

The  
First  
Presbyterian  
Church  
of  
Jackson



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

# THE LORD'S DAY

The Thirtieth 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. Wiley P. Lowry III  
Minister of Teaching and Pastoral Care

## APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

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

The Prelude — "What Child Is This?" ..... Walter Pelz  
Ms. Bonnie Brown, violin; Mrs. Nancy Bateman, cello; Dr. Levi Henkel, organ

The Introit — "Let All Mortal Flesh" ..... Gustav Holst  
Mrs. Kim Porter, Soprano

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;  
Ponder nothing earthly minded for with blessing in His hand,  
Christ our Lord to earth descendeth our full homage to demand.  
Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way  
As the light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day  
That the pow'rs of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

The Call to Worship

The Hymn No. 715 — "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

The Invocation

The Doxology — "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son;  
Evermore your voices raising to th'eternal Three in One:  
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

The Prayer of Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

## SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Hymn No. 221 — "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

The Scripture Reading — Isaiah 9:2-7 ..... pew Bible page 573

The Pastoral Prayer

The Offering

The Offertory — "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" ..... Taylor Scott Davis

O come, o come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here until the son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, desire of nations bind all peoples in one heart and mind.  
From dust Thou brought us forth to life; deliver us from earthly strife.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — Luke 19:1-10.....pew Bible page 878

The Sermon — Christmas According to Jesus: Salvation ..... Dr. Strain

The Hymn No. 198 (stz. 1-5) — “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!”  
(based on Psalm 24)

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

**So come, my Sovereign, enter in! Let new and nobler life begin!  
Thy Holy Spirit, guide us on, until the glorious crown be won.**

The Postlude — “And the Glory of the Lord” ..... G. F. Handel

## 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. George W. Herndon**  
Students and Families Intern

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

**The Prelude** — “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

Four- and Five-Year Old Choir; First and Second Grade Choir  
Beth Archer, director; Amanda Hohm, accompanist

**The Call to Worship** — Psalm 118:1, 4

**The Hymn** — “Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery” .....hymn sheet

**The Invocation**

**The Hymn No. 570** — “Faith of Our Fathers!”

**The Greetings**

**The Evening Prayer**.....Mr. Phillip Parker, Ruling Elder

**The Offering**

**The Offertory** — “Fullness of Grace”

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

Q130. What sign is used in baptism? **A. Washing with water.**

Q131. What does this washing with water represent? **A. That we are united to Christ and cleansed from sin by His blood.**

Q132. Into whose name are we baptized? **A. Into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.**

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

**The Hymn No. 358 (stz. 1-5)** — “For All the Saints”

**The Prayer of Illumination**

**The Scripture Reading** — Hebrews 11:32-40..... pew Bible page 1008

**The Sermon** — **The Foundation Holds: To Be Continued...** .....Mr. Lowry

**The Benediction**

**The Congregational Response**

**From earth’s wide bounds, from ocean’s farthest coast,  
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,  
singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**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.

JOIN US THIS  
*Christmas*

DEC

**2**

**MOMS AT NIGHT  
CHRISTMAS  
DINNER**

6-8 P.M.

DEC

**3**

**MOMS  
CHRISTMAS  
BRUNCH**

9-11:30 A.M.

DEC

**4**

**MEN'S  
CHRISTMAS  
LUNCH**

12-1 P.M.

DEC

**4**

**JUNIOR HIGH  
HOUSE HOP**

5-7 P.M.

DEC

**7**

**SENIOR HIGH  
CHRISTMAS  
INSIGHT**

7:30-8:30 P.M.

DEC

**9**

**YOUNG ADULTS  
ADVENT  
FELLOWSHIP**

6:30 P.M.

DEC

**11**

**WOMEN'S  
CHRISTMAS  
LUNCHEON**

11:30 A.M.-1 P.M.

DEC

**12**

**SENIOR ADULTS  
CHRISTMAS  
LUNCHEON**

11:30 A.M.-1 P.M.

DEC

**12**

**CAROLS AT  
BELHAVEN  
TOWN CENTER**

5:30-7:30 P.M.

DEC

**15**

**COLLEGE  
CHRISTMAS  
PARTY**

6:30 P.M.

DEC

**20**

**POP-UP  
NURSERY**

8:30-11:30 A.M.

DEC

**20**

**BOOKSTORE  
OPEN  
HOUSE**

9 A.M.-2 P.M.

DEC

**21**

**MUSIC OF  
CHRISTMAS**

4 & 6 P.M.

DEC

**24**

**CHRISTMAS  
EVE  
SERVICE**

4 P.M.

DEC

**28**

**CHURCH  
FAMILY  
HYMN SING**

9:45 A.M.

For more information about all of our events, visit [fpcj.ms/events](http://fpcj.ms/events).

