

The
First
Presbyterian
Church
of
Jackson



“To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever”

THE LORD'S DAY

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

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

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

APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

The Greetings and Announcements

The Prelude — "Prelude in C Major," BWV 531..... J. S. Bach
Mr. Aaron Patterson, organ

The Introit — "I Was Glad" Parry/Wymond
I was glad, glad when they said unto me,
we will go into the house of the Lord, of the Lord.

The Call to Worship — Isaiah 55:1-3

The Hymn No. 660 — "O God beyond All Praising"

The Invocation

The Doxology — "Gloria Patri"tune: *Greatorex*
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, amen.

The Prayer of Adoration and Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father, Almighty,
Maker of Heaven and Earth:
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he arose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Hymn No. 485 — "O Thou That Hear'st When Sinners Cry" (from Psalm 51)

The Scripture Reading — Ezra 6:1-12pew Bible page 392

The Pastoral Prayer

The Offering

The Offertory — “Be Thou My Vision” John Rutter

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
be all else but naught to me, save that Thou are;
be Thou my best thought in the day and the night,
both waking and sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, be Thou my true word,
be Thou ever with me, and I with Thee, Lord,
be Thou my great Father, and I Thy thru son;
be Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Be Thou my breastplate, the sword for the fight;
be Thou my whole armour, be Thou my true might;
be Thou my soul’s shelter, be Thou my strong tower;
O raise Thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man’s empty praise:
be Thou mine inheritance now and always;
be Thou and Thou only the first in my heart:
O Sov’rein of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, Thou heaven’s bright sun,
O grant me its joys after vict’ry is won;
great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be Thou my vision O Ruler of all.

HEARING GOD’S VOICE

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — 2 Timothy 1:8-18 pew Bible page 995

The Sermon — Keep the Faith: Not Ashamed! Dr. Strain

The Hymn No. 705 (stz. 1-4) — “I Know Whom I Have Believed”

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

**I know not when my Lord may come, at night or noontide fair,
nor if I’ll walk the vale with Him, or “meet Him in the air.”
But “I know Whom I have believed, and am persuaded that He is able
to keep that which I’ve committed unto Him against that day.”**

The Postlude — “Fugue in C Major,” BWV 531 J. S. Bach

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

The Reverend Dr. Rupert Hunt Taylor
Minister of Discipleship

The Greetings and Announcements

The Prelude — “It Is Well With My Soul” Mr. Zach Horne, cello

The Call to Worship — Lamentations 3:22-24

The Hymn No. 32 — “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

The Invocation

The Hymn — “My Soul Finds Rest in God Alone” (from Psalm 62) hymn sheet

The Greetings

The Evening Prayer..... Dr. Ken Ball, Ruling Elder

The Offering

The Offertory — “Amazing Grace” Mr. Aaron Patterson, organ

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

Q147. Will the bodies of all the dead be raised again? **A. Yes. At the last day some will be raised to everlasting life and others to everlasting death.**

Q148. What will God do to unbelievers on the last day? **A. He will judge them, and condemn them to everlasting punishment in the lake of fire with Satan and his angels.**

Q149. What will God do for believers at the last day? **A. He will give them a home with Him in the new heaven and the new earth.**

The Meditation & Prayer Rev. Stephen Biggs, Minister of Students & Families

The Hymn No. 347 (stz. 1-5) — “The Church's One Foundation”

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — Mark 1:35-45.....pew Bible page 837

The Sermon — Desolate Places and Desolate PeopleMr. Lowry

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

**Yet, she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee**

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.

THE CHURCH OFFICERS

THE SESSION

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

The Reverend Mr. David L. Felker, Executive Minister

Hall Bailey	Ned Currie	Wayne Husband	Steve Rosenblatt
Mark Baird	Arthur Davis	Rob Jones	Malcolm Saxon
Ken Ball	Steve Edwards	Harper Keeler	John Lowe Smith
Kyle Ball	Parker Ellison	Dallis Ketchum	Bill Stone
Charles Barbour	George Fair	Stephen Kruger	Danny Story
Max Bowman	Spence Flatgard	George May	Ernie Strahan
Bud Bratley	Craig Flowers	Doug McDaniel	Tian Teh
Sharkey Burke	Marcy Forester	John McVey	Tim Threadgill
Beau Burrow	Paul Forster	Hu Meena	Mike Tramel
Stuart Clarke	Dave Fulcher	Jimmy Moore	Matthew Turnage
David Cleland	Matt Graves	John Neill	Alan Walters
Reid Cotten	Claude Harbarger	Nathan Oakley	Cal Wells
Jack Crawford	William Harper	Phillip Parker	Marcus Wilson
Holt Crews	Sam Hensley	Bill Payne	Mark Windham
Bill Crim	Zeb Henson	Richard Ridgway	Frank York
Bob Cunningham	Paul Hurst	Ben Roberson	

