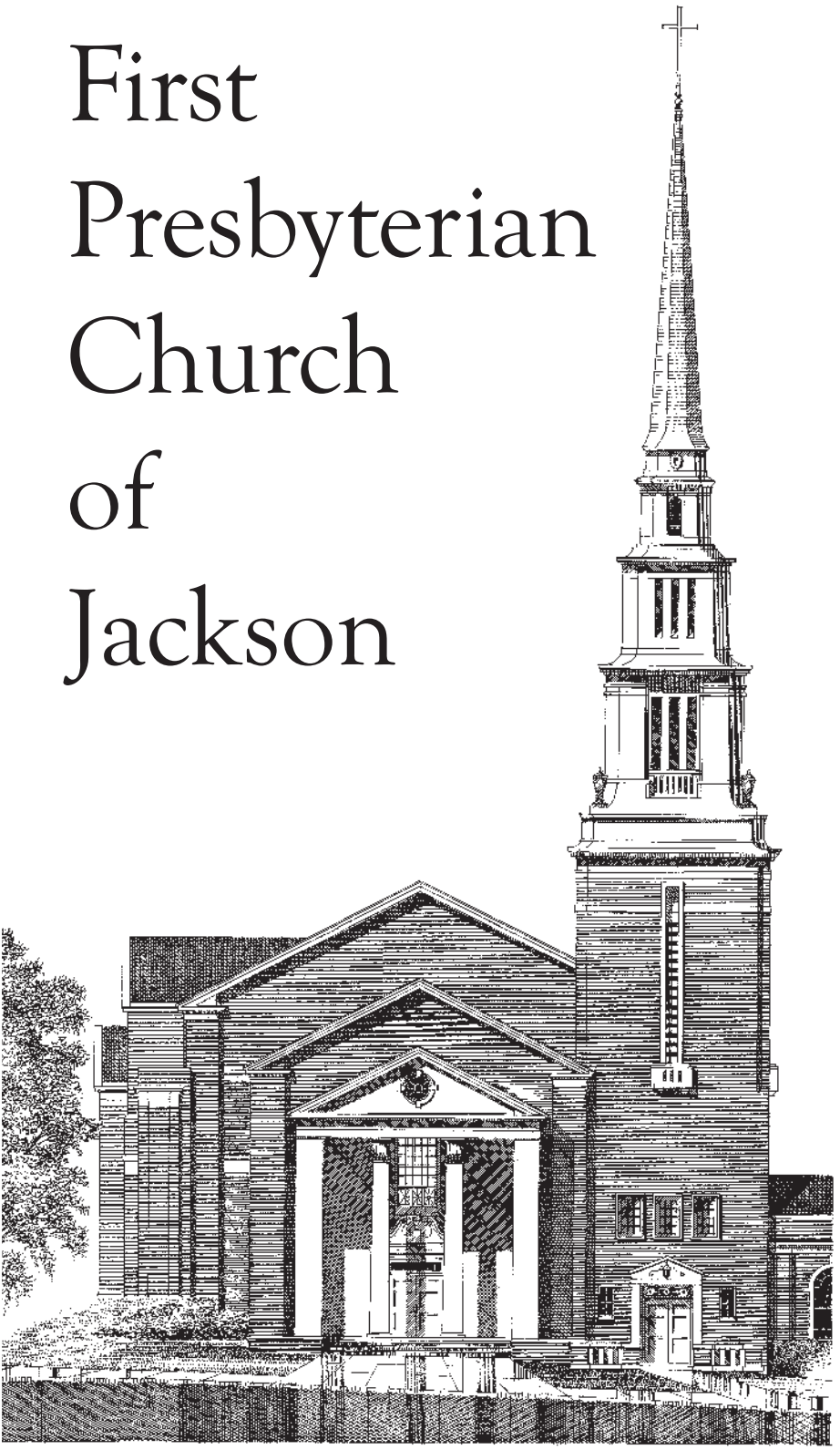
The First Presbyterian Church of Jackson



"To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever"

THE LORD'S DAY

The Sixth Day of September, Two Thousand Twenty-Six
MORNING WORSHIP
Eight-Thirty and Eleven in the Morning

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

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

APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

The Greetings and Announcements

The Prelude — "Improvisation"
Mr. Aaron Patterson

The Introit — "Awake, My Heart" ..... Jane Marshall
Awake, my heart, and render to God thy sure defender,
Thy Maker thy preserver, a song of love and fervor.

