

The
First
Presbyterian
Church
of
Jackson



“To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever”

THE LORD'S DAY

The Second Day of March Two Thousand Twenty-Five
MORNING WORSHIP
Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'Clock

The Reverend Mr. Jason Helopoulos
Senior Pastor, University Reformed Church, Lansing, MI

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

APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

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

The Prelude — "Stand up and Bless the Lord" Charles Callahan
Rae Shannon, Organ

The Introit — "Who Is on the Lord's Side?"

The Call to Worship — Psalm 100

The Hymn No. 441 — "Jesus Shall Reign"

SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Prayer of Adoration and Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

The Doxology

**Glory be to God the Father, and to Christ His only Son;
Praise we too the Holy Spirit, binding all the church as one:
As it was in the beginning now and evermore shall be;
Glory, honor, praise and blessing all creation sings to Thee!**

The Missions Reports..... Mr. Alonzo Ramirez, Peru (8:30 a.m.)
Mr. Andrew Chesebro, Brighton, MI (8:30 a.m.)
Mr. John Blevins, Knoxville, TN (11:00 a.m.)
Mr. Paul M, Central Asia (11:00 a.m.)

The Missions Challenge.....Mr. Doug McDaniel
Missions Conference Planning Team Chairman

The Offering

The Offertory — "O Zion Haste"Craig Courtney

The Choir:

Look to the fields ripe with harvest. Yet at the laborers few.
Pray that the Lord of the harvest would send forth laborers.
How then shall they call on Him in Whom they have not believed?
And how shall they believe in Him of Whom they have not heard?
And how shall they hear without a preacher?
And how shall they preach, except they be sent?
How beautiful, how beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace,
of peace, and bring glad tidings of good news.

The Choir and Congregation:

**O Zion haste, thy mission high fulfilling, to tell to all the world that God is Light,
That He who made all nations is not willing one soul should perish
lost in shades of night.**

The Choir and Congregation:

Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace; tidings of Jesus, redemption and release.

Behold how many thousands still are lying bound in the darksome
prison house of sin,

With none to tell them of the Savior's dying, or of the life He died for them to win.
Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace; tidings of Jesus, redemption and release.

Proclaim to every people, tongue, and nation that God, in Whom they live
and move is Love;

Tell how He stooped to save His lost creation, and died on earth that man
might live above.

Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace; tidings of Jesus, redemption and release.

Give of thine own to bear the message glorious, give of thy wealth to speed
them on their way.

Pour out thy soul for them in prayer victorious, O Zion, haste to bring the
brighter day.

Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace; tidings of Jesus, redemption and release.

The Choir:

Go ye into all the world and preach good news.

The Hymn — "In Christ Alone"Getty/Townend

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song.

This Cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled,
when strivings cease,

My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe.

This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.

'Til on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied,

For every sin on Him was laid. Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain.

Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again.

And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me.

For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death: this is the pow'r of Christ in me.

From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.

No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His hand.

Till He returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

The Pastoral Prayer

HEARING GOD'S VOICE

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — Mark 1:16-19pew Bible page 836

The Sermon — Common for the UncommonMr. Helopoulos

The Hymn No. 642 (stzs. 1-4) — "Be Thou My Vision"

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

The Postlude — "Take My Life, and Let It Be"

FPC Brass Ensemble

DEVOTED SET APART TO PROCLAIM

GLOBAL MISSIONS CONFERENCE 2025

SUN
2
MAR

Guest Minister, Jason Helopoulos

Morning Worship - 8:30 and 11 a.m.
Evening Worship - 5 p.m.

Sunday School Reports from Guests

9:45 a.m. in the following locations

Gym

College
Light House
Lost & Found
Young Adults

Miller Hall

Covenant
Lamplighters
Life Learners
Pilgrims
Young Seekers

Lowe Hall

Cornerstone
Providence
Salt & Light
Stewards
First Ladies

Dinner on the Grounds

6 p.m. in the Baird Center Gym

As we look back on the past year in missions, we are filled with gratitude: We supported missionaries in familiar places and in some new places; commissioned and sent one of our own members, Abigail Conroy; participated yet again in the Crates for Ukraine program; called a minister, Nathan Stevenson, to be a church planter right here in Jackson. We had a year filled with short-term mission trips: sending 87 FPC participants to places all over the globe. On top of all of that, we set a significant \$1 million goal for missions giving and, by God's grace, we surpassed that goal!

Our 2025 giving goal seeks to build on last year's work. We are asking the Lord to bless us in our giving so that we surpass any yearly amount we have given as a church to missions before. This year's goal of \$1.2 million will allow us to maintain the support of all our current missionaries and build on the momentum we are seeing for our short-term trips as we seek to encourage even more members of our congregation to participate in sharing the gospel and supporting our ministry partners around the world.

