

The  
First  
Presbyterian  
Church  
of  
Jackson



*“To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever”*

# THE LORD'S DAY

The Twenty-sixth 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. Wiley P. Lowry III  
Minister of Teaching and Pastoral Care

## APPROACHING THE THRONE OF THE LORD

### The Greetings and Announcements

The Prelude — “Communion” .....Louis Vierne  
Mr. Aaron Patterson, organ

The Introit — “Behold Our God” .....Joshua Spacht  
Behold our God seated on His throne. Come, let us adore Him  
Behold our King! Nothing can compare. Come, let us adore Him!

The Call to Worship — Philippians 4:4-7

The Hymn No. 267 — “The Day of Resurrection”

The Prayer of Adoration and Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

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.

The Offering

The Offertory — “When I Survey” ..... Gilbert Martin  
When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.  
Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the death of Christ, my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them through his blood.  
See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down.  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?  
Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small.  
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all! Amen!

## HEARING THE WORD OF THE LORD

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — 2 Timothy 3:1-9 .....pew Bible page 996

The Sermon..... Dr. Strain

Keep the Faith: Always Learning, Never Arriving at Truth

The Hymn — “Behold the Lamb” .....see guide

## COMMUNING AT THE TABLE OF THE LORD

### The Lord’s Supper

The Words of Institution

The Invitation

The Prayer of Consecration

The Communion with Our Lord Jesus Christ and His People

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Hymn No. 558 (stz. 1-4) — “That Man Is Blest” (from Psalm 1)

### The Benediction

### The Congregational Response

**The Lord will guard the righteous well, their way to him is known;  
the way of sinners, far from God, shall surely be o'erthrown.**

The Postlude — “Final” from *Symphony 6* .....Louis Vierne

## 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.

## BEHOLD THE LAMB

1. Be - hold the Lamb who bears our sins a - way  
2. The bod - y of our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ,  
3. The blood that cleans - es eve - ry stain of sin,  
4. And so with thank - ful - ness in faith we rise

Slain for us, and we re - mem - ber  
Torn for you, Eat and re - mem - ber  
Shed for you, Drink and re - mem - ber  
To re - spond, And to re - mem - ber

The prom - ise made that all who come in faith  
The words that heal the death that brings us life  
He drank death's cup that all may en - ter in  
Our call to fol - low in the steps of Christ

Find for - give - ness at the cross.  
Paid the price to make us one.  
To re - ceive the life of God.  
As His bod - y here on earth.

So we share in this bread of life,  
So we share in this bread of life,  
So we share in this bread of life,  
As we share in His suf - fer - ing

And we drink of His sac - ri - fice  
And we drink of His sac - ri - fice  
And we drink of His sac - ri - fice  
We pro - claim Christ will come a - gain!

As a sign of our bonds of peace  
As a sign of our bonds of love  
As a sign of our bonds of grace  
And we'll join in the feat of heav'n

A - round the ta - ble of the King.

# GUIDE TO THE MORNING SERVICE

This Lord's Day is a special occasion as we have the joy of partaking of the Lord's Table together. The sacrament of the "Lord's Supper" was instituted by Christ for the church in every age. Augustine, one of the early church fathers, referred to the sacrament as "a visible word" because it proclaims to us "the Lord's death until He comes" (1 Corinthians 11:23-26). As we come to the Table today, it may help you to prepare your hearts by pondering the significance of the Lord's Table.

## **The Lord's Table**

The phrase itself conveys something very important about what is taking place during this component of our worship service. First, it is a table and not an altar. An altar is a place where sacrifices are offered to God. Christ has "offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, [and] he sat down at the right hand of God" (Hebrews 10:12). Again, "for by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified" (Hebrews 10:14). We have no need of an altar because the cross of Christ is the only altar of God. Second, it is the table of the Lord. He is the host of the meal and, hence, possesses the prerogative to invite us to meet and sup with him. Therefore, as the term "Communion Service" denotes, it is a fellowship meal of Christ with His people.

It is oftentimes easy to miss the significance of Church architecture, but in reality, our sanctuary is designed to speak to us about the grace, beauty, and majesty of God. And the Lord's Table beautifully communicates this. Our communion table sits in the front of the sanctuary on the floor with the congregation in order to remind us that it is in Christ's sacrificial death that we are truly united to Him and also to one another. The table remains on the floor to show us that the body and blood of Christ, which it displays, is for the entire covenant community.

## **Christ's Presence**

Another important question to ask when thinking on this sacrament is, "In what way is Christ present within it?" Sincere Christians throughout the ages have struggled to answer this question because within the ordinance there is certainly an aura of mystery. But we must remember that while the elements remain bread and wine, the presence of Christ is truly among us by His Spirit. The Spirit alone is able to make the sacrament of the Lord's Supper beneficial to our souls by penetrating our hearts and stirring our affections for Christ. Hence, let us be prepared to feast at the Lord's Table by asking the Spirit of God to convict us of sin, to supply grace to truly repent, and to savor Christ more and more. As we partake the emblems of Christ's suffering, let us remember that God confirms the benefits of His suffering: pardon, reconciliation, and eternal life through this covenant meal. Let us in turn reaffirm our covenant privileges and responsibilities to God as we anticipate His return.

