

The  
First  
Presbyterian  
Church  
of  
Jackson



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

# THE LORD'S DAY

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

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

The Reverend Mr. David L. Felker  
Executive Minister

## APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

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

The Prelude — "O Love That Will Not Let Me Go" ..... Jay Rouse  
Ms. Rebekah Lipscombe, Piano

The Introit — "Canticle of Thanksgiving" ..... Dale Wood  
Come father, come mother, come sister, come brother,  
the cup is o'erflowing, the harvest is done.  
Rise up, O partaker! Give praise to the Maker!  
The banquet is set in the midst of the Son!

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. 98 (stz. 1-2) — "Now Thank We All Our God"

The Invocation

The Doxology No. 98 (stz. 3) — "Now Thank We All Our God"  
All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,  
the Son and Him who reigns with Them in highest heaven —  
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore:  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

The Prayer of Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

## SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Hymn No. 624 — "Through All the Changing Scenes of Life" (from Psalm 34)

The Scripture Reading — Ezra 4:1-5.....pew Bible page 391

The Pastoral Prayer

## The Offering

The Offertory — “Without Love, We Have Nothing” ..... Joseph Martin

Mr. Daniel Kim, Director

If we speak with the tongues of angels, and have not love, we have nothing. If we gain all the world and its knowledge, and have not love, we have nothing. If our faith is strong to move the mountains, and if we give all we have to the poor, and if we offer ourselves, yet our heart never loves, we have nothing. Without love, we have nothing.

Love is patient and kind. Love isn't selfish or boastful. Love doesn't seek out its own.

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

### The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — 1 Timothy 4:11-16.....pew Bible page 992

The Sermon..... Dr. Strain

Life in the Household of God: How to Save Yourself and Others

The Hymn No. 575 (stz. 1 & 2) — “Soldiers of Christ Arise”

### The Benediction

### The Congregational Response

To keep your armor bright,  
attend with constant care;  
still walking in your Captain's sight,  
and watching unto prayer.  
From strength to strength go on;  
wrestle and fight and pray;  
tread all the pow'rs of darkness down,  
and win the well-fought day.

The Postlude — “Nun Dankett Alle Gott” .....Virgil Fox

Dr. Levi Henkel

## 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 into the church.

# EVENING WORSHIP

Six O’Clock

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

**Mr. Jennings L. Duncan**  
Discipleship Intern

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

The Prelude — “What Wondrous Love Is This” ..... Mr. Zach Horne, Cello

The Call to Worship — 1 Corinthians 15:57, 58

The Hymn — “Father, Long before Creation” .....hymn sheet

The Invocation

The Hymn — “My Heart Is Filled With Thankfulness” .....hymn sheet

The Greetings

The Evening Prayer.....Mr. Stephen Kruger, Ruling Elder

The Offering

The Offertory — “Like a River Glorious” ..... Ms. Rebekah Lipscombe, Piano

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

Q126. How many sacraments are there? **A. Two**

Q127. What are they? **A. Baptism and the Lord’s Supper.**

Q128. Who appointed these sacraments? **A. The Lord Jesus Christ.**

Q129. Why did Christ appoint these sacraments? **A. To distinguish His people from the world, and to comfort and strengthen them.**

\* The Meditation & Prayer .....Mr. Peyton Gunter, College Ministry Intern

The Hymn 677 (stz. 1-3) — “Praise the Savior, Ye Who Know Him”

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — Hebrews 11:29-31..... pew Bible page 1008

The Sermon — **The Foundation Holds: More Than Conquerors...**Mr. Lowry

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

**Keep us, Lord, O keep us cleaving to thyself and still believing,  
till the hour of our receiving promised joys with Thee.**

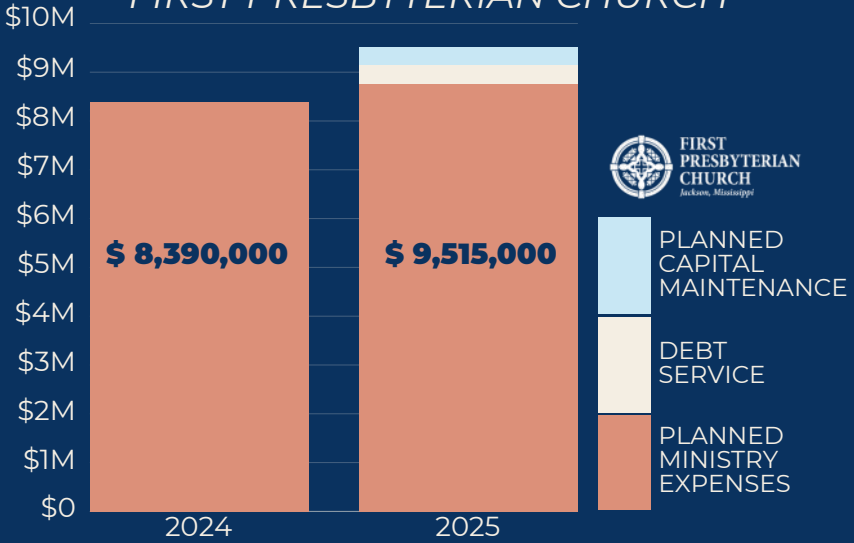
**Then we shall be where we would be, then we shall be what we should be;  
things that are not now, nor could be, soon shall be our own.**

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.