Elders Emeriti

Buddy Bartling, Bo Bowen, David Bowling, John Buchanan, Don Cannada, John Crawford, Doug Dale, Sr., Owen Elder, Bebo Elkin, Ken Fairly, Alan Futvoye, Crane Kipp, Rob Love, Buz Lowry, Robert Mims, Jojo Payne, Bill Penn, Mark Sorgenfrei, Marvin Stockett, Orrin Swayze, Jim Tohill, Noel Toler, Barry Vickery

THE DIACONATE

Will Barbour	Bo Gregg	Read Meadows	Jeff Sumrall
Walter Brand	William Griffin	Sanford Moore	Stewart Swayze
Jay Brown	Anthony Hall	Doug Morgan	Ford Terry
Turner Brown	Ty Hardy	Mike Myers	Bowen Thigpen
Jesse Browning	Michael Hogue	Rob Oates	Lee Thorne
Brooks Buchanan	Allen Holiman	Lee Owen	Les Triplett
Matthew Burrow	Josh Hollingsworth	Virgil Payne	Hugh Trussell
David Case	Harrison Hood	Matt Peaster	Will Vise
T Dale	Rob Lake	Trey Porter	Arthur Wadsworth
Paul Davis	Willem Lamar	Jim Prince	Alan Walters
Price Davis	Robert Leard	Jonathan Randle	Lee J. Webb
Dave Dear III	Alston Ludwig	Weston Russ	Coles Wilkins Jr
William Denney	David Luter	Bryan Rutledge	Neil Witherow
Gary Dye	David Marchetti	Ken Seawright	Walt Wofford
Auston Edwards	Harrison Matheny	Jeff Skelton	Chris Wyatt
Jamey Elkin	John McBride	Brian Smith	Chase Wynn
Bailey Fair	Guy McClain	Taylor Smith	
Matt Glover	Jason McNeel	Cary Spence	

Deacons Emeriti

John Allgood, Matt Ballew, Lewis Bell, Vic Blaylock, Glen Bush, Barry Cannada, John Cox, Paul Cox, Bobby Dye, Larry Edwards, Robert Feild, Buddy Graham, Gary Herring, Jim House, Carey Johnston, Mike Manning, Robert Miller, Walter Newman, Cy Rosenblatt, William F. Sneed, Joe Uithoven, Joe Wilkins, Johnny Young

FPC THIS WEEK

Sunday, March 8, 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
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)

Monday, March 9, 2026

Various	Women's Ministry Circles	See Announcements
10:30 a.m.	Caregivers' Support Group.....	WH 202B
6:30 p.m.	Session Meeting.....	MS

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

Various	Women's Ministry Circles	See Announcements
9:30 a.m.	Quilters	Bookstore
12:00 p.m.	Weekday Prayer Meeting.....	PH

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

	No Midweek Programs or Dinner	
5:50 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal.....	MS

Thursday, March 12, 2026

9:45 a.m.	Women's Bible Study: Romans	MH
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Saturday, March 14, 2026

7:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast	PH
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Sunday, March 15, 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
7:30 p.m.	Senior High Insight	the Davis Home (4780 W Cheryl Dr.)

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENIOR ADULTS SERVE DAY — MARCH 23

Senior Adults, join us on Monday, March 23, anytime between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. as we partner with the PEARSON Foundation to serve children and families in disadvantaged communities in Central Mississippi. Together, we will assist with their community garden pilot project. We will also prepare packets for the Foundation's summer reading program, part of its Learning Institute, which provides tutoring and mentoring opportunities designed to strengthen students academically and personally. Come for an hour or stay for the morning as we participate in this tangible opportunity to reflect the hope of the gospel.

GATEWAY CHAPEL — MARCH 31

FPC will lead Gateway's evening chapel service on Tuesday, March 31. All are invited to join us in celebrating our King with men in Gateway's New Life program! Please come at 4:15 p.m. if you'd like to help serve the meal. Chapel will begin at 5:15 p.m. and will include a message and singing with all being finished by 6 p.m. or before.

EASTER WEEKEND

Join us at FPC this Easter to worship our Risen Lord! 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. on Easter. Nursery is available for children age three and younger. Children's Churchtime is during the 11 a.m. service and is for children ages three and four.

