

The
First
Presbyterian
Church
of
Jackson



“To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever”

THE LORD'S DAY

The Sixteenth Day of March 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

ADORING THE COVENANT LORD

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

The Prelude — “Ah, Holy Jesus” Helmut Walcha
Rae Shannon, Organ

The Introit — “How Great Thou Art”

The Call to Worship — Psalm 29:1-2

The Hymn No. 115 (stz. 1, 4, and 5) — “All Creatures of Our God and King”

The Prayer of Adoration and Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

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.

RECEIVING THE COVENANT SIGN

The Sacrament of Baptism

The Words of Institution
The Introduction of the Covenant Children and Their Families
The Biblical Promise
The Questions to the Parents and Congregation
The Prayer of Consecration
The Baptism
The Baptismal Benediction

The Hymn No. 461 (stz. 1 and 5) — “Not What My Hands Have Done”

The Offering

The Offertory — “I Am Not My Own” Boersma/Courtney
Kathryn Edwards, Piano

I am not my own, I am not my own,
Not in body, not in soul, in life, nor even death.
I am not my own, I am not my own.
I belong unto my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.
I am not my own.

I am not my own, I am not my own,
Not in body, not in soul, in life, nor even death.
I am not my own, I am not my own.
His own blood has ransomed me, from evil set me free.
I am not my own.

For my salvation all things work together, in eternal life He gives me hope.
By the power of His Holy Spirit, I will live for Him.

I am not my own, I am not my own,
I belong unto my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.
I belong to Him, I belong to Him, in life, in death, my only comfort,
I belong to Him, I will live for Him.
Forever and ever, forever and ever, forever more.

HEARING THE COVENANT WORD

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — Leviticus 17:1–16pew Bible page 96

The Sermon — **Devoted to God: Holy Worship** Dr. Strain

The Hymn No. 12 (stz. 1–2)— “Exalt the Lord, His Praise Proclaim”
(Psalm 135:1–7, 21)

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

**Exalt the Lord, His praise proclaim; all ye His servants, praise His name,
who in the Lord’s house ever stand and humbly serve at His command.
Forever praise and bless His name, and in the church His praise proclaim;
in Zion is His dwelling place; praise ye the Lord, show forth His grace.**

The Postlude — “Allegro in A Minor” Johann Gottfried Vierling

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. J. Peyton Gunter — College Intern

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

The Prelude — “I Am Thine, O Lord” Doane/arr. Rouse
Rebekah Lipscombe, Piano

The Call to Worship — Psalm 20:6, 7

The Hymn No. 1 — “All People That on Earth Do Dwell” (Psalm 100)

The Invocation

The Hymn — “Song of Zechariah” hymn sheet

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father, Almighty,
Maker of Heaven and Earth:
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he arose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Greetings

The Evening Prayer..... Mr. Steve Edwards, Ruling Elder

The Offering

The Offertory — “The Spacious Firmament on High” ...Addison/arr. Cooper
The FPC Student Choir; Reed Hairston, Director; Rebekah Lipscombe, Piano

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

Q55. What must you do to be saved? A. **I must repent of my sins, believe in Christ, and live a new life.**

Q56. How do you repent of your sins? A. **By being sorry enough for my sin, to hate and forsake it.**

* The Meditation & Prayer ... The Reverend Mr. Scott Miller, Minister of Young Adults

The Hymn (stzs. 1-2) — “We Will Feast” hymn sheet

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — 1 John 2:18-29..... pew Bible page 1021

The Sermon — Truth and Love: Staying Power Mr. Lowry

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

Ev’ry vow we’ve broken and betrayed; You are the faithful one.
And from the garden to the grave, bind us together, bring shalom.
We will feast in the house of Zion; we will sing with our hearts restored.
“He has done great things,” we will say together. We will feast and weep no more!

The Postlude

*Children ages 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.

THE VOWS OF BAPTISM

In order for the congregation to participate in the sacrament of baptism and to refresh our own commitment to these vows, they are included below:

TO THE PARENTS

1. Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you claim God's covenant promises on (his) behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for (his) salvation, as you do for your own?
3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before (him) a godly example, that you will pray with and for (him), that you will teach (him) the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring (him) up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

TO THE CONGREGATION

Do you, as a congregation, undertake the responsibility of assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM WILL BE ADMINISTERED TO

John Westbrook Abraham Jr.
son of Caroline and John
Abraham

Lilly Virginia Ohnstad
daughter of Rose and Sander
Ohnstad

Archie Alanson Biggs
son of Laura Katherine and
Stephen Alanson Biggs

Joel Daniel Slattery
son of Marjory and Samuel
Slattery

Henry Holman Burkhalter
son of Britt and Byron
Burkhalter

Scottie Ames Thigpen
son of Kailey and Bowen
Thigpen

Beau Ballard Kirk
son of Alex and John-Sharp Kirk

John Knox Wright
son of Courtney and Tommy
Wright

Oliver James Meher
son of Cassie and James Meher

Willa Buatt Wright
daughter of Courtney and
Tommy Wright

Anne Hendrix Newman
daughter of Laura and Zach
Newman

The next baptism date is May 18, 2025.
Spaces are available for both the 8:30 and 11 a.m. services.
Please email emilye@fpcjackson.org to reserve a place.

