

First Presbyterian Church  
*Energized by Grace*

A SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

*Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost*  
*World Communion Sunday*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2022

11:00 AM

# A SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Lectionary Texts:

Lamentations 1:1-6, 3:19-26; Psalm 137:1-9; 2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10

*This church welcomes you no matter who you are, where you come from, or why you are here.*

*We are Christ's people, and this is Christ's place with its doors open wide.*

*If you are passing through, Godspeed; if you are looking for a home, stay here; if you need instruction, learn from us as we learn from you. We invite visitors to join us, but most of all, to return often.*

† Indicates all who are able may stand.



## ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

GATHERING — *Sweet Hour of Prayer*

arr. Marianne Kim

### SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

*God of spirit and flesh, God of heaven and earth, God of grape and grain, we spread our wings in flight toward you. We stretch our arms in need of you. We feed ourselves with gifts from you. We thank you for your love poured out as we sense your Spirit shining in the sunlight, sailing on the autumn wind, and singing in the souls of each one gathered here. Recreate us in your image as we encounter you today, that our lives might ignite a love to light the world, where despair drips dreary on drowning dreams, and where heavy hearts shiver in lonely cold. Let your presence pressing through us infuse the world with joy. Amen.*

### CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

### WELCOME AND PARISH LIFE

PRELUDE — *Agnus Dei* from *L'homme armé Organ Mass*

Margaret Vardell Sandresky

INTROIT — *Holy, Holy, Holy*

arr. John Carter

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Lamentations 1:2-4; 3:22-23*

In the midst of war and division, we wait for God:

**The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, God's mercies never come to an end.**

In the midst of devastation and loss, we wait for God:

**The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, God's mercies never come to an end.**

In the midst of change and uncertainty, we wait for God:

**The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, God's mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning. Great is your faithfulness, O God!**

† HYMN 39 — *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

FAITHFULNESS

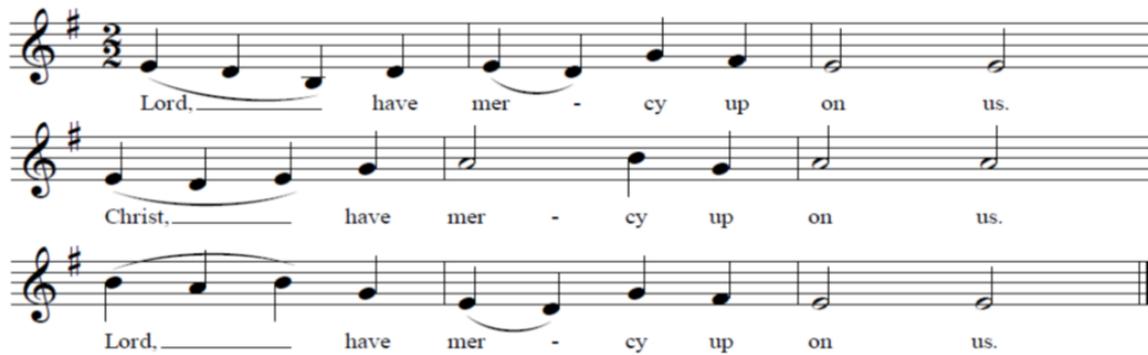
† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*adapted from Habakkuk 1:3; 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 12, 14*

**Holy and Righteous God, amidst the violence and wrongdoing of the world, we struggle to live by faith. We treat suffering with contempt, seek power to serve ourselves, and cowardly shrink from prophetic truth. Gather us again to your table as you gathered the generations before us. Save us from the strife we start, and the contention we create. Rekindle within us the gifts you have given, revive our sense of your Holy Spirit. In the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

† KYRIE ELEISON



† DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear and believe the good news;  
**In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!**

† GLORIA PATRI

Hymnal, 581

**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.**

*At this time, all children (pre-K 4 through third grade) are invited to leave the service to attend "Children's Time." Children can be picked up on the second floor of the Fellowship Hall after the worship service.*

## PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Lamentations 3:19-24

p. 937

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING: Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

p. 192

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON — *"Welcomed at the Table"*

