

The
First
Presbyterian
Church
of
Jackson



"To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever"

THE LORD'S DAY

The Twenty-Seventh Day of April, Two Thousand Twenty-Five
MORNING WORSHIP
Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'Clock

The Reverend Mr. Nathan Stevenson
Church Planter, Old Canton Mission Church

The Reverend Mr. James C. Peipon
Minister of Missions

DRAWING NEAR TO GOD

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

The Scripture Memory Passage — Matthew 6:25–34

²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸ And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³² For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. ³⁴ Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”

The Prelude — “Andante in G Minor” G.F. Handel
Nancy Bateman, Cello; Emily Williams, Violin; Rae Shannon, Piano

The Introit — “Rise Up! Arise” Mendelssohn/Wymond

The Call to Worship

The Hymn No. 164 — “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

The Prayer of Adoration and Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

The Doxology — “Gloria Patri” Tune: *Greatorex*
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.

WELCOMING THE PEOPLE OF GOD

The Public Profession of Faith

The Biblical Basis
The Introduction of New Members
The Questions of Membership
The Prayer
The Declaration
The Blessing

The Offering

The Offertory — “O Love That Will Not Let Me Go” Ralph Manuel
with Kathryn Edwards, Piano

O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give Thee back the life I owe,
that in Thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be...

O Light that foll’west all my way,
I yield my flick’ring torch to Thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
that in Thy sunshine’s glow its day may brighter, fairer be...

O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to Thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
and feel the promise is not vain that morn shall tearless be...

O Cross, that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to hide from Thee;
I lay in dust life’s glory dead,
and from the ground there blossoms red Life that shall endless be...
O Love.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — 1 Peter 1:1-12..... pew Bible page 1014

The Sermon — Born Again to a Living Hope!..... Mr. Stevenson

The Hymn No. 253 (stz. 1-4)— “There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood”

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

**Dear dying Lamb, Your precious blood shall never lose its pow’r,
Till all the ransomed church of God be saved to sin no more:
Be saved to sin no more, be saved to sin no more;
Till all the ransomed church of God be saved to sin no more.**

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 Mr. Wiley P. Lowry III
Minister of Teaching and Pastoral Care

Mr. William Grant Carter
Students and Families Intern

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

The Prelude — “It Is Well with My Soul”

Third – Fifth Grade Children’s Choir
Margaret Wadsworth, Director; Kathryn Edwards, Piano

The Call to Worship — Isaiah 40:28–31

The Hymn — “Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder”hymn sheet

The Invocation

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

The Greetings

The Evening Prayer..... Mr. Alan Walters, Ruling Elder

The Offering

The Offertory — “When I Turn My Heart to Heaven”

Third – Fifth Grade Children’s Choir

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

Q71. How is Christ your priest? **A. Christ died for my sins, and continues to pray for me.**

Q74. Why do you need Christ as your priest? **A. Because I am guilty of breaking God’s law.**

* The Meditation & Prayer Mr. Jamie Peipon, Minister of Missions

The Hymn (stz. 1–2) — “A Debtor to Mercy Alone”hymn sheet

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — 1 John 5:13–21..... pew Bible page 1023

The Sermon — **Truth and Love: Life and Death**.....Mr. Lowry

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

**My name from the palms of Your hands eternity will not erase,
Impressed on Your heart it remains in marks of indelible grace.
Yes, I to the end will endure, until I bow down at Your throne,
Forever and always secure, a debtor to mercy alone.**

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 INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

This week we have the happy occasion to receive new members into our church family during the morning worship service.

QUESTIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

1. Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure and without hope, save in His sovereign mercy?
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?
3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ?
4. Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
5. Do you submit yourselves to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

NEW MEMBERS

The following new members were welcomed into our fellowship on April 6, and are being presented to the congregation during the morning worship services today. Please welcome them warmly.