The Call to Worship — Adapted from Psalm 136 and Isaiah 9
Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given
And the government shall be upon His shoulders.

Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.

His name shall be called wonderful, counsellor,
The mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.

Of the increase of His kingdom and His government there shall be no end.

Let us Worship God.

The Hymn No. 700 — "Come, We That Love the Lord"

The Invocation

The Doxology No. 735 — "Gloria Patri"
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 Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Hymn No. 30 — "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past" (from Psalm 90)

The Scripture Reading — 1 John 1:1-10 ..... pew Bible page 1021

The Offering

The Offertory — "Thy Perfect Love" .....John Rutter

Jesu, my love, my joy, my rest, Thy perfect love close in my breast
That I Thee love and never rest; and make me love Thee of all things best,
And wounde my heart in Thy love free, that I may reign in joy evermore with Thee.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — 1 Corinthians 13:8-13 .....pew Bible page 960

The Sermon — Love Perfected.....Mr. Miller

The Hymn No. 647 (stz. 1-5) — "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

Till then I would Thy love proclaim with every fleeting breath;
And may the music of Thy name refresh my soul in death.

The Postlude — "Improvisation"

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

Five-Thirty in the Evening

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

Mr. Timothy Paul O. Tumutod
IT/AV Intern

The Greetings and Announcements

The Prelude — "Take My Life and Let It Be".....Ms. Rebekah Lipscombe

The Call to Worship

The Hymn — "Oh, How Good It Is" (based on Psalm 133)..... hymn sheet

The Invocation

The Hymn No. 599 — "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

The Mission Trip Report.....Mr. Peyton Gunter
Thailand Mission Team Member

The Greetings

The Evening Prayer.....Mr. Spence Flatgard, Ruling Elder

The Offering

The Offertory— "Deep River".....Mr. Rene Young

*__The Young Children's Devotional__ — *The Children's Catechism*

Q55. What does God the Father guarantee in the covenant of grace? **A. To justify and sanctify all those for whom Christ died.**
Q56. How does God justify you? **A. God forgives all my sins and accepts me as righteous through Christ.**
Q57. How does God sanctify you? **A. God makes me more and more holy in heart and conduct.**

The Meditation & Prayer ..... Rev. David Felker, Executive Minister

The Hymn No. 164 (stz. 1-5) — "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — Mark 8:22-27a.....pew Bible page 844

The Sermon — Vision and Mission.....Mr. Lowry

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,
Your loosen'd tongues employ;
Ye blind, behold your Savior come;
And leap, ye lame, for joy.

The Postlude

*Children ages 4 through 3rd 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
Mark Baird
Ken Ball
Kyle Ball
Charles Barbour
Max Bowman
Bud Bratley
Sharkey Burke
Beau Burrow
Stuart Clarke
David Cleland
Reid Cotten
Jack Crawford
Holt Crews
Bill Crim
Bob Cunningham
Ned Currie
Arthur Davis
Steve Edwards
Parker Ellison
George Fair
Spence Flatgard
Craig Flowers
Marcy Forester
Paul Forster
Dave Fulcher
Matt Graves
Claude Harbarger
William Harper
Sam Hensley
Zeb Henson
Paul Hurst
Wayne Husband
Rob Jones
Harper Keeler
Dallis Ketchum
Stephen Kruger
George May
Doug McDaniel
John McVey
Hu Meena
Jimmy Moore
John Neill
Nathan Oakley
Phillip Parker
Richard Ridgway
Ben Roberson
Steve Rosenblatt
Malcolm Saxon
John Lowe Smith
Bill Stone
Danny Story
Ernie Strahan
Tian Teh
Tim Threadgill
Mike Tramel
Matthew Turnage
Alan Walters
Cal Wells
Marcus Wilson
Mark Windham
Frank York

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, Rob Love, Buz Lowry, Robert Mims, Bill Payne, Jojo Payne, Bill Penn, Mark Sorgenfrei, Marvin Stockett, Orrin Swayze, Jim Tohill, Noel Toler, Barry Vickery

THE DIACONATE

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MTJ SUNDAY — SEPTEMBER 13

During a joint Sunday School on MTJ Sunday, September 13, a panel of our church's volunteers from The Mustard Seed, Mission First, Harbor Day School, Gateway, Care Center, We Will Go, and our own Internationals ministry will join us in Miller Hall at 9:45 a.m. to share how the Lord is at work and to share hands-on ways we can serve alongside them. Join us for a light breakfast, coffee, and a morning focused on local outreach!