Rev. Deb de Boer  
Rev. Barrett C. Milner  
Rev. Allison C. Wehrung

## GIVE THANKS TO GOD

### MOMENT FOR SILENT MEDITATION

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*A Brief Statement of Faith*

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

CALL TO OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY — *Prelude on Old 124th*

arr. Charles Callahan

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS, TITHES AND OFFERINGS

† DOXOLOGY

Hymnal, 606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen.**

† OFFERTORY PRAYER

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

MUSICAL MEDITATION — *Come Before the Table*  
*Let Us Break Bread Together*

Karen Marrolli  
arr. Marianne Kim

## GO AND WITNESS IN GOD'S NAME

† HYMN 510— *We Gather Here in Jesus' Name*

COME, SHARE THE LORD

† BENEDICTION

† CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE — *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*

GREEN TYLER

God, be the love to search and keep me: God be the prayer to move my voice:

5  
God, be the strength to now up-hold me: O Christ, sur-round me: O Christ, sur-round me.

† POSTLUDE — *Trumpet Voluntary*

Gordon Young

# WELCOME!

**First Presbyterian Church** warmly invites visitors to become a member of our family of faith. You may do so in one of the following ways:

- By Profession of Faith - The act of receiving Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and sincerely promising to live for Him. Previous baptism is accounted as valid, or the Sacrament of Baptism may be administered at the time of profession.
- By Transfer of Membership - Request our minister to contact your former church for a letter of transfer, where applicable.
- By Reaffirmation of Faith - If you have been inactive or separated from the church for some time or wish to rededicate yourself, you may be received by reaffirmation of faith.

Please contact the church office for more information.

**Parents of nursery aged children** please note: a nursery is provided from 8:45 am - 12:15 pm for the following ages: Infants (0-1 years), Babies (1-3 years), Preschool (3-5 years). The nursery and pre-school rooms are located in the Education Building, first floor.

**The FPC prayer chain** is ready if you or someone you know is in need. Please contact Carlisle Wood at [carlislewood@gmail.com](mailto:carlislewood@gmail.com) or 662-832-8606. All requests are held in strict confidence.

**The church has two portable defibrillators** on site if a cardiac event occurs. One is located in our office hallway by the east stairwell; the other is located in the library of the Education Building.

**Office Hours** are Monday through Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

**Tithes and Offerings:** Thank you for prayerfully supporting the missions and ministries of FPC! Every gift is greatly appreciated. Here are some ways to give:

- Mailing gifts directly to the church office at 924 Van Buren Ave, Oxford, MS 38655
- Online by choosing the tab titled “Giving” at the top of the church website  
(<https://fpcoxford.net/giving/>)
- Enrolling in direct deposit of withdrawal
- Scanning the QR Code provided here

If you need assistance with any specific ways to give, please contact Frances Saralvarez at [fsaralvarezfpc@gmail.com](mailto:fsaralvarezfpc@gmail.com), or call the church office.



## TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

*Proclaiming the Word*

Rev. Barrett C. Milner

*Liturgists*

Rev. Deb de Boer, Rev. Allison C. Wehrung

*Organist*

Creighton R. Holder

*Ushers*

Richard DeVoe

Kathryn Elliott

Lindsey Estes

Chloe Lloyd

# CALENDAR

## Sunday, October 2

9:00 am First Worship Service\*  
 9:45 am Sunday School Classes  
 11:00 am Second Worship Service\*  
 5:00 pm Arc Benders  
 6:00 pm Music at First Concert Series:  
     Oxford University Chapter  
     American Guild of Organist

## Monday, October 3

4:30 pm Worship Team Meeting

## Tuesday, October 4

6:00 am Men's Breakfast @ the Beacon  
 5:30 pm Diaconate  
 5:30 pm APNC Meeting  
 6:00 pm UKirk- Campus Ministry

*\*Nursery Provided*

## Wednesday, October 5

8:15 am Men's Bible Study  
 4:30 pm Bibles & Brews  
 5:30 pm Wednesdays Together  
 6:00 pm Adult Class

