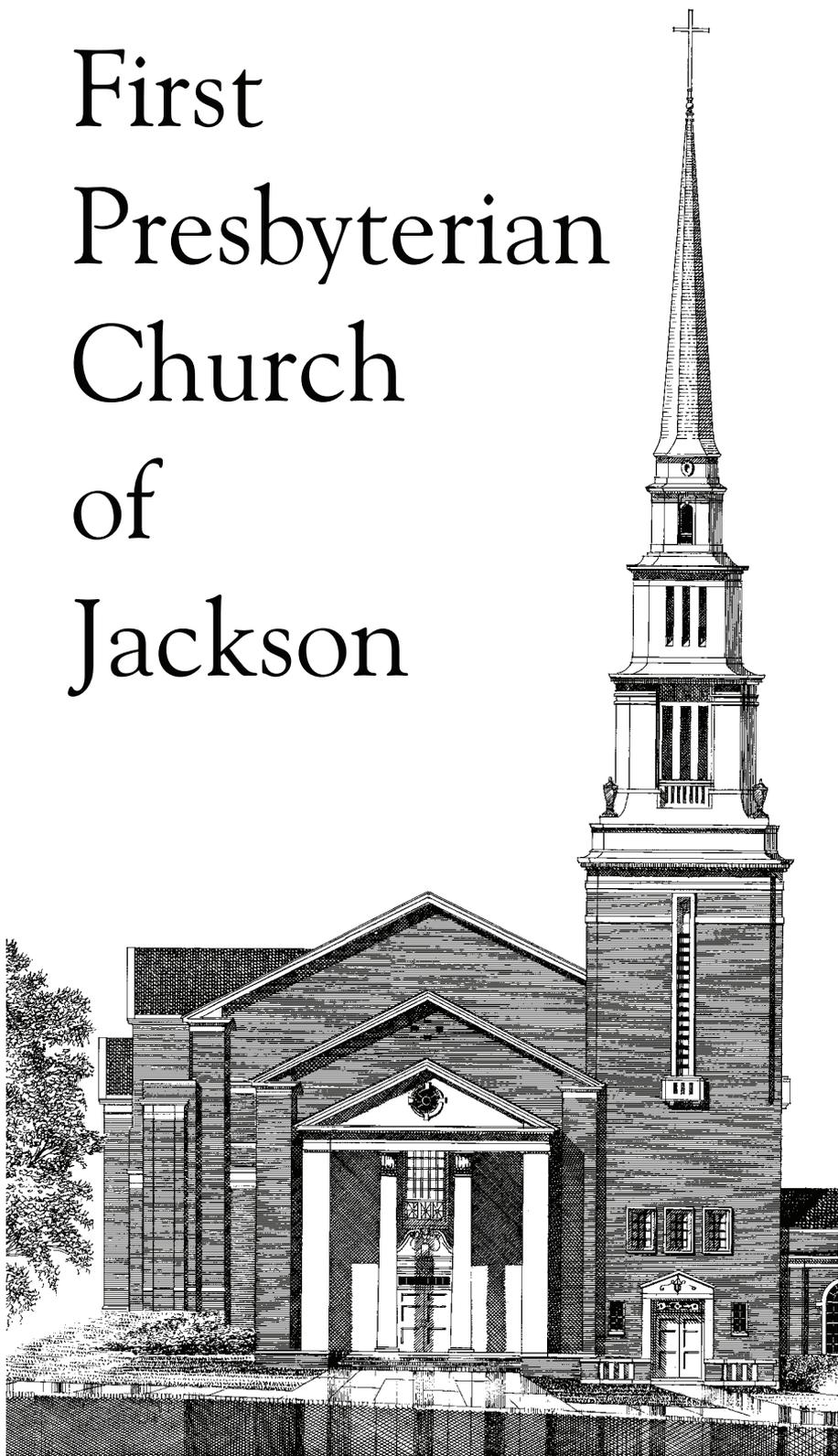


The
First
Presbyterian
Church
of
Jackson



“To Glorify God, And Enjoy Him Forever”

THE LORD'S DAY

The Sixth Day of September, Two Thousand Twenty

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 Care

APPROACHING GOD'S THRONE

The Prelude — "Air in D Major"..... J. S. Bach
William Wymond, Organ

The Greetings and Announcements (8:25 and 10:55 a.m.)