# MINISTRY EXPENSES 2024-2025

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



## NEW ADDITIONS TO THE ANNUAL BUDGET



### **\$350,000 PLANNED CAPITAL MAINTENANCE**

LOOKING AHEAD AT LONG-TERM NEEDS & STEWARDING OUR FACILITY WELL



### **\$400,000 ANNUAL DEBT SERVICE**

ANNUAL MINIMUM REPAYMENT OF FUNDS BORROWED TO ADVANCE RECENT KEY PROJECTS: THE BAIRD CENTER, WELCOME CENTER, FPC & FPDS SPACE REORGANIZATION, AND TWIN LAKES CAPITAL NEEDS

## MINISTRY GIVING

JAN-OCT 2025

**\$5,511,752**

**58%**

**\$9.5M** 2025 ANNUAL BUDGET

## MISSIONS GIVING

JAN-SEPT 2025

**\$786,851**

**65.6%**

**\$1.2M** 2025 MISSIONS GIVING GOAL

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **YOUNG ADULTS ADVENT FELLOWSHIP — DECEMBER 9**

Young adults, join us on December 9 at 6:30 p.m. in Hutton Chapel for a time of teaching with David Strain, fellowship, and dessert.

## **WOMEN'S MINISTRY CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON — DECEMBER 11**

### *Loving the Local Church: Coming Alongside*

Join us Thursday, December 11, from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., as Jill Dale shares her family's journey through her son Campbell's cancer diagnosis and loss, and how the Lord cared for them through His church. Lunch is \$10 at the door. Register online at [fpcj.ms/events](http://fpcj.ms/events).

## **SENIOR ADULTS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON — DECEMBER 12**

Senior Adults, join us for an afternoon of food, fellowship, and fun on December 12 at 11:30 a.m. in Patterson Hall! We'll begin with lunch, followed by a Christmas Cookie Decorating Contest and a time in God's Word. The cost is \$3 per person. To RSVP, contact Emily Eastman at 769-572-3535 or [emilye@fpcjackson.org](mailto:emilye@fpcjackson.org).

## **CAROLS AT THE BELHAVEN TOWN CENTER — DECEMBER 12**

Join us at the Belhaven Town Center on Friday, December 12, for an evening of music, crafts, treats, and Christmas cheer. The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. with live Christmas music, crafts, and refreshments. At 6 p.m., we will have a Children's Story Time. At 6:15 p.m., we will conclude with caroling. We hope you will bring your family, invite your neighbors, and celebrate Christmas with us in Belhaven.

## **CALLING ALL BAKERS FOR CHRISTMAS AT GATEWAY**

FPC will celebrate Christmas and serve lunch to the men of Gateway Rescue Mission on Monday, December 15, at 10:30 a.m. We are asking for donations of homemade goodies, pick-up desserts, or savory snacks. Please drop off your items on Friday, December 12, from 8 a.m.-3 p.m., or on Sunday, December 14, from 8 a.m.-6 p.m., at the table on the 1st floor of the Study Center. For questions, please call Lou Ann Flatgard at 601-940-3012.

## **CHRISTMAS CHAPEL AT GATEWAY — DECEMBER 15**

On Monday, December 15, FPC will lead the chapel service for the men in the Gateway "New Life" program and overnight shelter. Come at 4:15 p.m. to help serve dinner, or join the service at 5 p.m. We will sing carols, hear a brief gospel message from David Strain, and spend time encouraging the men. For questions, call Lou Ann Flatgard at 601-940-3012.

## **MUSIC OF CHRISTMAS — DECEMBER 21**

You are warmly invited to our annual service of lessons and carols on December 21, at 4 and 6 p.m. Join the FPC Choir, symphony orchestra, and guest soloist Hillary Watkins as we celebrate the story of our Savior's birth through Scripture and song. We encourage you to invite your friends and neighbors to share in this evening of worship and celebration. A reception to welcome our guests will be available in the Welcome Center after each service. A nursery will be provided for children three-years old and younger.

## **PRAY FOR SUPPORTED MINISTRY PARTNERS**

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).