SERVE WEEK — SEPTEMBER 28-OCTOBER 3

Serve Week is our week-long initiative connecting our church members with local ministry partners. During Serve Week, we'll get hands-on experience with our partner ministries, and it is our prayer that we would be able to forge new relationships between our members and these local organizations that extend beyond Serve Week — to all year long! Serve Week is designed with our church's mission in mind: to **make disciples in our neighborhood, our communities, and the world.** Register online at **fpcj.ms/serve**.

SENIOR ADULTS SERVE DAY — SEPTEMBER 14

Senior Adults, join us on Monday, September 14, anytime between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the PEARSON Foundation as we work together in the community garden, organize for their college outreach, and gear up for their Annual Reception and Raffle. RSVP to Emily Eastman at emilye@fpcjackson.org or 769-572-3535.

CALL FOR CHRISTMAS ARTWORK

You are invited to share your creativity by submitting a recent or newly created work of art for consideration as the cover of our Music of Christmas program and other Christmas publicity. Artwork may be in any medium or style and must be 10.5x14 in to be considered for the program cover. Submit your artwork to margaretm@fpcjackson.org by November 1.

FPDS PRIORITY ENROLLMENT

The deadline for First Presbyterian Day School priority applications for church members is October 31. This applies to **new** students who will be in grades K3 through sixth in the 2027-2028 school year. If you are new to the church or even a long-time member, we invite you to visit our school. To apply, schedule a tour, or for more information, go online to **fpds.org/visit** or contact the school office at 601-355-1731.

ACORN FUND

As the new school year begins at First Presbyterian Day School, please pray for the 600 students who fill our halls each school day. As you are able, consider a gift to the FPDS Acorn Fund, which supports teacher recruitment and retention, academic excellence, and competitive tuition. Most importantly, the Acorn Fund provides an opportunity to partner with FPDS as we grow our children from acorns of faith into "oaks of righteousness" (Isaiah 61:3). Gifts may be made at **fpds.org/give**, through the church app by selecting "Acorn Fund," or by mailing a check payable to First Presbyterian Day School–Acorn Fund to 1390 N. State Street, Jackson, MS 39202.

PRAY FOR SUPPORTED MINISTRY PARTNERS

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

Mark & Jane Kuo – Mark is serving as a Church Planter in Taiwan under Woodruff Road Presbyterian Church, Simpsonville, SC. Email: markchkuo@gmail.com

Daniel McSwain – Daniel serves as the RUF intern at Belhaven University. Email: Daniel.mcswain@ruf.org

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

THE LOVE OF GOD

Our current cultural moment is consumed with the pursuit of love. We search for it in romance, family, friendship, self-care, charity, and countless other places, yet human love so often leaves us longing for something more. This year's churchwide teaching theme, The Love of God: Vast, Unmeasured, Boundless, Free, invites us to turn our attention away from ourselves and toward the love of God, which is the foundation of the Christian gospel, the ground of Christian hope, and the joy of Christian hearts. In Scripture, we encounter a love that is steadfast and unchanging, active and creative, vast yet deeply personal; a love that knows our sin and meets us with grace, and that was demonstrated most fully when Christ died for us while we were yet sinners. Through this theme, we will explore the depths of God's love and discover in His Word the vast, unmeasured, boundless, free love for which our hearts are searching. Find out more at **fpcj.ms/love-of-god**.

DEACON ELECTION 2027

The nomination period for deacons is open through September 9. Find our more and nominate online at **fpcj.ms/deacon-election** or via cards at the receptionist desk.

WEEKDAY PRAYER MEETING

This semester we are offering more opportunities to join a Weekday Prayer Meeting! Choose the option that works best for your schedule, and make corporate prayer a part of your routine. We will spend time praying about Word ministry in our neighborhood, communities, and the world.

