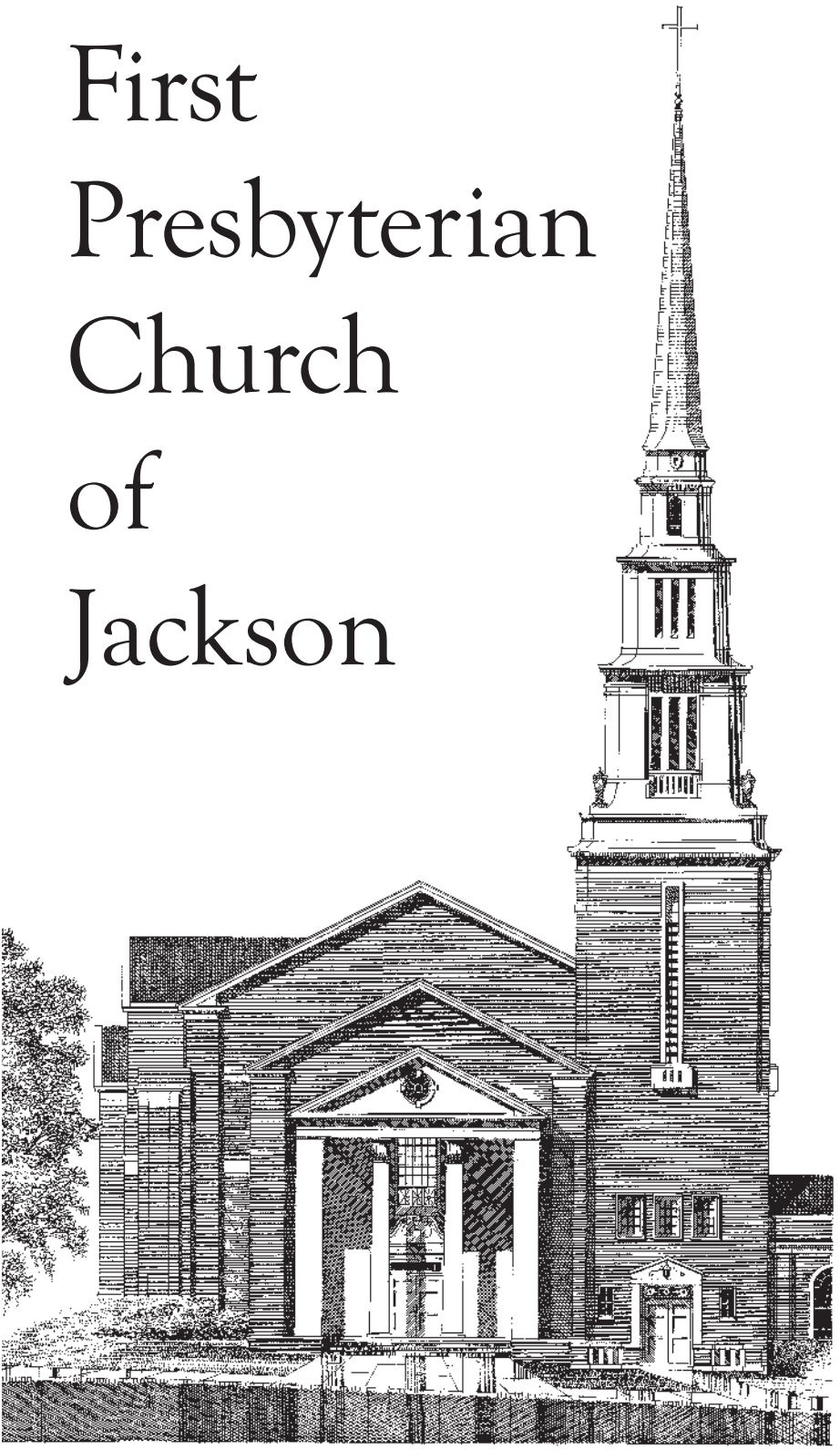
The First Presbyterian Church of Jackson



"To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever"

THE LORD'S DAY

The Eleventh Day of October, 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 THE THRONE OF THE LORD

The Greetings and Announcements

The Prelude — "Intermezzo" ..... Herbert Sumsion
Mr. Aaron Patterson

The Introit — "Gloria Amen" from *Jubilate Deo* ..... William Walton
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 Call to Worship — 1 Timothy 1:15,17

The Hymn No. 420 (stz. 1-2) — "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

The Prayer of Adoration and Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

The Doxology No. 420 (stz. 3) — "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"
Mighty victim from the sky, pow'rs of hell beneath Thee lie;
Death is conquered in the fight, Thou hast brought us life and light:
Hymns of glory and of praise, risen Lord, to Thee we raise;
Holy Father, praise to Thee, with the Spirit, ever be.