The Introit — "Who Is on the Lord's Side?".....Carradog Roberts

The Call to Worship

The Hymn No. 165 — "Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim"

1. Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful name;
the name, all victorious, of Jesus extol;
his kingdom is glorious and rules over all
2. God ruleth on high, almighty to save;
and still he is nigh— his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus, our King.
3. Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.
4. Then let us adore, and give him his right,
all glory and pow'r, and wisdom and might,
all honor and blessing, with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing for infinite love.

SEEKING GOD'S FACE

The Prayer of Adoration and Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

The Offering — "Because of Love"..... Lanny Allen

Why would God come to earth? Why would He choose a manger birth?
Why would He want to give me worth? Why would God come to earth?
Because of love.

He left the peace of heaven above. He left His majesty and came to earth
to ransom me because of love.

Why would God choose Calvary? Why would He suffer on a tree?
Why would He die for you and me? Why would God choose Calvary?
Because of love.

For God so loved the world, He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever
believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

He came to live in flesh and do His Father's will,
the sinless Son of God was slain on Calvary's hill.

But He arose from death to life triumphantly!

All this and more Christ did for me because of love.

Because of love, He left the peace of heaven above, He left His throne,
He left His majesty, and came to earth. He came to ransom me because of love,
Because God so loved!

The Hymn No. 6 — “O Come, My Soul, Bless Thou the Lord”

1. O come, my soul, bless thou the Lord thy Maker,
and all within me bless his holy name;
bless thou the Lord, forget not all his mercies,
his pard'ning grace and saving love proclaim.

Refrain:

Bless him forever, wondrous in might,
bless him, his servants that in his will delight.

2. Good is the Lord and full of kind compassion,
most slow to anger, plenteous in love;
rich is his grace to all that humbly seek him,
boundless and endless as the heav'ns above.

Refrain

3. His love is like a father's to his children,
tender and kind to all who fear his name;
for well he knows our weakness and our frailty,
he knows that we are dust, he knows our frame.

Refrain

4. We fade and die like flow'rs that grow in beauty,
like tender grass that soon will disappear;
but evermore the love of God is changeless,
still shown to those who look to him in fear.

Refrain

5. High in the heav'ns his throne is fixed forever,
his kingdom rules o'er all from pole to pole;
bless ye the Lord through all his wide dominion,
bless his most holy name, O thou my soul.

Refrain

The Pastoral Prayer

HEARING GOD'S VOICE

The Old Testament Reading — Psalm 103

- Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name!
- 2 Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits,
 - 3 who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
 - 4 who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
 - 5 who satisfies you with good
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
 - 6 The Lord works righteousness
and justice for all who are oppressed.
 - 7 He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.
 - 8 The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
 - 9 He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
 - 10 He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
 - 11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
 - 12 as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
 - 13 As a father shows compassion to his children,
so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.

- 14 For he knows our frame;
 he remembers that we are dust.
- 15 As for man, his days are like grass;
 he flourishes like a flower of the field;
- 16 for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
 and its place knows it no more.
- 17 But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those
 who fear him,
 and his righteousness to children's children,
 18 to those who keep his covenant
 and remember to do his commandments.
- 19 The Lord has established his throne in the heavens,
 and his kingdom rules over all.
- 20 Bless the Lord, O you his angels,
 you mighty ones who do his word,
 obeying the voice of his word!
- 21 Bless the Lord, all his hosts,
 his ministers, who do his will!
- 22 Bless the Lord, all his works,
 in all places of his dominion.
 Bless the Lord, O my soul!

The Reading of Holy Scripture — John 17:20-26

²⁰ “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

The Sermon — *The High Priestly Prayer: A Prayer for Unification*.....Dr. Strain

The Hymn No. 359 (Stzs. 1, 3, 5, 6) — “Blest Be the Tie that Binds”

1. Blest be the tie that binds
 our hearts in Christian love:
 the fellowship of kindred minds
 is like to that above.
3. We share our mutual woes,
 our mutual burdens bear,
 and often for each other flows
 the sympathizing tear.
5. This glorious hope revives
 our courage by the way,
 while each in expectation lives,
 and longs to see the day.
6. From sorrow, toil and pain,
 and sin, we shall be free;
 and perfect love and friendship reign
 through all eternity.

