



THE LORD'S DAY

The Fifth Day of April, Two Thousand Twenty-Six
MORNING WORSHIP
Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'Clock

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

The Reverend Mr. Scott H. Miller
Minister of Young Adults and College

APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

The Greetings and Announcements

The Prelude — “Rhosymedre” R. Vaughan Williams
Marta Szlubowska, violin; Harold Lepoff, violin;
Thorburn McGee, viola; Nancy Bateman, cello

The Introit — “Fanfare for Easter” Jane Marshall
Mark Hudson, trumpet; Jim Eshleman, trumpet; Barbi Van Horn, horn;
Nathan Oakley, trombone; Craig Burnham, tuba; Jamie Peipon, timpani
Aaron Patterson, organ
Christ is risen! Alleluia!
Now is Christ risen from the dead, Christ is risen from the dead.
Christ is risen! Alleluia!

The Call to Worship — 1 Peter 1:3-9

The Hymn No. 277 — “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

The Invocation

The Doxology — “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”
tune: *Old Hundredth*
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Prayer of Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God; begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven:
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried;
and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures;
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;

**Whose kingdom shall have no end.
And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life;
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the Prophets.
And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

SEEKING GOD’S FACE

The Hymn No. 295 — “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

The Scripture Reading — Luke 24:1-9 & 36-49.....pew Bible page 884

The Pastoral Prayer

The Offering

The Offertory — “Ukrainian Alleluia”Craig Courtney
Alleluia.

HEARING GOD’S WORD

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — Revelation 5:6-7 pew Bible page 1031

The Sermon — The Only Scars in Heaven Dr. Strain

The Hymn (stz. 1-2) — “Before the Throne of God Above”see guide

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

**Behold Him there, the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless Righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace!
One with Himself I cannot die. My soul is purchased by His blood!
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior and my God,
With Christ, my Savior and my God!**

The Postlude — “An Easter Celebration”Joel Raney

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 connect with the life of our church.

BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE



1. Be - fore the throne of God a - bove, I have a
2. When Sa - tan tempts me to de - spair and tells me
3. Be - hold him there, the ris - en Lamb, my per - fect,



strong and per - fect plea, a great High Priest whose name is
of the guilt with - in, up - ward I look and see him
spot - less Right-teous-ness, the great un-change - a - ble I



Love, who ev - er lives and pleads for me. My name is
there, who made an end to all my sin. Be - cause the
AM, the King of glo - ry and of grace! One with him -



grav - en on his hands, my name is writ - ten on his
sin - less Sav - ior died, my sin - ful soul is count - ed
self I can - not die; My soul is pur - chased by his



heart. I know that while in heav'n he stands, no tongue can
free; for God, the just, is sat - is - fied to look on
blood; My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my



bid me thence de - part, no tongue can bid me thence de - part.
him and par - don me, to look on him and par - don me.
Sav - ior and my God; with Christ, my Sav - ior and my God!

EVENING WORSHIP

Six O'Clock

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

Mr. J. Peyton Gunter
College Ministry Intern

The Greetings and Announcements

The Prelude — “Largo from *Xerxes*”Mrs. Nancy Bateman, cello

The Call to Worship — Hebrews 12:28

The Hymn — “In Christ Alone” hymn sheet

The Invocation

The Hymn No. 389 — “This Is the Day the Lord Has Made” (based on Psalm 118)

The Greetings

The Evening Prayer..... Mr. David Bowling, Elder Emeritus

The Offering

The Offertory — “King Jesus Is A-Listenin” Mrs. Nancy Bateman, cello

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

Q6. Is there more than one true God? **A. No. There is only one true God.**

Q7. In how many Persons does this one God exist? **A. In three Persons.**

Q8. Name these three Persons. **A. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.**

The Meditation & Prayer Mr. Owen Hallbach, Missions Fellow

The Hymn (stz. 1-2) — “How Deep the Father's Love” hymn sheet

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — Mark 3:20-35.....pew Bible page 838

The Sermon — Lunatic, Liar, or LordMr. Lowry

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

I will not boast in anything,
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer;
But this I know with all my heart –
His wounds have paid my ransom.