- Good Friday Worship Service — April 3, 6 p.m.
- Easter Morning Worship Services — April 5, 8:30 & 11 a.m.
Sunday School to be held at 9:45 a.m.
- Easter Evening Worship Service — April 5, 6 p.m.

JUNIOR HIGH SPRING RETREAT — APRIL 10-12

Sixth-Eighth graders are invited to join us for the Junior High Spring Retreat 2026, April 10-12, at Twin Lakes Camp. The early bird deadline is March 12. Register online at fpcj.ms/spring-retreat.

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.

Ty & Ginna Nash – Ty serves as a missionary on the church-planting team under the guidance of Trey Adams in Thailand. Ty and his family are moving to another region to plant another church. Email: johnnylernash@gmail.com

Patrick & Regina Lennox – Patrick & Regina serve with Occom Ministries, a ministry to Native Americans, First Nations, and American Eskimo in the US and Canada. Email: lennoxletters@gmail.com

PEARSON Foundation – Supported through Mission to Jackson under the guidance of the Benevolence Committee, PEARSON provides mentorship and discipleship to students through in-school mentoring, faith-based community mentoring in cooperation with the Rankin County Juvenile Court, after school activities and summer learning & enrichment. Email: Pearson39208@gmail.com; jarward@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary are from the wedding of Emison Terrell Geiger and Thomas Jackson Moore and are given to the glory of God and in honor of the bride's grandmothers, Mrs. Travis Levon Geiger and Mrs. Charles Leroy Wood, and the groom's grandmothers, Mrs. James Love Moore and Mrs. John Edward Sherrod. They are also given in memory of the bride's grandfathers, Mr. Travis Levon Geiger and Mr. Charles Leroy Wood, and the groom's grandfathers, Mr. James Love Moore and Mr. John Edward Sherrod.

EVENING COMMUNION — NEXT WEEK

Communion will be observed in the evening worship service next week. Please begin prayerfully preparing your hearts and minds to receive the Lord's Supper. Professionally prepared, gluten-free elements will be available on the table on the south wall of the Greeting Courtyard.

Parents, there will be no children's program next week to allow those serving in children's ministry to participate fully in this means of grace and to give our children the opportunity to be present and observe this meaningful act of worship.

MEMBERSHIP CLASS — BEGINS TODAY

Those interested in membership at First Presbyterian are invited to attend the Membership Class beginning today at 9:45 a.m. in M123. This six-week course introduces the fundamentals of the Christian faith, the distinctions of Presbyterianism, and the ministry of First Presbyterian Church. To register or request additional information, contact Emily Eastman at emilye@fpcjackson.org.

CAREGIVERS MINISTRY — MARCH 9

The Caregivers' Support Group will meet Monday, March 9, in Westminster Hall 202B from 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m. The purpose of our Caregivers' Ministry is to gather similarly situated caregivers who desire to learn, share stories, and grieve as we walk together through the valley of a loved one's suffering with dementia and dementia-related illness. If you have any questions, please contact Ken Fairly at 601-941-5004.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY CIRCLES — MEETING NEXT TWO WEEKS

Joining a Circle is a wonderful way to get involved in the life of the church and make a big church feel like family. Circles are groups of women who meet monthly (September–May) for Bible study, prayer, fellowship, and to learn of opportunities for service and missions within our church. To register, contact Lisa Oswalt at 769-333-5802 or lisoa@fpcjackson.org.

Monday, March 9

Circle 3 9:30 Westminster Hall 204
Circle 8 9:30 The Orchard
Circle 2 10:00 Beth Crasto's Home
Circle 4 10:00 Parlor
Circle 5 10:00 Elizabeth Wesson's Home

Monday, March 16

Circle 14 12:00 Miller Hall
Circle 6 6:30 Rhonda Baird's Home

Tuesday, March 17

Circle 7 10:00 Joy Cannada's Home

Tuesday, March 10

Circle 9 10:00 Parlor
Circle 12 10:30 St. Catherine's

NO MIDWEEK — MARCH 11

There will be no midweek dinner or activities this Wednesday, March 11, during spring break. Midweek will resume next week, March 18.

RACE TWIN LAKES — MARCH 21

There's something refreshing about being outdoors, moving, and enjoying God's creation. Race Twin Lakes 5K & Fun Run is a great way to spend a morning: community, fresh air, and a beautiful setting. We'd love to see you there! Register at fpcj.ms/race-twin-lakes.