Reid Bain	Penn and Meg Kennedy
*Porter Banchemo	*Ava Lenoir Lamar
Jessie Barkhouse	*Norah Leggett
Madison Beam	Matthew Locke
John Madison and Adair Brooks	*David Mann
Haddon Byrd	*Mary Genevieve Miconi
Mike and Becky Cain	Anna Leigh Montgomery
Dalton Clevenger	*Lucy Oates
Kelly and Wood Dale (Whit)	*Reeve Payne
Oleksandr and Iryna Dubonosov	Stuart and Ashley Reese (Ruby and Forest)
Emmanuel Emenike	*Ric Rutledge
Michael Emmanuel	*Grayson Saxon
Molly Forsberg	*Anna Grace Smith
Nan Fullilove	*Patrick Tabor
Meredith Gifford	*Lena Thompson
*Jane Hester	*Neil Witherow
*Kate Houston	*Anny Yerger
*Evelyn Hunt-Taylor	*Tyler Young
*Jane Marie Johnston	

*Covenant child joining as a communing member
() Covenant child joining as a non-communing member

JOIN FPC!

If you are interested in joining First Presbyterian Church, please note that the next date to join is May 18. New member forms can be found online at fpcj.ms/membership or in the greeting courtyard outside the sanctuary. Forms are due by May 7. If you have any questions about the membership process at FPC, please email ccare@fpcjackson.org.

Throughout 2025, we hope these Giving Updates highlight for you the church's finances and needs in three areas: FPC Ministry, Missions, and Debt Service.

FPC MINISTRY

First and foremost, FPC Ministry: your faithful, regular giving to FPC drives all the ministry you see around you. The preaching and teaching of God's Word; the pastoral care, shepherding, and discipling of our congregation and our larger community; numerous disciple-making ministry programs and departments; the good stewardship of the building where we worship—and countless other ways. Below, you will find giving towards FPC and its expenses through March 2025.

FPC Ministry Year to Date through March 2025

Budgeted Expenses	\$ 2,415,490
Actual Expenses	\$ 2,262,854
Giving	\$ 1,610,786
Net Giving Over (under) Actual Expenses	(\$ 652,068)

FPC MISSIONS

Second, missions: your gifts to missions drive our support of global and national missions. This year's missions giving goal is \$1.2 million. With these separate gifts to Missions, FPC is able to directly support over 60 missionaries worldwide, 20 church plants across North America, and 15 RUF campus ministries. Below, you will find giving towards missions as well as missions spending through March 2025.

Missions Year to Date through March 2025

Expenses (Missionary support)	\$ 279,902
Giving	\$ 277,346
Net Giving Over (under) Actual Expenses	(\$ 2,556)

DEBT SERVICE

Third, FPC Debt Service: between 2020 and 2023, FPC advanced several important ministry projects by borrowing money for which we are currently serving debt. Those projects include the Jim Baird Center gym and auditorium, the FPC Welcome Center, space reorganization for both the church and FPDS, and capital needs of Twin Lakes Camp and Conference Center. The total cost of all of these projects was \$8.7M toward which you have already given \$3.6M! As of this update, the remaining balance of that loan is \$4,949,900. Though FPC budgets for minimum required payments from your regular FPC Ministry giving, if only the minimum payments are made, the remaining \$3.6M will be due or need to be refinanced when this loan matures in 2030. Any extra gifts made especially to FPC Debt Service will help us pay down this debt faster and allow us to freely pursue more ministry in the future.

FPC THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 27, 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 (age 4 through 3rd grade dismissed for Children's Classes)
7:30 p.m.	Senior High Insight	the Bateman Home (3939 Oakridge Drive)

Tuesday, April 29, 2025

9:30 a.m.	French Camp Quilters.....	Bookstore
9:30 a.m.	Sew & Sow	WH 302
12:00 p.m.	Weekday Prayer	PH
6:45 p.m.	Internationals Class	PH

Wednesday, April 30, 2025

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
5:45 p.m.	Evangelism Training.....	Contact dlbowling@bellsouth.net
5:50 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal.....	MS
6:00 p.m.	Programs for Adults	
	Law School: Dusty Case Law for Devoted Christians.....	PH
	College D Group: Dear Wormwood	WH 302
	D Groups.....	Various Locations
	Go? Exploring the Call to Missions.....	WH 202
	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

Saturday, May 3, 2025

7:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast	PH
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Sunday, May 4, 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
2:00 p.m.	Twin Lakes Gates Open	Twin Lakes
5:00 p.m.	Evening Worship Service	Twin Lakes
6:00 p.m.	Dinner	Twin Lakes
7:30 p.m.	Senior High Insight	the Forster Home (4616 E. Cheryl Dr.)

