

The  
First  
Presbyterian  
Church  
of  
Jackson



*"To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever"*

# THE LORD'S DAY

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

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

Mr. David L. Felker  
Executive Minister

## APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

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

The Scripture Memory Passage — Matthew 7:24-29

<sup>24</sup> “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. <sup>25</sup> And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. <sup>26</sup> And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. <sup>27</sup> And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.” <sup>28</sup> And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at His teaching, <sup>29</sup> for He was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.

The Prelude — “Amazing Grace” ..... arr. Duane Funderburk  
Emily Williams, Violin

The Introit — “We Come, O Christ to You”

The Call to Worship — Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!  
**Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into His presence with singing!**  
Know that the LORD, He is God!  
**It is He who made us, and we are His;  
we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.**  
Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise!  
**Give thanks to Him; Bless His name.**  
For the LORD is good; His steadfast love endures forever,  
**And His faithfulness to all generations.**

The Hymn No. 16 — “Come, Let Us Sing unto the Lord” (Psalm 98)

The Invocation

The Doxology — “Gloria Patri” ..... tune: *Austria*

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 Prayer of Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

## SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Hymn No. 53 — “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” (Psalm 103)

The Scripture Reading — Ruth 1:1-22.....pew Bible page 222

The Pastoral Prayer

The Offering

The Offertory — “My Shepherd Will Supply My Need” ..... Mack Wilberg

Daniel Kim, Director

My Shepherd will supply my need: Jehovah is His Name:  
In pastures fresh He makes me feed, beside the living stream,  
He brings my wandering spirit back, when I forsake His ways,  
And leads me for His mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death, Thy presence is my stay,  
One word of Thy supporting breath drives all my fears away.  
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread;  
My cup with blessings overflows, Thine oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;  
O may Thy house be mine abode and all my work be praise!  
There would I find a settled rest while others go and come,  
No more a stranger, nor a guest; but like a child at home.

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — Matthew 6:9-13.....pew Bible page 811

The Sermon — Teach us to Pray: Lead Us Not into Temptation ..... Dr. Strain

The Hymn No. 629 (stz. 1-2) — What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

**Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge — take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.**

The Postlude — “The Old Hundredth” ..... Denis Bedard

## 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. Charles M. Wingard**  
Minister of Shepherding

**The Reverend Mr. Stephen A. Biggs**  
Minister of Students and Families

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

The Prelude — “Deep River” ... Nancy Bateman, Cello; Rebekah Lipscombe, Piano

The Call to Worship

The Hymn No. 469 — “How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place”

The Invocation

The Hymn — “From Depths of Woe” (Psalm 130).....hymn sheet

The Greetings

The Evening Prayer..... Dr. John McVey, Ruling Elder

The Offering

The Offertory — “O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus”

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

Q99. What is the seventh commandment? **A. The seventh commandment is “You shall not commit adultery.”**

Q100. What does the seventh commandment teach you? **A. To be pure in heart, language, and conduct, and to be faithful in marriage.**

\* The Meditation & Prayer ..... Mr. Tim Tumutod, IT/AV Intern

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

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — Psalm 88 .....pew Bible page 494

The Sermon — Summer in the Psalms: Forsaken?..... Dr. Wingard

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.

We hope our 2025 quarterly giving updates highlight for you the church's finances and needs in three areas: FPC Ministry, Missions, and Debt Service.

## 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. FPC's planned ministry expenses (or our "budget") for 2025 is \$9.5 million. Below you will find giving toward FPC in support of those planned ministry expenses through June 2025.

### FPC Ministry Year to Date through June 2025

<b>Budgeted Expenses</b>	\$ 4,715,516
<b>Actual Expenses</b>	\$ 4,474,496
<b>Giving</b>	\$ 3,221,575
<b>Net Giving Over (Under) Actual Expenses</b>	(\$ 1,252,921)
<b>2025 Giving Goal / Planned Ministry Expenses</b>	\$ 9.5 Million

## FPC 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 June 2025.

### Missions Year to Date through April 2025

<b>Expenses (Missionary support)</b>	\$ 512,665
<b>Giving</b>	\$ 508,089
<b>Net Giving Over (under) Actual Expenses</b>	(\$ 4,576)
<b>2025 Missions-Giving Goal</b>	\$1.2 Million

## 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.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Betsy Rosenblatt by her husband, Steve, their daughters, and their families.