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 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).

## 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.

## BOOKSTORE OPEN HOUSE — DECEMBER 20

The FPC Bookstore is one of the best-kept secrets in Jackson for Christmas shopping! Stop in for refreshments and free gift wrap on Saturday, December 20, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

## POP-UP NURSERY — DECEMBER 20

We will have a Pop-Up Nursery here at FPC on December 20, 8:30-11:30 a.m., for ages three and under. We would like to give you some time to shop, run errands, wrap gifts, or get a cup of coffee! Please sign up online at [fpcj.ms/pop-up-nursery](http://fpcj.ms/pop-up-nursery) so we will be ready for your little one to come play with us.

## 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).

**Dennis & Rhonda Conroy** – Dennis & Rhonda serve with MTW and Wycliffe assisting with Bible translation. Email: [dennis.conroy@gmail.com](mailto:dennis.conroy@gmail.com)

**Kaylee & Bobby Epps** – Kaylee serves as RUF Campus Staff at Mississippi College. Bobby is the Youth Director at Pear Orchard Presbyterian Church. Email: [Kaylee.epps@ruf.org](mailto:Kaylee.epps@ruf.org)

**Little Light House** – Supported through Mission to Jackson under the guidance of the Benevolence Committee, LLH is a tuition-free Developmental Center that for over three decades has been making a difference in the lives of hundreds of children with special needs.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CHRISTMAS ACCORDING TO JESUS: ADVENT SERMON SERIES

Beginning this morning, we return to our series, *Christmas According to Jesus*, exploring Jesus's own explanation of why He came to earth. We will listen to Jesus' own words about His mission, revealing the true meaning of Christmas for us today. Across five passages, we'll hear Jesus explain how He came that first Christmas to bring salvation, sight, security, service, and finally, a gracious summons. Each week invites us to encounter Christ not only as the child in the manger, but as the Savior who came with purpose, compassion, and authority.

## CHILDREN'S CHOIRS SINGING — TONIGHT

The Fours and Fives and First and Second Grade Children's Choir will be singing in the evening worship service this week. Parents, please have your child in the sanctuary at 5:20 dressed in Sunday morning clothes. With questions contact Kimberly Sumrall at 601-937-4111 or [KSumrall86@gmail.com](mailto:KSumrall86@gmail.com).

## 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.

## 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 Ponds 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. Sign up at [fpcj.ms/house-hop](http://fpcj.ms/house-hop) 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. 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.

## SENIOR HIGH CHRISTMAS INSIGHT — DECEMBER 7

Senior High students, grade 9-12, gather with us for a cozy Christmas night around the fire! We'll have s'mores, snacks, and a fun gift exchange as we celebrate Christmas together. Join us Sunday, December 7, 7:30-8:30 p.m. at the Dale Home (1582 Hwy. 51, Madison). Bring a wrapped gift (around \$10) if you'd like to participate in the exchange.

## 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.

# FPC THIS WEEK

## 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)

## Tuesday, December 2, 2025

9:30 a.m.	French Camp Quilters	Bookstore
12:00 p.m.	Weekday Prayer Meeting	PH
6:00 p.m.	MOMS at Night Christmas Dinner	MH
6:45 p.m.	Internationals Class	PH

## Wednesday, December 3, 2025

9:00 a.m.	MOMS Christmas Brunch	MH
9:00 a.m.	Women's Bible and Prayer Time	We Will Go
	No Midweek Dinner or Activities	
9:30 a.m.	GriefShare	Parlor
5:50 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal	MS

## Thursday, December 4, 2025

12:00 p.m.	Men's Christmas Lunch	MH
5:00 p.m.	Junior High House Hop	Pondside Dr.

## Friday, December 5, 2025

7:30 p.m.	Belhaven Singing Christmas Tree	Belhaven
-----------	---------------------------------	----------

## Saturday, December 6, 2025

7:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast	PH
7:30 p.m.	Belhaven Singing Christmas Tree	Belhaven

## Sunday, December 7, 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.	New Member Meeting	MH
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 Christmas	the Dale Home (1582 Hwy. 51, Madison)

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

## CAROLS AT THE BELHAVEN TOWN CENTER — DECEMBER 12

As part of our outreach to the Belhaven neighborhood, we're hosting a Christmas gathering for families and friends at the Belhaven Town Center. You're invited to a festive evening in Belhaven! Join us on Friday, December 12, for a night filled with music, crafts, treats, and Christmas cheer for the whole family.

*5:30 p.m. - Live Christmas Music and Crafts*

*6 p.m. - Children's Story Time*

*6:15 p.m. - Caroling*

Bring your family, invite your neighbors, and come celebrate the beauty of Christmas right here in Belhaven!