



**FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**  
*Jackson, Mississippi*



**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**  
The Third Day of April, Two Thousand Twenty-Six  
Six O'Clock

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

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## The Greetings

The Prelude — “What Wondrous Love Is This”..... David Winkler  
The String Quartet

## The Call to Worship — Isaiah 52:9-10, 53:1-6

Break forth together into singing,  
you waste places of Jerusalem,  
for the Lord has comforted his people;  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.  
The Lord has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

**Who has believed what he has heard from us?  
And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?  
For he grew up before him like a young plant,  
and like a root out of dry ground;  
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,  
and no beauty that we should desire him.**

He was despised and rejected by men,  
a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;  
and as one from whom men hide their faces  
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

**Surely he has borne our griefs  
and carried our sorrows;  
yet we esteemed him stricken,  
smitten by God, and afflicted.**

But he was pierced for our transgressions;  
he was crushed for our iniquities;  
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,  
and with his wounds we are healed.

**All we like sheep have gone astray;  
we have turned—every one—to his own way;  
and the Lord has laid on him  
the iniquity of us all.**

**Praise the Lord!**

The Hymn No. 257 — “Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted”

## The Invocation

The Prayer of Adoration and Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

The Meditation — “The Power of the Cross” .....Getty and Townend  
Mr. Paul Bowden

The Confession of Faith — *The Heidelberg Catechism* Q. 37-39

The Question: What do you confess when you say that He suffered?

**During all the time He lived on earth,  
but especially at the end,  
Christ bore in body and soul  
the wrath of God against the sin  
of the whole human race.  
Thus, by His suffering,  
as the only atoning sacrifice,  
He has redeemed our body and soul  
from everlasting damnation,  
and obtained for us  
the grace of God, righteousness, and eternal life.**

The Question: Why did He suffer under Pontius Pilate as judge?

**Though innocent, Christ was condemned  
by an earthly judge,  
and so He freed us  
from the severe judgment of God  
that was to fall on us.**

The Question: Does it have a special meaning that Christ was crucified and did not die in a different way?

**Yes. Thereby I am assured that He took upon Himself the  
curse which lay on me, for a crucified one was cursed by God.**

The Hymn No. 247 — “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded”

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — Matthew 27:45-50.....(pew Bible page 834)

The Sermon — God-Forsaken ..... Dr. Strain

The Hymn No. 254 — “Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed”

The Benediction

## **EASTER MORNING SERVICES**

8:30 and 11 a.m.

Sunday School will be held at 9:45 a.m.

## **EASTER EVENING SERVICE**

6 p.m.

As we look forward to celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ together as a church family, we hope you will join us in inviting friends, neighbors, and family members to join us at FPC on Easter Sunday. 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. For more information visit

[fpcj.ms/easter](http://fpcj.ms/easter).

## **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 the church.

Cover artwork  
Margaret Collier  
“Mississippi Springtime”  
Watercolor