## IN MEMORIAM

Mr. Tom Rice, III — July 17, 2025

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY GAME NIGHT — JULY 28

We had so much fun at our first Women's Ministry Game Night, we're doing it again! Join us on July 28 in Miller Hall at 6-8 p.m. We will have teachers on hand ready to help anyone who needs it. We will have light refreshments. Register online at [fpcj.ms/events](https://fpcj.ms/events).

## INSTALLATION SERVICE FOR DAVID IRVING — AUGUST 3

Please join us on the evening of Sunday, August 3, as we host the Presbytery of the Mississippi Valley for the installation service of the Reverend Dr. David Irving as the new President of Reformed Theological Seminary – Jackson. Following the service, there will be a reception for the Irvings in Miller Hall, to which all are invited.

## MIDWEEK KICKOFF — AUGUST 13

Join us as we celebrate the start of another year of Midweek discipleship and activities for all ages! We've invited Slugs & Bugs, a musical group that was created to bring families together around scripture, faith, and fun. We'll also include our past favorites: a homemade ice cream contest, games and activities, grilled hot dogs, and a Ministers vs. Interns tug of war! Whether you're new to First Pres, or a Midweek regular, we encourage you to come by and join the fun as you find out more about Wednesday nights this fall.

## THEME OPENING SESSION — AUGUST 17

Each year all our teaching and programs center around one theme in an effort to build unity of purpose in our large church and every department of our ministry. The theme is the central message and focus for the various ages and stages of our church, and we have been excitedly preparing to launch the 2025-2026 churchwide teaching theme!

Make plans to join us Sunday, August 17, for the Opening Session of our new churchwide teaching theme! During the Sunday School hour, join us in Miller Hall for a breakfast fellowship time. We'll watch a video presentation on the theme, listen to remarks from David Strain, and receive information about the programs and initiatives of the coming teaching year. Children's Sunday School classes (through fifth grade) will meet in their regular classrooms.

## GATEWAY FURNITURE DONATIONS — PICKUP PROVIDED!

Donate used furniture to the Gateway Thrift Store! Proceeds go directly to giving vital support to Gateway's Ministry, caring for the spiritual and physical needs of the homeless. Pickup is available. Contact Gateway at 601-932-1668.

## SERVE AS AN USHER

Men of FPC, we have a pressing need for more ushers. Ushering at FPC is a wonderful way to serve the church and get to know your church family. Ushers serve one month at a time on a rotating schedule. Sign up at [fpcj.ms/usher](https://fpcj.ms/usher) or contact Josh Hollingsworth at [jdhollin13@gmail.com](mailto:jdhollin13@gmail.com) to join our team.

## SANCTUARY GUIDELINES

To help ensure the safety of our congregation, backpacks and large bags are not allowed in the sanctuary. If you come to church with a large bag, you will be asked to leave it in the Deacons' Closet in the sanctuary foyer and may retrieve it following the service. Also, please do not bring food or drinks (including travel mugs, water bottles, etc.) into the sanctuary.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BIBLE STUDIES FOR WOMEN

### *MOMS and MOMS at Night Bible Study — Beginning September 10 & 16*

Ladies, we hope you'll join us for MOMS this fall! This year we will have two options: one meeting every Wednesday morning and one meeting two Tuesday nights each month. 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, led by Jane Wiggins, we will study the Book of Revelation. A nursery and homeschool room are available, but space is limited. Registration will be available at [fpcj.ms/women](http://fpcj.ms/women) beginning August 1. For more information, email [moms@fpcjackson.org](mailto:moms@fpcjackson.org) or [momsatnight@gmail.com](mailto:momsatnight@gmail.com).

### *Women's Thursday Bible Studies — Beginning September 18*

This year, we will have two Thursday Bible study options: one on the Book of Exodus and one on the Book of Romans. Registration will be available at [fpcj.ms/women](http://fpcj.ms/women) beginning August 1. A nursery is available by request at registration.

**Exodus: The God Who Makes Himself Known** — In this book, God reveals Himself and lifts our eyes to the promised land He has prepared where we will rightly worship Him as the one true God. This will be a small-group discussion and large-group lecture led by Melissa Abraham, Helen Lewis, Carol Anne Miconi, and Ella Payne.