**Paul & Elizabeth Sanduleac** – Paul serves as a church planter with IXO in Moldova. Email: [paulsanduleac@gmail.com](mailto:paulsanduleac@gmail.com); Website: [reformationmoldova.org](http://reformationmoldova.org)

**Children of Abraham** – Bassam Chedid founded the Children of Abraham ministry in 1977 to communicate the saving message of Christ to a largely un-evangelized Arabic community in and beyond North America. Email: [chedid@cs.com](mailto:chedid@cs.com)

**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.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THANKSGIVING SERVICE AND MEAL — NOVEMBER 27

Gather with your church family this Thanksgiving Day! Join us for an informal service at 11 a.m. in Miller Hall, followed by a meal at 11:45. The church will provide the meat; please bring a side or dessert that serves at least eight. To sign up and share what you'll bring, call Emily Eastman (769-572-3535). Feel free to invite a friend or neighbor who may be alone this Thanksgiving!

## IN MEMORIAM

Mrs. Elsie Jones Sturtevant — November 16, 2025

## SEND A CHRISTMAS CARD FROM FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Christmas events provide a winsome opportunity to welcome friends and neighbors to interact with our church family and hear (and even sing!) the good news of Jesus with us. Christmas Cards with FPC Christmas events printed on the back are available in the Welcome Center for you to send a handwritten invitation as a neighborly outreach. Please be praying about whom you may invite to join you at one of our gatherings!

## ALL THINGS NEW BIBLE AND TOY DRIVE

Share the love of Christ this Christmas by providing a gift for the child of an inmate. We are again partnering with All Things New, a ministry serving inmates of the Rankin County Jail and supporting their families. While Christmas shopping, consider picking up an extra toy to donate. Bibles may be purchased in the Bookstore for \$10. Please drop off gifts in the bin outside the Bookstore by December 5.

## MOMS AT NIGHT CHRISTMAS DINNER — DECEMBER 2

The MOMS at Night Christmas Dinner will be held on Tuesday, December 2, 6-8 p.m. Husbands are invited to join us for an evening of fellowship and a marriage discussion led by David and Lauren Felker. The FPC Bookstore will be open from 5-6 p.m. with complimentary gift wrapping available.

## MOMS BIBLE STUDY CHRISTMAS BRUNCH — DECEMBER 3

The MOMS Bible Study Christmas Brunch will be held on Wednesday, December 3, at 9 a.m. Join us for a festive morning of fellowship featuring a special guest speaker. The FPC Bookstore will remain open until 11:30 a.m. with complimentary gift wrapping available.

## MEN'S CHRISTMAS LUNCH — DECEMBER 4

Men are invited to join us on Thursday, December 4, at noon in Miller Hall. Seth Starkey, Pastor of Grace Presbyterian, Starkville, MS, will speak from Malachi 4:1-6 & Matthew 1: **God's Promises Are Always Worth the Wait**. Enjoy fellowship, encouragement, and reflection on the hope and joy of Christ's coming. Donations will be accepted to help cover lunch.

## JUNIOR HIGH HOUSE HOP — DECEMBER 4

The Junior High Christmas House Hop will be held on Thursday, December 4, 5-7 p.m. at the Pondsides cul-de-sac in Jackson. Seventh- and eighth-grade students are invited to enjoy an evening of Christmas morning-themed fun, dinner, dessert, and a \$10 gift swap. Please register your student at [fpcj.ms/house-hop](http://fpcj.ms/house-hop), and note if you are able to bring an appetizer or dessert.

## BELHAVEN SINGING CHRISTMAS TREE — DECEMBER 5 & 6

FPC will once again be part of Belhaven University's Singing Christmas Tree which is the oldest singing Christmas tree tradition in the U.S. We would love for you to join us either as a spectator or a volunteer. We will provide free hot chocolate for those attending and a card with the program on one side and our FPC December events on the other. If you are willing to volunteer to help pass out the cards from 6:30-8 p.m. on either December 5 or 6, please contact Tracy Ford at 601-454-6200.

# FPC THIS WEEK

## Sunday, November 23, 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 3 and 4 year olds.....	M135
4:30 p.m.	Student Choir Rehearsal.....	MS
5:00 p.m.	Prayer 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 Felker Home (4159 Navajo Rd.)

## Tuesday, November 25, 2025

9:30 a.m.	French Camp Quilters.....	Bookstore
12:00 p.m.	Weekday Prayer Meeting .....	PH

## Wednesday, November 26, 2025

No Midweek Dinner or Activities

## Thursday, November 27, 2025

	Church Office Closed	
11:00 a.m.	Thanksgiving Service.....	MH
11:45 a.m.	Thanksgiving Luncheon.....	MH

## Friday, November 28, 2025

Church Office Closed

## Saturday, November 29, 2025

7:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast .....	PH
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## Sunday, November 30, 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 3 and 4 year olds.....	M135
4:30 p.m.	Student Choir Rehearsal.....	MS
5:00 p.m.	Prayer 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 Fesko Home (108 Charlestowne Square)

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

## FLOWERS

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of David Lee Thorne, Jr., to celebrate what would have been his fifth birthday by his Mom, Dad, and little brother, Sam, who all loved him dearly.