The Benediction

The Postlude — “Postlude in the Dorian Mode”Flor Peeters

ANNOUNCEMENTS

II THESSALONIANS 3:1 — *“Finally, brethren, pray for us...”*

Bill and Pam Schweitzer – Serving with Mission to the World as a church planter and a theological educator in Gateshead, England.

Email: w.m.schweitzer@gmail.com

Davis Morgan – Serving as Campus Minister with Reformed University Fellowship at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Email: davis.morgan@ruf.org.

STEWARDSHIP NEEDS

Offering plates are located at the exits of the sanctuary to receive gifts. We also offer alternative ways for members and regular givers to send offerings:

- Give online: fpcj.ms/give.
- Download our app on IOS and Android (FPC Jackson) and click “giving.”
- Send your offering through the mail to the church office.
- Give by text: Text “fpcjackson” to 779-77.

WOMEN’S VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY OPTION

The lectures from the in-person Thursday Bible Study on Ephesians will be recorded. If you are uncomfortable or unable to attend a Bible study, you may request to have the homework lessons and video lectures emailed to your inbox weekly. Email Lisa Oswalt at lisao@fpcjackson.org and request the Ephesians Virtual Option. The in-person study is open to women of all ages. It will meet on Thursdays from 9:45 - 11:00, beginning September 10, and will follow CDC guidelines for safety. To register, email Lisa Oswalt at lisao@fpcjackson.org.

WOMEN’S MINISTRY MIDWEEK BOOK STUDY

Join us for this Midweek study of Paul David Tripp’s book, a compilation of short meditations written through the lens of Psalm 27. This study is geared toward women of all ages and stages, with a common goal of pointing each other to Christ through Bible study and Gospel conversations. We will meet on Wednesdays from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. (launch date and location to be determined). Study leaders will be Dees Guidry and Beverly Harmon. To sign up, email Lisa Oswalt at lisao@fpcjackson.org.

MIDWEEK PRAYER MEETING

Join us Wednesdays in the Sanctuary, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. We will have a brief time of encouragement from God’s Word and then focus on a specific prayer topic each week. If you have specific requests, please email them to prayer@fpcjackson.org. We will practice social distancing in the Sanctuary, and no registration is required. If you are unable to join us in person, email discipleship@fpcjackson.org to commit to pray with us from a distance.

STORIES OF FAITHFULNESS: A WEEKLY PODCAST OF HOPE

In the month of September, our Stories of Faithfulness podcast will feature medical professionals whose stories tell of God’s sustaining power during difficult times. Check out new episodes Thursdays at fpcj.ms/stories.

WELCOME

We welcome all to this service of worship. If you are a Christian visiting with us today, we greet you in the name of our common Lord. If you are not a believer, we greet you as a friend and trust that you will sense the warmth and genuineness of our reception. We invite everyone here to participate with our congregation as we sing, pray, and give attention to God’s Word.

EVENING WORSHIP

Six O'Clock

The Reverend Mr. Gary W. Sinclair — FPDS Chaplain

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

The PreludeRae Shannon, Organ; Daniel Jones, Violin

The Greetings and Announcements (5:55 p.m.)

The Ministry Report.....Bill Schweitzer

The Call to Worship

The Hymn No. 541 — “When the Roll Is Called up Yonder”

1. When the trumpet of the Lord shall sound and time shall be no more,
and the morning breaks, eternal, bright and fair;
when the saved of earth shall gather over on the other shore,
and the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there.

Refrain:

When the roll is called up yonder,
when the roll is called up yonder,
when the roll is called up yonder,
when the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there.

2. On that bright and cloudless morning when the dead in Christ shall rise,
and the glory of his resurrection share;
when his chosen ones shall gather to their home beyond the skies,
and the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there.

Refrain

3. Let us labor for the Master from the dawn till setting sun,
let us talk of all his wondrous love and care;
then when all of life is over, and our work on earth is done,
and the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there.