The Offering

The Offertory — "I Sat Down under His Shadow" ..... Edward Bairstow
I sat down under His shadow with great delight, and His fruit was sweet to my taste.
He brought me to the banqueting house, and His banner over me was love.

HEARING THE WORD OF THE LORD

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — Song of Solomon 1:15-2:7 .....pew Bible page 560

The Sermon — **Song of Songs:** His Banner Over Me Was Love ..... Dr. Strain

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. 469 (stz. 1-5) — "How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place"

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

We long to see Your churches full, that all the chosen race
may, with one voice and heart and soul, sing Your redeeming grace.

The Postlude — "Canzonetta in G Minor," BuxWV 173 ....Dieterich Buxtehude

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.

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

The Reverend Mr. Gary W. Sinclair
Assistant Minister and FPDS Chaplain

The Greetings and Announcements

The Prelude — "Be Thou My Vision" .....Mr. Owen Hallbach

The Call to Worship

The Hymn — "Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me"..... hymn sheet

The Invocation

The Hymn No. 558 — "That Man Is Blest Who, Fearing God" (from Psalm 1)

The Greetings

The Evening Prayer..... Mr. Jack Crawford, Ruling Elder

The Offering

The Offertory — "Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word".....Mr. Owen Hallbach

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

Q68. How many offices does Christ fulfill as the promised Messiah? A. **Christ fulfills three offices.**

Q69. What are they? A. **The offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king.**

The Meditation & Prayer.... Rev. Billy Dempsey, Minister of Congregational Care

The Hymn (stz. 1-3) — "O Church Arise"..... hymn sheet

The Prayer of Illumination

The Scripture Reading — Mark 9:30-50.....pew Bible page 845

The Sermon — A Discipleship Rabbit Hole.....Mr. Lowry

The Benediction

The Congregational Response

So Spirit, come, put strength in every stride; give grace for every hurdle.
That we may run with faith to win the prize of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old, still line the way, retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls, and hunger for the day when with Christ we stand in glory.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REFORMATION DAY WORSHIP SERVICE — OCTOBER 25

Why does the Reformation still matter? On Reformation Day, we remember God's faithfulness in preserving His church and recovering the truth of His Word. Join us for our Reformation Day Service on Sunday, October 25, at 5:30 p.m. as we worship together and give thanks. We're excited to welcome our sister churches and neighbors in the community to this evening of reflection and praise.

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.

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. Please no images of Jesus. Submit your artwork to margaretm@fpcjackson.org by November 1.

HEARING ASSISTANCE AT FPC

FPC partners with Sanctuary Audio to help improve the listening experience in our sanctuary. The program can be used through earbuds or any bluetooth-enabled hearing aid. Below are the directions for using Sanctuary Audio via your phone or tablet. If you have questions, please contact Tim Tumutod at timt@fpcjackson.org.

1. Connect your headphones or earbuds to your phone/device.
2. Connect your phone/device to the WiFi network "FPC Guest."
3. Download the app called "ListenWIFI."
4. Open the "ListenWIFI" App.
5. Tap "Venue Scan" until the app connects with FPC Jackson.
6. Select "FPC Jackson" channel.
7. Enjoy listening to the Sanctuary audio!

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.

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.

Quinn & Laura Crawford – Quinn is serving with the church plant in Moldova including discipleship and hospitality. Email: crawfordstomoldova@gmail.com

Children of Abraham – Bassam Chedid founded the Children of Abraham ministry in 1977 to communicate the saving message of Christ to a largely un-evangelized Arabic community in and beyond North America. Email: chedid@cs.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 or jarward@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving celebration of the 25th wedding anniversary of T. and Hayes Dale from their children, Thomas, Hallie, and Mary Ellison Dale.

COMMUNION TODAY

Communion will be observed in the morning worship services today. Please begin prayerfully preparing 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.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY CIRCLES — MEETING THIS WEEK

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 lisao@fpcjackson.org.

