

The  
First  
Presbyterian  
Church  
of  
Jackson



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

# THE LORD'S DAY

The Twelfth 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. William E. Dempsey  
Minister of Congregational and Pastoral Care

## APPROACHING THE THRONE OF THE LORD

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 — “In the Cross of Christ I Glory” ..... Wilbur Held  
Rae Shannon, Organ

The Introit — “Worthy Is the Lamb” ..... G. F. Handel

The Call to Worship — Psalm 117

The Hymn No. 119 — “I Sing the Almighty Power of God”

The Prayer of Adoration and Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

The Doxology — “Gloria Patri” ..... tune: *Regent Square*  
Glory be to God the Father, and to Christ His only Son,  
Praise we too the Holy Spirit, binding all the church in one;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and evermore. Amen.

The Offering

**The Offertory — “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” ..... Gilbert Martin**

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them, to His blood.

See, from His Head, His Hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

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. Amen!

**HEARING THE WORD OF THE LORD**

**The Prayer of Illumination**

**The Scripture Reading — Daniel 4.....pew Bible page 740**

**The Sermon — The Lord Reigns: On the Felling of Tall Trees..... Dr. Strain**

**The Hymn No. 700 — “Come, We That Love the Lord”**

**COMMUNING AT THE TABLE OF THE LORD**

**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. 420 (stz. 1-2) — “At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”**

**The Benediction**

**The Congregational Response**

**Mighty victim from the sky, pow’rs of hell beneath Thee lie:  
Death is conquered in the fight, Thou hast brought us life and light:  
Hymns of glory and of praise, risen Lord, to Thee we raise;  
Holy Father, praise to Thee, with the Spirit, ever be.**

**The Postlude — “Crown Him with Many Crowns” .....Albin C. Whitworth**

# **EVENING WORSHIP**

**Six O’Clock**

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

**Mr. Jennings L. Duncan**  
Congregational Care Intern

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

**The Prelude** — “Spirit of the Living God/Breathe on Me Breath of God”  
Iverson / Jackson / arr. Lipscombe  
Rebekah Lipscombe, Piano

**The Call to Worship** — Psalm 134

**The Hymn** — “In God the Mighty Father” (Apostle’s Creed)..... hymn sheet

**The Invocation**

**The Hymn No. 2** — “O Worship the King”

**The Greetings**

**The Evening Prayer**..... Dr. Holt Crews, Ruling Elder

**The Offering**

**The Offertory** — “Like a River Glorious” ..... Mountain / arr. Rice  
Rebekah Lipscombe, Piano

**The Hymn (stz. 1-4)** — “Lo, He Comes” ..... hymn sheet

**The Prayer of Illumination**

**The Scripture Reading** — Daniel 5..... pew Bible page 742

**The Sermon** — **The Lord Reigns: See the Writing on the Wall**.....Dr. Strain

**The Benediction**

**The Congregational Response**

**Yea, amen! Let all adore Thee, high on Thine eternal throne;  
Savior, take the pow’r and glory, claim the kingdom for Thine own:  
O come quickly! O come quickly! Alleluia! Come, Lord, come.**

**The Postlude**

# 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, which it displays, is 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.

# FPC THIS WEEK

## 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.)

## Monday, January 13, 2025

Various	Circles Meet This Week.....	Various
10:30 a.m.	Caregivers Support Group .....	WH 202
5:30 p.m.	Diaconate Meeting.....	PH
6:30 p.m.	Session Meeting.....	MS

## Tuesday, January 14, 2025

Various	Circles Meet This Week.....	Various
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
6:45 p.m.	Internationals Class.....	PH

## Wednesday, January 15, 2025

5:00–6:00 p.m.	Midweek Dinner .....	MH
5:00 p.m.	Families Count .....	WH 202
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.	Sixth Grade Fellowship .....	SC 211
6:00 p.m.	Junior High D Groups.....	YH & Baird Center Gym
7:10 p.m.	Brass Ensemble Rehearsal .....	Sanctuary
7:15 p.m.	Senior High Girls Small Group...Mary Helen's (4016 Hawthorn Dr.)	