FPC THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 16, 2025

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship Services	Sanctuary
9:45 a.m.	Membership Class	M123
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
7:30 p.m.	Senior High Insight	the Strain Home (7 Pond Side Dr.)

Monday, March 17, 2025

Circles Meet This Week..... See Announcements

Tuesday, March 18, 2025

	Circles Meet This Week	See Announcements
6:30 a.m.	Men's Breakfast Series	MH
9:30 a.m.	French Camp Quilters	Bookstore
10:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study	WH 305
12:00 p.m.	Weekday Prayer	PH
6:00 p.m.	MOMS at Night Bible Study	MH
6:45 p.m.	Internationals Class	PH

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

9:00 a.m.	MOMS Bible Study	MH
5:00–6:00 p.m.	Midweek Dinner	MH
5:30 p.m.	Brass Ensemble Rehearsal	Parlor
5:30 p.m.	Children's Playtime	Playground
5:45 p.m.	Don't Waste Your Life: Take Risks For Christ	Methodist Rehab
5:50 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal	MS
6:00 p.m.	Programs for Adults	
	The Trinity: Scripture, Theology, and Life	PH
	College D Group: Dear Wormwood	WH 302
	D Groups	Various Locations
	Membership Class	WH 204
	Prayer Meeting and Bible Study	The Session Room
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

Thursday, March 20, 2025

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

Saturday, March 22, 2025

7:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast	WH 202
8:00 a.m.	Race Twin Lakes (7 a.m. registration / 8 a.m. race)	Twin Lakes

Sunday, March 23, 2025

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship Services	Sanctuary
9:45 a.m.	Membership Class	M123
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
7:30 p.m.	Senior High Insight	the Jordan Home (9 Pond Side Drive)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEN'S MINISTRY GOLF TOURNAMENT — APRIL 3

It's time to register as an individual or as a foursome and plan to join us for this fun, annual event at Lake Caroline Golf Club on April 3. Prices are listed on the registration form, including lunch which is available at 11:30 a.m. There will be a shotgun start at 1 p.m. and you don't want to miss it! Register at fpcj.ms/golf, and we'll see you on the green!

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.

JOIN OUR TEAM — WE'RE HIRING

Women's Ministry Director

The Director of Women's Ministry is to support our church's mission by teaching, mentoring, training, and equipping women, and so promoting a ministry that trusts God's Word to do the work of converting and growing disciples of Jesus. Find out more and apply at fpcj.ms/employment.

Twin Lakes Maintenance Technician

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.

FPDS Early Childhood Director

First Presbyterian Day School is seeking a dedicated and passionate Early Childhood Director to lead our Early Childhood Development program, serving children from birth to 36 months. If you or someone you know is interested in this leadership opportunity at FPDS, visit fpds.org/employment and follow the link under "Additional Open Positions" to apply.

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.shelbnextchms.com or through smartphone app. For more info visit fpcj.ms/membership-directory.

FPC INTERNATIONALS MINISTRY — VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our Internationals Class, where we serve 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.

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, 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.

Andy & Cara Ritson – Andy serves with the IPC UK presbytery as a church planter at Eden Church Carlisle in England. email: andy@edenchurch.org.uk

Lowell & Mae Ivey – Lowell serves with Metanoia Prison Ministries as the Executive Director. email: lively@pcanet.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: mustardseedms.org

FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary are from the wedding of Aly Davis and Thomas Clement and are given in loving honor of Miriam Parsons, grandmother of the groom.

WEEKDAY PRAYER — BEGINNING MARCH 18

Spurgeon said that the prayer meeting is the engine room of the church. Please join us to intercede for the needs of the church and our community at a new weekly prayer meeting each Tuesday at noon in Patterson Hall. The meeting will be informal, will last 45 minutes, and will focus solely on prayer. Feel free to bring your lunch and join us for all, or only a part, as your schedule allows.

WOMEN’S MINISTRY CIRCLES — MEETING 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 serve our church together. To register, contact Lisa Oswalt at 769-333-5802 or lisao@fpcjackson.org.

Monday, March 17

Tuesday, March 18

Circle 5 10:00 Mary Jane Finney’s Home
Circle 14 12:00 Miller Hall
Circle 6 6:30 Beth Archer’s Home

Circle 7 10:00 Blair Hederman’s Home
Circle 11 10:00 Frenchie Graham’s Home

RACE TWIN LAKES — MARCH 22

Join Us for a Fun-Filled Morning at Twin Lakes!

Get ready to move, have fun, and enjoy the great outdoors! We’re inviting you to our 5K Run/Walk and 1-Mile Fun Run at Twin Lakes Camp & Conference Center on March 22. Whether you’re a runner, walker, or just looking for a leisurely stroll, there’s something for everyone! Register online at fpcj.ms/race-twin-lakes.

WOMEN’S DINNER — MARCH 25

Women, join us for our spring Women’s Ministry Dinner. We will gather on March 25, 6-8 p.m., in Miller Hall. We are happy to have our friend Derek Thomas speaking on the subject of Pilgrim’s Progress. Sign up online at fpcj.ms/spring-dinner to help us plan.

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 week-end 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. Register online at fpcj.ms/encounter-retreat.