

The
First
Presbyterian
Church
of
Jackson



“To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever”

THE LORD'S DAY

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

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

The Reverend Mr. James C. Peipon
Minister of Missions

APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

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

The Prelude — "In the Bleak Midwinter"James Neigus
Ms. Madeleine Case, Horn

The Introit — "Festival First Nowell" Dan Forrest
Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heav'nly Lord
That hath made heav'n and earth of nought,
and with His blood mankind hath brought:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

The Call to Worship — Ephesians 5:18b-20

The Hymn No. 214 — "Angels We Have Heard on High"

The Invocation

The Doxology Hymn No. 218 (stz. 5) — "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. 203 — "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

The Scripture Reading — Isaiah 42:1-9pew Bible page 602

The Pastoral Prayer

The Offering

The Offertory — "Wexford Carol" Elaine Hagenberg

Good people all this Christmas time, consider well and bear in mind,
what our good God for us has done, in sending His beloved Son.
With Mary holy, we should pray to God with love this Christmas day;
in Bethlehem upon that morn, there was a blessed Messiah born.

Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep
to whom God's angels did appear; which put the shepherds in great fear.
"Prepare and go," the angels said, "To Bethlehem. Be not afraid."
For there you'll find this happy morn a princely Babe sweet Jesus born."

With thankful heart and joyful mind, the shepherds went the Babe to find,
And as God's angels had foretold, they did our Savior Christ behold.
Within a manger He was laid, and by His side the virgin maid
attending on the Lord of Life Who came to earth to end all strife.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — Matthew 20:20-28.....pew Bible page 825

The Sermon — **Christmas According to Jesus: Service**..... Dr. Strain

The Hymn No. 208 (stz. 1-3) — “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

Yea, Lord we greet Thee, born this happy morning;

Jesus to Thee be all glory giv'n;

Word of the Father, late in flesh appearing;

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,

O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

The Postlude — “Toccata on *Veni Emmanuel*”Andrew Carter
Ms. Liz Goff, Organist

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.

FPC THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 21, 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
4:00 & 6:00 p.m. The Music of ChristmasSanctuary

Tuesday, December 23, 2025

all day Bookstore Closed

Wednesday, December 24, 2025

all day Church Office and Bookstore Closed
4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service.....Sanctuary

Thursday, December 25, 2025

all day Church Office and Bookstore Closed

Saturday, December 27, 2025

7:30 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast PH

Sunday, December 28, 2025

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship Services.....Sanctuary
9:45 a.m. Church Family Hymn Sing..... Miller Hall
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship Service.....Sanctuary

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 jollynm@fpcjackson.org.

Carter & Caroline McWhorter – Carter & Caroline serve with MTW as part of the Adams' church-planting team in Thailand. Email: themcwhorters710@gmail.com

Franky & Alaina Garcia – Franky serves with MNA in Gatineau, Quebec, Canada as a church planter. Email: frank@gatineau.ca

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: <https://mustardseedms.org/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of Dr. Levi Henkel, Director of Music.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Set aside a moment for this special service at the beginning of your Christmas celebrations. Bring the whole family to our carol service December 24, at 4 p.m. Please note that there will be no nursery during this service. We encourage families to bring their children to worship together.

CHURCH FAMILY HYMN SING — DECEMBER 28

Join us for a Hymn Sing as we gather for one, joint Sunday School hour for all ages on Sunday, December 28, at 9:45 a.m. in Miller Hall. This is a joyful opportunity for our whole church family (children, students, and adults) to gather for coffee, hot chocolate, and singing together. We hope you and your family will make plans to be with us. The Hymn Sing will replace all Sunday School classes on December 28. Please note that there will be no separate children's ministry programs that morning, but a nursery will be available for both the hymn sing and the worship services.

WE'RE HIRING

We're seeking a faithful and detail-oriented individual to serve as Executive Assistant to the Senior Minister at First Presbyterian Church. This vital role provides high-level administrative and organizational support in close partnership with the Senior Minister, helping strengthen the leadership and ministry of the church. Review the job description and apply at fpcj.ms/employment.

YEAR-END GIVING REMINDERS

Contributions must be received or postmarked by December 31 to be deductible for the 2025 tax year. The Business Office will be open 8 a.m.-12 p.m. on December 31, with security available on the south side of the church (Pinehurst Street) to receive any contributions that may be dropped off after hours. You may give online through midnight at fpcj.ms/give or through the church app. Gifts received or postmarked after December 31 will apply to 2026. If you are planning to donate stock to FPC before the end of the year 2025, please notify Haley Cushing in the Business Office at haleyc@fpcjackson.org.

SUPPORT GROUPS

If you're struggling with alcohol or chemical dependence, a discreet, weekly group offers friendship, encouragement, biblical reflection, and prayer. Call or text 601-260-1636 for details. Twice a month, a separate, confidential group meets for those with loved ones facing addiction. For meeting information, call or text 601-260-0388.

STAND 2026 — FEBRUARY 6

Building Up Mid-South Men in the Gospel

Save the date for our annual conference for men in the mid-south: Friday, February 6, led by our guest preacher Randy Pope. Join us for supper, and then worship with your brothers in Christ as we raise our voices together in praise. There is no cost to attend, but contributions to support the event are welcome. Please register online at fpcj.ms/stand-2026 to help us plan for the dinner.

PROVIDE A MEAL OR HOST A MISSIONARY

Missions Conference — February 22-March 1

We are in need of hosts for our upcoming Missions Conference. Help us provide hospitality to our honored guests during the conference! Want to help but can't offer your home? We also need volunteers to provide a meal. For more information, please contact Janie Clarke, our housing coordinator at 601-953-4991 or janielclarke6@gmail.com.

TONIGHT
4 AND 6 P.M.

A CHRISTMAS SERVICE OF
LESSONS & CAROLS



WITH CHOIR
& SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
Jackson, Mississippi