**Romans: The Constitution of the Christian Faith** — John Calvin said that if we gain an understanding of the book of Romans, we have an open door to all the most profound treasures of Scripture. Join us on Thursday mornings for this large-group lecture led by Laura Husband.

### *Women's Ministry Circles — Beginning September 8*

A Circle is a group of women who meet monthly (September–May) for Bible study, prayer, fellowship, and to learn of opportunities for service and missions within our church. Register online beginning August 1 at [fpcj.ms/women](http://fpcj.ms/women) or by contacting Lisa Oswalt at 601-973-9115 or [lisao@fpcjackson.org](mailto:lisao@fpcjackson.org).

This year our Circles are studying **First & Second Peter: A Living Hope in a Hard World**. Both letters encourage Christians who are suffering for their faith in all places and all times, showing us how to live out our redemption in a hostile world. Although salvation may involve suffering, the gospel brings hope also as the grace of God is amplified in our lives.

### *Women's Bible and Prayer Time at We Will Go — Beginning September 3*

Ladies, you are invited to a new Bible & prayer time as we gather with neighbors around the Word held on first and third Wednesday mornings from 9-10:30 a.m. at We Will Go (806 N. Farish Street). For more information or to sign up, please contact Carol Anne Miconi at [carolannem@fpcjackson.org](mailto:carolannem@fpcjackson.org) or 601-506-5033.

## MISSION FIRST HOMEWORK HELP

### *Volunteers Needed Starting in August*

We are in need of additional support for our team serving Mondays from 3-4:30 at Mission First when the school year starts back. Please consider taking part in this opportunity to show God's love to our neighbors. For more information, please contact Ashley Meena at 601-573-3389.

## SERVE WEEK — SEPTEMBER 29-OCTOBER 5

### *Save the Date!*

Serve Day is back, and it's better than ever! We've expanded this beloved program to Serve Week, a week-long initiative connecting our church members with local ministry partners. Serve Week is designed with our church's mission in mind: to make "disciples in our neighborhood, our communities, and the world." Mark this week down on your calendar, and work hand-in-hand with our partners in gospel ministry! Registration will open in August. Find out more at [fpcj.ms/serve](http://fpcj.ms/serve).

# FPC THIS WEEK

## Sunday, July 27, 2025

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship Services	Sanctuary
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School	Various
5:00 p.m.	Prayer for Global Missions	Parlor
6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship Service (age 4 through 3rd grade dismissed for Children's Classes)	Sanctuary
7:30 p.m.	Senior High Insight	the Boyd Home (2693 Lake Circle)

## Monday, July 28, 2025

6:00 p.m.	Women's Ministry Game Night	MH
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## Tuesday, July 29, 2025

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

## Wednesday, July 30, 2025

	No Midweek Dinner or Activities	
5:50 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal	MS

## Saturday, August 2, 2025

7:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast	PH
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## Sunday, August 3, 2025

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship Services	Sanctuary
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School	Various
5:00 p.m.	New Member Meeting	PH
5:00 p.m.	Prayer for Global Missions	Parlor
6:00 p.m.	Evening Worship Service and Installation Service (age 4 through 3rd grade dismissed for Children's Classes)	Sanctuary
7:00 p.m.	Reception for David and Sarah Grafton Irving	MH

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

## PRAY FOR SUPPORTED MINISTRY PARTNERS

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).

**Virginia Crews** – Virginia, serving with MTW in Ukraine, is helping with the refugee crisis and with the University ministry (similar to an RUF intern). Email [crewsukraine@gmail.com](mailto:crewsukraine@gmail.com)

**Ben & Melanie Kappers** – Ben serves with MNA as a church planter in St. George, Utah. Email: [ben@allsaintsreformed.com](mailto:ben@allsaintsreformed.com)

**Pioneer Ministries** – Supported through Mission to Jackson under the guidance of the Benevolence Committee, Pioneer is a ministry whose purpose is to prepare boys and girls spiritually, educationally, and emotionally to serve Christ in their communities as contributing citizens. We further envision helping married couples to acquire relationship skills that will produce stable homes in a fast-changing world.