- Tuesdays, 8:15 to 9 a.m., RTS 1st-floor Conference Room | Women's Prayer Meeting | Led by Meredith VanDevender & Lauren Felker
- Tuesdays at noon, Patterson Hall | Led by David Strain
- Thursdays at 6:30 a.m., the Lake Cavalier Club House | Men's Prayer Meeting | Led by Lindsey Duhs and Bill Stone
- Friday mornings at 7 a.m. at Northshore Coffee at the District of Eastover | Led by George Herndon
- Saturdays at 7:30 a.m., Patterson Hall | Men's Prayer Breakfast
- Sundays at 4:30 p.m., the Parlor | Prayer for Global Missions

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

We are gearing up for all of our Women's Bible studies, and now is a great time to get connected. We have several different group sizes and meeting times. Register at **fpcj.ms/women**. With questions, please contact Deborah Oakley at deboraho@fpcjackson.org.

- MOMS at Night Bible Study | Every other Tuesday at 6 p.m. | Exodus: The Story of Rescue & Deliverance | Begins September 15
- MOMS Bible Study | Wednesdays at 9 a.m. | Exodus: The Story of Rescue & Deliverance | Begins September 16
- Revelation: Hope, Perseverance, Worship | Thursdays at 9:15 a.m. | Led by Melissa Abraham, Helen Lewis, and Ella Payne | Begins September 17
- Genesis: The Beginning of the Gospel | Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. | Led by Laura Husband | Begins September 17
- Circles | Hosea: Loved, Pursued, Restored | Monthly on Mondays or Tuesdays

JOIN FPC'S ADULT CHOIR

The adult choir begins preparation for Music of Christmas in retreat on September 12. This is a great opportunity to join the choir. We rehearse Wednesdays 5:50-7:15 and sing for morning services. For more information, contact LeviH@fpcjackson.org.

FPC THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 6, 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**	M123
11:00 a.m.	**Children's Churchtime**	G110
4:30 p.m.	**Student Choir Rehearsal**	MS
4:30 p.m.	**Prayer for Global Missions**	Parlor
5:30 p.m.	**Evening Worship Service**	Sanctuary

Monday, September 7, 2026

All Day	**Church Office Closed**	

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

8:15 a.m.	**Women's Weekday Prayer**	Reformed Theological Seminary
9:30 a.m.	**Quilters**	Bookstore
12:00 p.m.	**Weekday Prayer Meeting**	PH

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

9:00 a.m.	**MOMS Welcome Back Coffee**	MH
9:30 a.m.	**GriefShare**	Parlor
5:00-6:00 p.m.	**Midweek Dinner**	MH
5:00-7:00 p.m.	**Nursery**	Nursery
5:30 p.m.	**Children's Playtime**	Playground
5:50 p.m.	**Adult Choir Rehearsal**	MS
6:00 p.m.	**Midweek Adult Programs**	
	The Love of God Midweek Elective	MH
	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.	**Student Ministry D Groups**	YH & Baird Center Gym

Thursday, September 10, 2026

6:30 a.m.	**Men's Weekday Prayer**	Lake Cavalier Club House (672 Lake Cavalier Rd.)
9:30 a.m.	**Quilters**	Bookstore

Friday, September 11, 2026

7:00 a.m.	**Weekday Prayer Meeting**	Northshore Coffee (The District)
5:30 p.m.	**Handbell Ensemble Rehearsal**	WH 304 B

Saturday, September 12, 2026

7:30 a.m.	**Men's Prayer Breakfast**	PH
9:00 a.m.	**Adult Choir Retreat**	Twin Lakes

Sunday, September 13, 2026

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.	**Morning Worship Services**	Sanctuary
9:45 a.m.	**MTJ Joint Sunday School**	MH
9:45 a.m.	**Children's Sunday School**	Regular Locations
9:45 a.m.	**Membership Class**	M123
11:00 a.m.	**Children's Churchtime**	G110
4:30 p.m.	**Student Choir Rehearsal**	MS
4:30 p.m.	**Prayer for Global Missions**	Parlor
5:30 p.m.	**Evening Worship Service**	Sanctuary
7:00 p.m.	**Senior High Insight** ... the Yerger Home (221 Rolling Meadow Rd.)	

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