## Thursday, January 16, 2025

9:15 a.m.	Women's Bible Study — Hebrews: Jesus Is Better.....	PH
-----------	---	----

## Saturday, January 18, 2025

7:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast.....	PH
-----------	-----------------------------	----

## Sunday, January 19, 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

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 BBQ 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.). There is no charge for this event, but contributions towards our costs are very welcome. Register online at [fpcj.ms/stand-2025](http://fpcj.ms/stand-2025) to help us plan for the BBQ dinner.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MOMS BIBLE STUDY

Ladies, we hope you'll join us for MOMS this spring! We will continue to offer two options: one that meets every Wednesday morning and one for working mothers that meets every other Tuesday night. 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, MOMS at Night will continue a study of the first eleven chapters of the book of Genesis, led by Jane Wiggins. On Wednesday mornings, Anna Henson and Cassie Graves will teach us more about God's design for marriage as we seek to grow in devotion towards one another and towards God. We will study the Biblical foundation of marriage and look closely at topics such as communication, role, service, intimacy and purity. Nursery and a homeschool room for ages 12 and under are available, but space is limited. Registration is available on the church website or app. For more information, email [moms@fpcjackson.org](mailto:moms@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.

## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY EVENING PROGRAMS RESUME IN FEBRUARY

Parents, our Sunday evening programs for children will not meet during the month of January. This includes the Children's Devotional, Catechism Crew, and Covenant Kids. Nursery is available for children age three and younger. Our Sunday evening programs will resume in February.

## 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).

## 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](https://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](https://fpcj.ms/events).

## 2025 MISSION TRIPS

We have five trips planned this year including our annual trip to Peru, Honduras, Belgium, Scotland, and South Africa. For more information and to apply, visit [fpcj.ms/go](https://fpcj.ms/go).

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

**Jon & Tanya C** – Jon serves with MTW Europe as a church planter.

**Greg & Christie Salazar** – Greg serves as a church planter in Myers Park, North Carolina. Email: [gregsalazaris@gmail.com](mailto:gregsalazaris@gmail.com)

**Young Life of Jackson** – Supported through Mission to Jackson under the guidance of the Benevolence Committee, Young Life seeks to share the gospel, lead adolescents to Christ, and help them grow in their faith. Contact: Vince Gordon for inner-city, [vgordonyl@comcast.net](mailto:vgordonyl@comcast.net); Elizabeth Nenon for private school, [efnenon@gmail.com](mailto:efnenon@gmail.com)

## 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.

## JANUARY INTENSIVE: THE LORD REIGNS

Join us for our January Intensive as David Strain leads us through Daniel's twelve chapters on Sunday mornings, Sunday evenings, and Wednesday nights.

### *Daniel ESV Scripture Journal*

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 workbook in the Welcome Center or Tree House.

## FAMILIES COUNT

We are in need of volunteers to provide childcare from 7 p.m. until close to 8 p.m. for a one-year-old child on Wednesday nights. If you have an interest in loving on these families in this way, please contact Carol Anne Miconi at [carolannem@fpcjackson.org](mailto:carolannem@fpcjackson.org) or 601-506-5033.

## CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP — JANUARY 13

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 provides a safe and friendly forum to talk with others who understand the toils of caregiving for the cognitively impaired. Join us January 13 in Westminster Hall 202B from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. For more information, please contact Ken Fairly at 601-941-5004.

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY CIRCLES — MEET THIS WEEK

Joining a Circle is a wonderful way to get involved in the life of the church and make a big church feel like family. Circles are groups 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 Oswalt at 769-333-5802 or [lisao@fpcjackson.org](mailto:lisao@fpcjackson.org).

### *Monday, January 13*

Circle 2 10:00 Finney Moore's Home  
Circle 3 10:00 Westminster Hall 204  
Circle 4 10:00 Parlor  
Circle 5 10:00 Glynda Mosby's Home  
Circle 14 12:00 Miller Hall  
Circle 6 6:30 Beth Archer's Home

### *Tuesday, January 14*

Circle 7 10:00 Sidney Crews's Home  
Circle 9 10:00 Parlor  
Circle 11 10:00 Frenchie Graham's Home  
Circle 12 10:30 St. Catherine's