# FPC THIS WEEK

## Sunday, April 26, 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
2:30 p.m.	Twin Lakes Gates Open .....	Twin Lakes
5:00 p.m.	Evening Worship Service.....	Twin Lakes
6:30 p.m.	Dinner.....	Twin Lakes

## Tuesday, April 28, 2026

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 29, 2026

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

## Saturday, May 2, 2026

7:30 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast .....	PH
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## Sunday, May 3, 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
4:30 p.m.	Student Choir Rehearsal.....	MS
5:00 p.m.	New Member Meeting.....	PH
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)	
7:30 p.m.	Senior High Insight .....	the Hardy Home (761 Arlington Street)

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

## 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](http://www.twinlakescamp.org).

## SEND A CAP TO PERU THIS SUMMER!

Our Peru Mission Team will be collecting baseball caps to take to Cajamarca in July. Please bring your new or gently worn caps to the bin outside the FPC Bookstore anytime during the week. Our team will be ministering to 2500 children in Cajamarca, teaching from Matthew 14:22-33 in which Jesus says... "It Is I... Take Courage... Do Not Be Afraid." We are also accepting financial donations to help with the materials for our trip. For more information or with questions, please contact Jo Lynn at [joynnm@fpcjackson.org](mailto:joynnm@fpcjackson.org) or 601-955-6053. Join us praying for our Peru Mission Team as they prepare to share the hope of the gospel with the children of Cajamarca!

## 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](http://fpcj.ms/cardinals).

## 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](http://fpcj.ms/subscribe). Or with questions or for more information, you may email [communications@fpcjackson.org](mailto:communications@fpcjackson.org).

## VISITING FPC DURING THE WEEK

The Security Committee kindly requests that all visitors to our church during business hours (Mon.-Fri.) sign in at the receptionist desk in the Welcome Center and wear a weekday pass or member badge. Day School visitors should check in at the FPDS entrance on Belhaven St. Thank you for helping us maintain a safe environment for our children and staff.

## SERVE AS AN USHER

Men of FPC, ushering is a wonderful way to serve the church and get to know your church family. We are always looking for men to join us in this important role. Ushers serve one month at a time on a rotating schedule. Sign up at [fpcj.ms/usher](http://fpcj.ms/usher) or contact Josh Hollingsworth at [jdhollin13@gmail.com](mailto:jdhollin13@gmail.com) to join our team.

## PRAY FOR SUPPORTED MINISTRY PARTNERS

For detailed prayer requests and contact information for our supported missionaries and ministry partners, please contact Jo Lynn at [joynnm@fpcjackson.org](mailto:joynnm@fpcjackson.org).

**Jon & Olya Powell** – Jon serves as the University Student Pastor with the church plant in Lviv and Olya serves as a part of the student ministry along with team finances and administration. Email: [jon.powell@mtw.org](mailto:jon.powell@mtw.org).

**Megan Williams** – Megan serves with RUF as an intern at Mississippi College. Email: [megan.williams@ruf.org](mailto:megan.williams@ruf.org).

**Pioneer Ministries** – Supported through Mission to Jackson under the guidance of the Benevolence Committee, Pioneer is a ministry whose purpose is to prepare boys and girls spiritually, educationally and emotionally to serve Christ in their communities as contributing citizens. Pioneer also helps married couples acquire relationship skills that will produce stable homes in a fast-changing world. Email: [pminis3659@aol.com](mailto:pminis3659@aol.com)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Bill and Neal Tyson.

## COMMUNION — TODAY

Communion will be observed in the morning worship services today. Please prayerfully prepare your hearts and minds to receive the Lord's Supper. Professionally prepared, gluten-free elements will be available to pick up on the table on the south wall of the Greeting Courtyard.

## EVENING WORSHIP AT TWIN LAKES — TONIGHT

Tonight 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. If you registered for a boxed dinner, we will have it ready for you. If not, please bring a picnic dinner.

## SIXTH GRADE WELCOME TO FPCYM — APRIL 30

Parents of Sixth Graders, we can't wait to welcome your children to student ministry at FPC! Join FPCYM for dinner and games on April 30 at 5:30. Come hang out and meet our staff! We're also excited to have sixth grade join us in the Youth House for Sunday School on May 3, and at Midweek on Wednesday, May 6.

## YOUNG ADULTS PICKLEBALL — MAY 9

Young Adults, our pickleball tournament is set for May 9. Come out to Twin Lakes at 10:30 for the competition or just come and hang out. Lunch will follow. Sign up at [fpcj.ms/ya](https://fpcj.ms/ya).

## BOUND TOGETHER BOOK CLUB — MAY 12

### *Worship & Government*

As we continue exploring what it means to belong to the Household of God, our next Bound Together Book Club gathering invites you to dive into the theme of Worship & Government. The book club's featured book for this section is *How Jesus Runs the Church* by Guy Waters. Find the entire recommended reading list online at [fpcj.ms/household](https://fpcj.ms/household).

Join us for an evening of discussion, fellowship, and encouragement as we consider how the gospel shapes our purpose, our service, and our shared mission as the body of Christ. If you weren't able to attend the previous book club, we'd still love for you to come. Each meeting is independent, so feel free to participate whenever you're able. Join us Tuesday, May 12, at 6:30 p.m., led by Sarah & Guy Waters. Desserts & coffee provided. Register online at [fpcj.ms/events](https://fpcj.ms/events). A nursery is available upon request at registration.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL — JUNE 1-5

Registration is now open for Vacation Bible School 2026. This year at VBS our students are discovering how to be **A Part of God's Royal Family** (Romans 8:16-17). Our website [fpcj.ms/vbs](https://fpcj.ms/vbs) is the one stop shop for all things VBS. Register your children; sign up a teenager as a teen helper; or volunteer as an adult!

## 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](https://fpcj.ms/events).