May the Lord continue to bless First Presbyterian Church as we give generously, pray for the gospel to be proclaimed, and go ourselves to proclaim His excellencies. (1 Peter 2:9)



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EVENING WORSHIP

Five O’Clock

The Reverend Mr. Jason Helopoulos

Senior Pastor, University Reformed Church, Lansing, MI

The Reverend Dr. David T. A. Strain

Senior Minister

The Greetings and Announcements (4:55 p.m.)

The Prelude — “The Love of God/My Jesus, I Love Thee”

Lehman/Gordon/arr. Lipscombe

Rebekah Lipscombe, Piano

The Call to Worship — Psalm 150

The Missions Conference Hymn No. 585 — “Take My Life, and Let It Be”

The Invocation

The Hymn — “Christ Our Hope in Life and Death” hymn sheet

The Greetings

The Missionary ReportsMs. Adair Evans, Germany

Mr. Nate Stevenson, Jackson, MS

The Offering

The Offertory — “Is He Worthy”Peterson

Rebekah Lipscombe, Piano

***The Hymn (stzs. 1-3)** — “Facing a Task Unfinished” hymn sheet

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — 1 Chronicles 29:10-18 pew Bible page 357

The Sermon — Christian Gratitude Mr. Helopoulos

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

**O Father Who sustained them O Spirit Who inspired,
Saviour, whose love constrained them to toil with zeal untired,
From cowardice, defend us from lethargy awake!
Forth on Thine errands send us to labour for Thy sake.
We go to all the world with kingdom hope unfurled
No other name has pow’r to save but Jesus Christ the Lord.**

The Postlude

*Children ages four through third grade will be dismissed to a children’s missions activity and can be picked up after the service in room 133, just outside the sanctuary doors.

FPC THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 2, 2025

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship Services.....	Sanctuary
9:45 a.m.	Children's and Youth Sunday School.....	Regular Locations
9:45 a.m.	Adult Sunday School.....	See Guide
11:00 a.m.	Children's Churchtime (for age 3 and 4 by Sept. 1)	M135
4:00 p.m.	Student Choir Rehearsal.....	MS
5:00 p.m.	Evening Worship Service.....	Sanctuary
6:00 p.m.	Dinner on the Grounds.....	Baird Center Gym
7:30 p.m.	Senior High Insight ... the Fesko Home (108 Charlestowne Square)	

Tuesday, March 4, 2025

6:30 a.m.	Men's Breakfast Series	MH
9:30 a.m.	Crafts for Missions.....	WH 302
9:30 a.m.	French Camp Quilters.....	Bookstore
4:15-6:00 p.m.	Gateway Evening Chapel (Led by FPC)	Gateway
6:00 p.m.	MOMS at Night Bible Study.....	MH
6:45 p.m.	Internationals Class.....	PH

Wednesday, March 5, 2025

9:00 a.m.	MOMS Bible Study	MH
5:00-6:00 p.m.	Midweek Dinner	MH
5:00 p.m.	Brass Ensemble Rehearsal	Parlor
5:30 p.m.	Children's Playtime.....	Playground
5:50 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal.....	MS
6:00 p.m.	Midweek Programs for Adults	
	The Trinity: Scripture, Theology, and Life	PH
	College D Group: Dear Wormwood	WH 302
	D Groups.....	Various Locations
	Don't Waste Your Life: Take Risks For Christ	MH
	GriefShare	M 123
	Membership Class	WH 204
	Prayer Meeting and Bible Study.....	The Session Room
6:00 p.m.	Children's Choirs.....	MB 135, Tree House, Hutton Chapel
6:00 p.m.	Sixth Grade Fellowship	SC 211
6:00 p.m.	Junior High D Groups.....	YH & Baird Center Gym
7:15 p.m.	Senior High Girls Small Group... Mary Helen's (4016 Hawthorn Dr.)	

Thursday, March 6, 2025

9:15 a.m.	Women's Bible Study – Hebrews	PH
9:45 a.m.	Women's Bible Study – Esther.....	MH

Saturday, March 8, 2025

7:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast.....	WH 202
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Sunday, March 9, 2025

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship Services.....	Sanctuary
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School	Various
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 Meeting for Global Missions.....	Parlor
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

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAREPORTAL

The CarePortal is care-sharing technology that drives action for local kids and families in crisis. CarePortal is a program of Lifeline Children's Services, our partner in ministry. To be trained as a CarePortal responder, contact Carol Anne Miconi. For more info visit fpcj.ms/get-involved. We hope you'll consider joining us in this tangible effort to be good neighbors!

MEMBERSHIP CLASS — MARCH 9

The next offering of the Membership Class will begin March 9 in room M123 and will meet on Sunday mornings during the Sunday school hour. 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 distinctness 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. To register, please email ccare@fpcjackson.org.

JOIN FPC!