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.

FPC THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 5, 2026

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship Services	Sanctuary
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School	Various Locations
9:45 a.m.	Meet & Greet	Welcome Center
9:45 a.m.	Membership Class	MB 123
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)

Monday, April 6, 2026

All Day	Twin Lakes Fellowship	Twin Lakes
---------	-----------------------	------------

Tuesday, April 7, 2026

All Day	Twin Lakes Fellowship	Twin Lakes
9:30 a.m.	Sew & Sow	WH 302
9:30 a.m.	Quilters	Bookstore
10:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study	WH 305
12:00 p.m.	Weekday Prayer Meeting	PH
6:45 p.m.	Internationals Class	PH

Wednesday, April 8, 2026

All Day	Twin Lakes Fellowship	Twin Lakes
9:00 a.m.	MOMS Bible Study	MH
5:00-6:00 p.m.	Midweek Dinner	MH
5:30 p.m.	Children's Playtime	Playground
5:50 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal	MS
6:00 p.m.	Midweek Adult Programs	
	Ordinary Agents	PH
	Engaged & Newlywed Class	WH 202
	D Groups	Various Locations
	Evangelism Training	WH 304
	Prayer Meeting & Bible Study	Session Room
6:00 p.m.	Children's Choirs	Playground
6:00 p.m.	Rise: Sixth Grade Fellowship	SC 211
6:00 p.m.	Student Ministry D Groups	YH & Baird Center Gym

Friday, April 10, 2026

5:00 p.m.	Junior High Spring Retreat	Twin Lakes
-----------	----------------------------	------------

Saturday, April 11, 2026

All Day	Junior High Spring Retreat	Twin Lakes
7:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast	PH

Sunday, April 12, 2026

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship Services	Sanctuary
9:45 a.m.	Sunday School	Various Locations
9:45 a.m.	Membership Class	MB 123
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)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHOIR AND ORGAN FESTIVAL — APRIL 25

Our adult choir will participate in the American Guild of Organists' Choir and Organ Festival on April 25, to be held here at FPC, and we are inviting all singers to join us! The program of classic sacred anthems and congregational hymns will feature 12 local conductors and organists. If you are interested in singing, please contact Levi at levih@fpcjackson.org for more information. The 5 p.m. concert is free and open to the public.

EVENING WORSHIP AT TWIN LAKES

On April 26, the evening worship service will be held at Twin Lakes at 5 p.m. The gates will open at 2:30 p.m., and attendees are invited to arrive early for a time of fellowship and to enjoy the grounds. Dinner will follow the service; participants may register for a boxed meal by visiting fpcj.ms/evening-worship or bring their own picnic. Those who prefer not to drive may sign up for transportation at the same link.

RYM — SUMMER 2026

This summer, our church will send junior high students (June 22–26) and senior high students (June 29–July 3) to Reformed Youth Ministries (RYM), a national youth conference where the gospel is taught, friendships are deepened, and Mega Rec abounds. To register, visit fpcj.ms/events.

MEN'S TRIP TO ST. LOUIS — SUMMER 2026

Men, join Billy Dempsey and Stephen Biggs on a summer adventure to St. Louis! Bring a child or grandchild to witness great baseball as the Cardinals and Cubs play. We will travel in late July (dates to be finalized). The cost is \$350/person, not including meals and St. Louis sightseeing. Register online at fpcj.ms/cardinals.

TWIN LAKES CAMP — SUMMER 2026

The Aerial Adventure and Rock wall aren't just about climbing higher — they're about stretching, growing and challenging yourself. Campers learn perseverance, teamwork, and how to trust God when things feel uncertain or overwhelming. These moments foster confidence that lasts long after summer ends. Don't miss your chance to be part of a summer that shapes hearts. Register at www.twinlakescamp.org.

WE'RE HIRING!

