. Drs. Danny Story and Craig Flowers will lead a team of 40. The cost per person is \$3,300. FPC pays 50% for church members on their first mission trip and 25% for past participants. Apply at [fpcj.ms/go](http://fpcj.ms/go).

## 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.

# FPC THIS WEEK

## Sunday, January 5, 2025

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship Services.....	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
5:00 p.m.	Prayer for Global Missions.....	Parlor
5:00 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer Group .....	WH 202A
6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship Service.....	Sanctuary

## Tuesday, January 7, 2025

9:30 a.m.	Sew & Sow .....	WH 302
9:30 a.m.	French Camp Quilters.....	Bookstore
10:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study .....	WH 305

## Wednesday, January 8, 2025

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.	January Intensive: The Lord Reigns.....	MH
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

## Saturday, January 11, 2025

7:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast .....	PH
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## Sunday, January 12, 2025

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship Services (Communion).....	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.	Prayer for Global Missions.....	Parlor
5:00 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer Group .....	WH 202A
6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship Service.....	Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Senior High Insight .....	the Russ Home (2337 Twin Lakes Cir.)

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

## STAND 2025 — FEBRUARY 7

### *Building up Mid-South Men in the Gospel*

Our annual conference for men in the mid-south takes place Friday, February 7.

This year we will face the challenge of *Courage and Compromise in the Book of Joshua*, led by our guest preacher Kevin DeYoung. Join us for a fellowship meal (5:30-6:30 p.m.), and then as we stand shoulder to shoulder in worship with brothers in Christ from across our region in a worship service (7-8:30 p.m.).