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

EVENING WORSHIP AT TWIN LAKES — MAY 4

On May 4 our evening worship service will be held at Twin Lakes. The casual service will begin at 5 p.m., but we encourage you to come early for a time of fellowship before the service. The gates will open at 2 p.m. so that you can enjoy the grounds! Boxed dinners will be available following the worship service. Dress comfortably and come to enjoy a service surrounded by the beauty of God's creation. If you prefer not to drive to Twin Lakes, we would love to provide a ride for you. Register online at fpcj.ms/events for dinner and to request a ride. With questions, contact Emily Eastman at 769-572-3535 or emilye@fpcjackson.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MR. NATHAN STEVENSON — GUEST MINISTER

Nathan Stevenson is the church planter for the Old Canton corridor church. At 24, in March 1994, Nathan was called to the ministry, and his service in the church has been marked by a diverse range of outreach and evangelistic efforts, including leading the weekly Elderly Convalescent Home Bible Study, serving as a Chaplain at the Raymond Detention Center in Raymond, MS, as Chaplain of Piney Woods School of Life in Piney Woods, MS, and as a lead pastor. Nathan graduated from RTS Jackson with a MDiv in 2023 and transferred his license and ordination into the Mississippi Valley Presbytery. Nathan and his wife, Adrienne, have been married for 18 years and have two sons: Jaquan, 27, and Steven, 23.

IN MEMORIAM

Mrs. Margie Buchanan — April 13, 2025

FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are from the wedding of Caroline Swayze and Luke Whitaker and are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jo Lynn Swayze, grandmother of the bride; Alan Swayze, uncle of the bride; and Barbara Enterkin and Thomas and Joy Whitaker, grandparents of the groom.

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS SINGING — TONIGHT

The Third-Fifth Grade Children's Choir will sing in the Evening Worship Service tonight. Parents, please have your child in the sanctuary no later than 5:20 p.m. in Sunday morning attire. With questions contact Kimberly Sumrall at 601-937-4111. Our children's choirs are a part of our Midweek programming during the school year, and we would love to have your child join us next fall!

SIXTH GRADE WELCOME TO FPCYM — MAY 1

Our Student Ministry will host a game of kickball (and pizza!) at the Jordan Home on May 1, 5:30–6:30 p.m. Come play and meet our staff! We're also excited to have sixth grade join us in the Youth House for Sunday School on May 4, and at Midweek on Wednesday, May 7.

BAPTISM — MAY 18

The next baptism is scheduled for Sunday, May 18. Spaces are available for both services. To make a reservation, please contact Emily Eastman at emilye@fpcjackson.org.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL — JUNE 2–6

Registration is open for VBS online at fpcj.ms/vbs. At VBS 2025, we are READY TO RUN! Our theme this year builds on the life of Paul as we learn how to faithfully run with endurance and look to Jesus!

PRAY FOR SUPPORTED MINISTRY PARTNERS

For detailed prayer requests and contact information for our supported ministries and ministry partners, please contact Jo Lynn at jollynm@fpcjackson.org.

Joel & Katya Spence – Joel serves as a pastor and helps with humanitarian aid for Ukrainians with MTW. Email: joel.g.spence@gmail.com

Olivia Bedenbaugh – Olivia serves with RUF as campus staff at Belhaven University. Email: olivia.bedenbaugh@ruf.org

Jackson Leadership Foundation – Supported through Mission to Jackson under the guidance of the Benevolence Committee, JLF is a Christ-centered ministry seeking spiritual, social, and economic transformation in Jackson's under-resourced communities through the empowerment of leaders, development of ministries, and networking of volunteers and donors.