Monday, October 12

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	Dianne Mason's Home
Circle 6	6:30	Rhonda Baird's Home

Tuesday, October 13

Circle 7	10:00	Blair Hederman's Home
Circle 9	10:00	Parlor
Circle 12	10:30	St. Catherine's

Monday, October 19

Circle 14	12:00	Miller Hall

MEN'S TUESDAY BREAKFAST SERIES — TUESDAYS AT 6:30 A.M.

Men, join us on Tuesdays at 6:30 a.m. Register online and pay for breakfast at **fpcj.ms/men**. Invite a friend and pay for his breakfast online! Our series this fall is Callings of a Christian Man, led by Stephen Biggs and friends. Join us this fall at Men's Breakfast as we explore how God has called men to serve His Church, His kingdom, His world, and His Christ.

YA COOKOUT — OCTOBER 15

Young Adults, join us for burgers on the grill on Thursday, October 15, 6-7:30 p.m. at the Creekmore Cabin (143 McHarris Rd., in Madison). Come for a relaxed evening, time together with friends, and a chance to make new ones! Sign up at **fpcj.ms/ya** to bring a side dish. Contact Scott Miller, Rose Ohnstad, or Stephen Christenbury with questions.

MOLDOVA MISSION TRIP — DEADLINE TO REGISTER OCTOBER 17

Join this year's Mission Trip to Moldova. We will hold a basketball camp with Paul Sanduleac and are hopeful to take a team of at least 6 adults. The cost will be $1860 + airfare, and the deadline to register is October 17. Sign up at **fpcj.ms/go**.

GOSPEL LEGACY DINNER — OCTOBER 19

FPC is excited to host a planned giving dinner and seminar in partnership with the PCA Foundation on October 19 from 6-7:30 p.m. Join us for dinner and for conversations with selected church staff, officers, and representatives from the PCA Foundation on intentional estate planning for gospel impact. There is no charge for the dinner, and no financial commitment will be requested at this seminar. RSVP online at **fpcj.ms/events**. With questions, contact Chase Wynn at 662-397-0579 or chasew@fpcjackson.org.

CAREGIVERS' SUPPORT GROUP — OCTOBER 20

The Caregivers' Support Group will meet Tuesday, October 20, in Westminster Hall 202 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.

FPC THIS WEEK

Sunday, October 11, 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
7:00 p.m. **Senior High Insight** ..... The Ball Home (418 Hampton Court)

Monday, October 12, 2026

Various **Women's Ministry Circles Meet This Week** .... See Announcements
5:30 p.m. **Diaconate Meeting** ..... PH
6:30 p.m. **Session Meeting** ..... MS

Tuesday, October 13, 2026

6:30 a.m. **Men's Breakfast Series** ..... Miller Hall
8:15 a.m. **Women's Weekday Prayer** ..... Reformed Theological Seminary
9:30 a.m. **Quilters** ..... Bookstore
9:30 a.m. **Sew & Sow** ..... WH 302
10:00 a.m. **Men's Bible Study** ..... WH 305
12:00 p.m. **Weekday Prayer Meeting** ..... PH
5:45 p.m. **Internationals Class** ..... PH
6:00 p.m. **MOMS at Night Bible Study** ..... MS

Wednesday, October 14, 2026

9:00 a.m. **MOMS Bible Study** ..... 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
- Membership Class ..... WH 204
- D Groups ..... Various Locations
- Evangelism Training ..... WH 202
- 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, October 15, 2026

6:30 a.m. **Men's Weekday Prayer** ..... Lake Cavalier Club House
9:15 a.m. **Women's Bible Study | Revelation** ..... PH
9:45 a.m. **Women's Bible Study | Genesis** ..... MH
5:30 p.m. **Handbell Ensemble Rehearsal** ..... WH 304 B
6:00 p.m. **Young Adults October Night** ..... 143 McHarris Rd., in Madison

Friday, October 16, 2026

7:00 a.m. **Weekday Prayer Meeting** ..... Northshore Coffee (The District)

Saturday, October 17, 2026

7:30 a.m. **Men's Prayer Breakfast** ..... PH

Sunday, October 18, 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
7:00 p.m. **Senior High Insight** .... the McClain Home (4418 Hickory Ridge 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