If you are interested in joining First Presbyterian Church, please note that the next date to join is April 6. New member forms can be found online at fpcj.ms/membership or in the greeting courtyard outside the sanctuary. Forms are due by March 26. If you have any questions about the membership process at FPC, please email ccare@fpcjackson.org.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP — MARCH 10

The Caregivers' Support Group will meet Monday, March 10, 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.

ENCOUNTER RETREAT— MARCH 28–30

Junior High Presbytery-Wide Retreat

Sixth through eighth grade students, join us at the Encounter Retreat at Twin Lakes Camp in Florence, MS. We will join other churches from the MS Valley Presbytery for a weekend full of Bible teaching, new and old friends, fellowship, and fun! Our speaker is Austin Lenox, former FPCYM intern with First Pres and assistant pastor at Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Memphis. We are thrilled to have him join us in teaching on Habits of Grace at Encounter this year! The cost is \$125, but sign up by the Early Bird Deadline March 6 and pay \$95. Register online at fpcj.ms/encounter-retreat.

FPC DIGITAL MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Did you know that FPC has a digital membership directory? This handy tool puts the contact information of our fellow church members right at our fingertips! All FPC members can access the FPC Digital Directory. If you have never logged in to the directory before, email Kristina Barnes at kristinab@fpcjackson.org to request a username and password. There are two ways to access the FPC Digital Directory: online at fpcjackson.shelbynextchms.com or through smartphone app. For more info visit fpcj.ms/membership-directory.

JOB OPENING AT TWIN LAKES

Twin Lakes is in search of a Maintenance Technician to manage both day-to-day repairs and make long-term plans to prevent maintenance problems. The technician will need to be able to do basic carpentry, electrical work, painting, HV/AC work, landscaping and other assigned tasks. If you are interested in applying or know someone who would be good for this position, please email Sam Edwards at same@fpcjackson.org.

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.

Fred & Sheila Reid – Fred serves in Japan with the college ministry along with church planting. email: fred.reid.alive.again.japan@gmail.com

Franky & Alaina Garcia – Franky serves with MNA in Gatineau, Quebec, Canada as a church planter. email: frank@gracegatineau.ca

Mission First – Supported through Mission to Jackson under the guidance of the Benevolence Committee, Mission First is an inner-city mission organization that seeks to meet the tangible needs of individuals as an avenue to engage their paramount spiritual needs. email: lthigpen@missionfirst.org

FLOWERS

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

JASON HELOPOULOS — MISSIONS CONFERENCE GUEST MINISTER

Jason was born in the “Land of Lincoln,” central Illinois. He graduated from Eastern Illinois University in 1999. Jason then attended Dallas Theological Seminary and completed a Masters of Theology degree (ThM) with a concentration in Historical Theology and Christian Education in 2003. He served on the staff of Park Cities Presbyterian Church as a pastoral intern for one year and then accepted a call as an Assistant Pastor at Meadowview Reformed Presbyterian Church (PCA) in Lexington, North Carolina. In the fall of 2007, Jason was called by Christ Church PCA in Grand Rapids, Michigan, to plant a daughter church in Lansing, Michigan. He accepted the call and moved to the field (and snow) as church planter and pastored Providence PCA in East Lansing until 2012. In the summer of 2012, Jason accepted the call as Assistant Pastor of University Reformed Church in East Lansing, Michigan and accepted the call to Senior Pastor in the spring of 2018.

Jason is married to his beautiful bride, Leah. They are blessed with two wonderful children, Gracen and Ethan. He enjoys spending time with his family, history, reading, laughing, watching a good Chicago Bears’ game (as rare as they are), and feasting upon Chicago-style pizza.

GATEWAY EVENING CHAPEL — MARCH 4

FPC will lead Gateway’s evening chapel service on Tuesday, March 4. Any and all are invited to join us in celebrating our King with men in Gateway’s New Life program! Please come at 4:15 p.m. if you’d like to help serve the meal. Chapel will begin at 5:15 p.m. and will include a message by Owen Hallbach and singing with all being finished by 6 p.m. or before.

FPC INTERNATIONALS MINISTRY — VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our Internationals Class, where we love on our international neighbors by helping them with their English in a gospel-centered way, is offered in Patterson Hall on Tuesday nights at 6:45 p.m. and is in need of volunteers, especially men, to visit either in person or via zoom. There are also opportunities for teenagers to help with childcare in the gym, playing games with the children of participants. For more information, please contact Steve Edwards at 601-668-7422 or Owen Hallbach at owenh@fpcjackson.org.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT! LOCAL MISSIONS SURVEY

There are few things more encouraging than seeing our church members responding to the means of grace they receive every week at FPC with their own ministry work! In an effort to grow individual participation with our MTJ ministries and assist our members in their own organic ministry and evangelism outside of those organizations, we need your help! Please fill out the survey attached to help us strategically plan how we can most effectively grow participation from our whole church. Access the survey online at fpcj.ms/outreach-survey.