Refrain

The Invocation

The Hymn No. 676 — “Day by Day and with Each Passing Moment”

1. Day by day and with each passing moment,
strength I find to meet my trials here;
trusting in my Father's wise bestowment,
I've no cause for worry or for fear.
He whose heart is kind beyond all measure
gives unto each day what he deems best-
lovingly, its part of pain and pleasure,
mingling toil with peace and rest.
2. Every day, the Lord himself is near me
with a special mercy for each hour;
all my cares he fain would bear, and cheer me,
he whose name is Counselor and Pow'r.
The protection of his child and treasure
is a charge that on himself he laid:
“As your days, your strength shall be in measure,”
this the pledge to me he made.
3. Help me then in every tribulation
so to trust your promises, O Lord,
that I lose not faith's sweet consolation
offered me within your holy Word.
Help me, Lord, when toil and trouble meeting,
e'er to take, as from a father's hand,
one by one, the days, the moments fleeting,
till I reach the promised land.

The Greetings

The Pastoral Prayer

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

Q33. What was the sin of our first parents? Eating the forbidden fruit.

Q34. Who tempted Adam and Eve to this sin? Satan tempted Eve first, and then he used her to tempt Adam.

Q35. How did Adam and Eve change when they sinned? Instead of being holy and happy, they became sinful and miserable.

** The Meditation and Prayer.....Stephen Biggs, Students & Families Director

The Hymn No. 670 — “If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee”

1. If thou but suffer God to guide thee,
and hope in him through all thy ways,
he'll give thee strength, whate'er betide thee,
and bear thee through the evil days:
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
builds on the Rock that naught can move.
2. What can these anxious cares avail thee,
these never-ceasing moans and sighs?
What can it help, if thou bewail thee
o'er each dark moment as it flies?
Our cross and trials do but press
the heavier for our bitterness.
3. Only be still, and wait his leisure
in cheerful hope, with heart content
to take whate'er thy Father's pleasure
and all deserving love hath sent;
nor doubt our inmost wants are known
to him who chose us for his own.
4. All are alike before the Highest;
'tis easy to our God, we know,
to raise thee up though low thou liest,
to make the rich man poor and low;
true wonders still by him are wrought
who setteth up and brings to naught.
5. Sing, pray, and keep his ways unswerving,
so do thine own part faithfully,
and trust his Word - though undeserving,
thou yet shalt find it true for thee;
God never yet forsook at need
the soul that trusted him indeed.

The Prayer of Illumination

The Reading of Holy Scripture — Hebrews 3:1 – 4:13

^{3:1} Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, ² who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house. ³ For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. ⁴ (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) ⁵ Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, ⁶ but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope.

⁷ Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says,

- “Today, if you hear his voice,
⁸ do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion,
on the day of testing in the wilderness,
⁹ where your fathers put me to the test

and saw my works for forty years.

¹⁰ Therefore I was provoked with that generation, and said, “They always go astray in their heart; they have not known my ways.”

¹¹ As I swore in my wrath, “They shall not enter my rest.”

¹² Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. ¹³ But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. ¹⁴ For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end. ¹⁵ As it is said,

“Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.”

¹⁶ For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? ¹⁷ And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? ¹⁸ And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? ¹⁹ So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

^{4:1} Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it. ² For good news came to us just as to them, but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith with those who listened. ³ For we who have believed enter that rest, as he has said,

“As I swore in my wrath,
“They shall not enter my rest,”

although his works were finished from the foundation of the world. ⁴ For he has somewhere spoken of the seventh day in this way: “And God rested on the seventh day from all his works.” ⁵ And again in this passage he said,

“They shall not enter my rest.”

⁶ Since therefore it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of disobedience, ⁷ again he appoints a certain day, “Today,” saying through David so long afterward, in the words already quoted,

“Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts.”

⁸ For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken of another day later on. ⁹ So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, ¹⁰ for whoever has entered God’s rest has also rested from his works as God did from his.

¹¹ Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. ¹² For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³ And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

The Sermon — *Hebrews*:

In this Wilderness: Consider Jesus, and Rest! Mr. Sinclair

The Benediction

The Postlude — “Amazing Grace” Denis Bedard