

The
First
Presbyterian
Church
of
Jackson



"To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever"

THE LORD'S DAY

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

The Reverend Dr. David Irving
President of Reformed Theological Seminary, Jackson, MS

The Reverend Mr. William E. Dempsey
Minister of Congregational and Pastoral Care

APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

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

The Prelude — "Canon de Noel" Joseph Martin
Dr. Levi Henkel, Piano

The Introit — "Of the Father's Love Begotten" Paul Wohlgemuth
Mr. and Mrs. Ben Roberson; Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Miller
O ye heights of heav'n adore Him; Angel hosts, His praises sing;
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him, And extol our God and King;
Let no tongue on earth be silent, Every voice in concert ring,
Evermore and evermore!

The Call to Worship

The Hymn No. 218 (stz. 1-4) — "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

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. 439 — "Christ Shall Have Dominion" (from Psalm 72:8-14, 17-19)

The Pastoral Prayer

The Offering

The Offertory — "The Infant King" David Willcocks
Mr. and Mrs. Ben Roberson; Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Miller

Sing lullaby
Lullaby baby, now reclining
Sing lullaby
Hush, do not wake the Infant King
Angels are watching, stars are shining
Over the place where he is lying
Sing lullaby

Sing lullaby
Lullaby baby, now a-sleeping
Sing lullaby
Hush, do not wake the Infant King
Soon will come sorrow with the morning
Soon will come bitter grief and weeping
Sing lullaby

Sing lullaby
Lullaby baby, now a-dozing
Sing lullaby
Hush, do not wake the Infant King
Soon comes the cross, the nails, the piercing
Then in the grave at last reposing
Sing lullaby

Sing lullaby
Lullaby, is the babe a-waking?
Sing lullaby
Hush, do not stir the Infant King
Dreaming of Easter, gladsome morning
Conquering Death, its bondage breaking
Sing lullaby

HEARING GOD’S WORD

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — Psalm 145:3pew Bible page 524

The Sermon — God Is Greater Than You Can ImagineDr. Irving

The Hymn No. 207 (stz. 1-2) — “Good Christian Men, Rejoice”

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

**Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain His everlasting hall.
Christ is born to save! Christ is born to save!**

The Postlude — “In Dulci Jubilo” Gordan Young

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. Scott H. Miller
Minister of Young Adults and College

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

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

The Prelude — “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” Molly Ijames
Ms. Rebekah Lipscomb, piano

The Call to Worship

The Hymn No. 211 — “God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”

The Invocation

The Hymn No. 205 — “Away in a Manger”

The Greetings

The Evening Prayer.....Mr. Mark Baird, Ruling Elder

The Offering

The Offertory — “Behold the Lamb”Andrew Peterson

The Hymn No. 226 (stz. 1-4) — “As with Gladness Men of Old”

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — Numbers 6:22-27pew Bible page 114

The Sermon — A Blessing for God's People..... Mr. Miller

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

**In the heav’nly country bright need they no created light;
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down;
There forever may we sing alleluias to our King.**

The Postlude

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

exists to

GLORIFY
GOD

by

MAKING
DISCIPLES

in our

NEIGHBORHOOD

our

COMMUNITIES

and around the
WORLD



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 janieclarke6@gmail.com.

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 haleycc@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.

2026 MISSION TRIPS

At First Presbyterian Church, short-term missions are one way we live out our mission to make disciples in our neighborhood, our communities, and around the world. Find out more and apply at fpcj.ms/go.

- January 2-10 to Moldova (full)
- March 7-14 to Honduras (senior high students)
- July 10-18 to Peru
- July 24-August 2 to Thailand

HEARING ASSISTANCE AT FPC

FPC partners with Sanctuary Audio to help improve the listening experience in our sanctuary. The program can be used through earbuds or any bluetooth-enabled hearing aid. Below are the directions for using Sanctuary Audio via your phone or tablet. If you have questions, please contact Tim Tumutod at timt@fpcjackson.org.

1. Connect your headphones or earbuds to your phone/device.
2. Connect your phone/device to the WiFi network "FPC Guest."
3. Download the app called "ListenWIFI."
4. Open the "ListenWIFI" App.
5. Tap "Venue Scan" until the app connects with FPC Jackson.
6. Select "FPC Jackson" channel.
7. Enjoy listening to the Sanctuary audio!

THE FIRST WORD

The First Word is our weekly emailed newsletter featuring sermon notes and audio, missionary reports and prayer requests, event information, and announcements. Manage your subscription at fpcj.ms/subscribe. Or with questions or for more information, you may email communications@fpcjackson.org.

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 or contact Josh Hollingsworth at jdhollin13@gmail.com to join our team.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving honor of Stuart and Janie Clarke's forty-first wedding anniversary, by their six adoring children.

GUEST MINISTER — DAVID IRVING

This morning we welcome Dr. David T. Irving as our guest minister. Dr. Irving serves as President and Assistant Professor of Church History and Pastoral Theology at Reformed Theological Seminary, Jackson. Before coming to RTS, he pastored PCA congregations in Raymond, MS and Hattiesburg, MS. He is a graduate of Dartmouth College (BA, 2011), Reformed Theological Seminary, Jackson (M.Div., 2015), and The University of Mississippi (PhD, 2023). He has written articles on Mississippi church history and the booklet *Devote Yourself to Prayer: A Call to Pastors*. David and his wife, Sarah Grafton, have four children.

CHURCH FAMILY HYMN SING — TODAY

Join us today for a Hymn Sing as we gather for one, joint Sunday School hour for all ages, 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. Please note that there will be no separate children's ministry programs that morning, but a nursery will be available.

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.

SENIOR ADULTS SERVE DAY — JANUARY 12

Senior Adults, join us Monday, January 12, any time between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. as we prepare arts and crafts for PEARSON Foundation's 2026 Spring Break Youth Retreat.

FAMILIES COUNT — SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Looking for an opportunity to serve right here in our local community? Our next Families Count class begins January 14 during Midweek. We are seeking volunteers to serve as mentor couples, childcare helpers, or to assist with transportation. Please contact Jo Lynn Mayfield (jolynnm@fpcjackson.org or 769-524-5121) to get involved. Families Count equips churches to walk alongside families facing separation due to financial strain, substance abuse, mental health challenges, and other pressures, offering care, guidance, and hope toward restoration.

BAPTISM — JANUARY 18

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

YOUNG ADULTS RETREAT — JANUARY 24-25

Young Adults, registration is open for our retreat, January 24-25. We're heading back to Twin Lakes for a weekend to rest and refocus with teaching from Jermaine Van Buren. Register online at fpcj.ms/events.

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 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. Register online at fpcj.ms/stand-2026 to help us plan for the dinner.

FPC THIS WEEK

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

Wednesday, December 31, 2025

12:00-4:30 p.m. Church Offices Closed
No Midweek Dinner or Activities

Thursday, January 1, 2026

all day Church Offices Closed

Saturday, January 3, 2026

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

Sunday, January 4, 2026

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
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship Service.....Sanctuary
(age 4 through 3rd grade dismissed for Children's Classes)

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.

Jonathan & Maggie I – Jonathan serves as the International Director for MTW Asia-Pacific.

Austin & Kristen Braasch – Austin serves as the RUF Campus Minister at Ole Miss. Email: austin.braasch@ruf.org.

Young Life of Jackson – Supported through Mission to Jackson under the guidance of the Benevolence Committee, Young Life seeks to share the gospel, lead adolescents to Christ, and help them grow in their faith. Email: Vince Gordon for inner-city, vgordonyl@comcast.net; Elizabeth Nenon for private school, efnenon@gmail.com