First Presbyterian Church seeks an experienced Staff Accountant to serve the church, First Presbyterian Day School, and Twin Lakes. The Staff Accountant executes the day-to-day accounting operations for FPC, FPDS, and TL. This full-time role maintains the general ledger, executes the monthly close process, performs reconciliations, and prepares internal financial reports to ensure reliable and timely financial data. If you are interested or know of someone who is, please apply online at fpcj.ms/employment.

PRAY FOR SUPPORTED MINISTRY PARTNERS

For detailed prayer requests and contact information for our supported missionaries and ministry partners, please contact Jo Lynn at jollynnm@fpcjackson.org.

Doug & Masha Shepherd – Doug serves with MTW as the team leader in Ukraine.
Email: doug.shepherd@mtw.org

Joe & Kristi Cristman – Joe serves as a church planter in Lombard, IL.
Email: jocristman@gmail.com

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: mustardseedms.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH!

If you are visiting or new to our church, please stop by the Welcome Center for light refreshments and a meet & greet at 9:45 a.m. this morning.

THE NICENE CREED

The Nicene Creed was first written in 325, building upon the Apostles' Creed, in response to the needs of the church of the time. There were those who rejected the clear teaching of Jesus's divinity. Therefore, the creed emphasizes the divinity of Christ. He is affirmed to exist before all worlds. He is not a creature, having been made, but he is begotten, being of the one and same substance as the Father. He is not, as some said, of a "similar substance," meaning he is like God; rather, Jesus is of the same substance, meaning he is God. Jesus is pre-existent and equal with God. It is by Christ that all things have been made.

Then, in 381, the creed was revised largely to highlight the divinity of the Holy Spirit. Finally, in the 6th century, a final clause "and the son" was added, to emphasize that the Holy Spirit proceeds not only from the Father but also from the Son. This creed clearly shows the closeness, the glory, and the equality of our triune God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

IN MEMORIAM

Mr. George (Sonny) Rozina — March 24, 2026

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS SINGING IN EVENING WORSHIP — APRIL 12

Our Fours and Fives and Third-Fifth Grade Choirs will sing in the Evening Worship Service on April 12. Parents, please have your child in the sanctuary no later than 5:20 p.m. in Sunday morning attire. With questions contact Kimberly Sumrall at 601-937-4111 or KSumrall86@gmail.com.

MOMS & MOMS AT NIGHT YEAR-END EVENTS — APRIL 14 & 15

MOMS at Night & MOMS Bible Study will each have a special gathering to close out our Bible studies for the year. We are pleased to welcome Parker Ellison, Ruling Elder at FPC and practicing pediatrician, as our speaker for MOMS, and Deborah Oakley, our own Women's Ministry Director, as our speaker for MOMS at Night.

DEBUT ORGAN RECITAL — APRIL 16

You are cordially invited for the debut recital of Aaron Patterson, organist, Thursday, April 16, at 7 p.m., in the Sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church. The recital will feature works from Bach, Kreisler, and Vierne. Aaron, who recently joined the staff at FPC as organist, holds organ performance degrees from the Juilliard School and Curtis Institute of Music.

SENIOR ADULTS DAY TRIP — APRIL 17

Senior Adults, join us on a tour of Mississippi's Presbyterian history with David Irving on Friday, April 17. We will depart from the church campus at 8 a.m. and arrive back by 4:30 p.m. Along the way we will enjoy a delicious lunch at Fat Mama's Tamales in Natchez. The cost for the trip is \$30, in addition to the cost of lunch. To register for the event, please email Emily Eastman at emilye@fpcjackson.org or call 769-572-3535.

YOUNG ADULTS RETREAT — APRIL 18-19

Young Adults, we're heading back to Twin Lakes for a weekend to rest and refocus with teaching from Jermaine Van Buren, April 18-19. Register online at fpcj.ms/events.

GRADUATING SENIOR DINNER

Graduating high school seniors and their parents are invited to our annual Senior Dinner Monday, April 20, at 6 p.m. in Miller Hall. Please RSVP to Emily Eastman at youthhouse@fpcjackson.org by April 13 to help us plan.