## Friday, October 7

12:00 pm Fall Book Study  
 5:30 pm VIPs @ Greg Patton's Farm

## Saturday, October 8

10:30 am Piecemakers Quilt Guild

## Sunday, October 9

9:00 am First Worship Service\*  
 9:45 am Sunday School Classes  
 11:00 am Second Worship Service\*  
 2:00 pm Sip & See For Thomas Simpson @  
     Camp Hopewell  
 4:30 pm Esther Ethridge Circle  
 5:00 pm Presbyterian Youth Fellowship @  
     Wise Family Farms

**Are you interested in learning more? Do you have ideas to share?  
 Your church staff, Diaconate, and ministry team leaders would love to hear from you!**

## SESSION

*Adult Faith Formation* - Allyson Ashmore (2023)  
*Children & Youth Faith Formation* - Kathryn Elliott (2023) &  
     Catie Hester (2024)  
*Clerk of Session* - Drew Mauldin (2023)  
*Finance* - Susan Abbott (2022) & Richard DeVoe (2024)  
*Membership & Hospitality* - Kevin Christian (2022) &  
     Lee Miers (2023)  
*Mission* - Greg Patton (2022) & Melissa Hall (2024)  
*Personnel* - Trey Byars (2022) & Goodloe Lewis (2023)  
*Property* - John Abernathy (2022) & Bradley Goodwillier (2024)  
*Worship* - Hale Freeland (2024)

## DIACONATE

*Class of 2022* - Gabrielle Chiniche, James Day, Sarah  
 McLellan, Cliff Smith, Pattye Wilson  
*Class of 2023* - Laura Jackson, Chloe Lloyd, Allison  
 McCord, Shae Orrell, Adam Quick  
*Class of 2024* - Patrick Bolen, Tommy Cribbs, Lindsey  
 Estes, Kathy Orr Griffith, Jennifer Williams

## CHURCH STAFF

The Congregation	<i>Ministers</i>		Ext.
Rev. Barrett C. Milner	<i>Pastor</i> .....	bmilnerfpc@gmail.com	3
Rev. Deb de Boer	<i>Interim Associate Pastor</i> .....	ddeboerfpc@gmail.com	5
Rev. Allison C. Wehrung	<i>Pastor, UKirk Ministry</i> .....	ukirk.olemiss@gmail.com	
Creighton R. Holder	<i>Director of Music</i> .....	cholderfpc@gmail.com	4
Dave Garvey	<i>Director of Faith Formation for</i> <i>Children &amp; Youth</i> .....	dgarveyfpc@gmail.com	9
Frances Saralvarez	<i>Office Administrator</i> .....	fsaralvarezfpc@gmail.com	6
Kate Hill	<i>Communications Director</i> .....	kohillfpc@gmail.com	7
Wade Simpson	<i>Property Manager</i> .....	wsimpson13@yahoo.com	
Wendy Brady	<i>Nursery Director</i> .....	wendybbrady@gmail.com	

# THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY . . .

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by the Worship Ministry Team and in celebration of World Communion Sunday.*

**Wednesdays Together:** Due to fall break, Children's Choir will not take place on October 5. Adult Class and Adult Choir will still follow after dinner.

**Mission Opportunities, For the Least of These:** Information for the following FPC volunteer mission activities is available by calling the church office or emailing [missionteam@fpcoxford.net](mailto:missionteam@fpcoxford.net). You will be kept abreast of our congregation's various outreach programs and opportunities to become personally involved.

- Volunteers are needed to provide healthy snacks through Leap Frog, an after-school reading program for disadvantaged students. Please volunteer on the Signup Genius in the Fast Facts article or call the church office.
- A new FPC group, In Good Order, is being organized to assist elderly and infirm members with yard clean up and light home repairs. If you would like more information, contact Adam Quick, [adquick@hotmail.com](mailto:adquick@hotmail.com)
- FPC continues to collect food items to restock the Lovepacks shelves for the new school year. Please bring your donation to the church office.
- Our congregation collects new stuffed animals for the 15-20 children served each month by Family Crisis Services. Please drop your donation by the church office.
- A group from FPC is once again returning to Madisonville, Kentucky, November 3-6, to assist with the reconstruction effort following the devastating tornados there last December. No particular construction skills are required. For more information. Contact Niles Lovelady, 662-801-9200.
- Holding Hands is a local secondhand shop with a higher calling. The nonprofit resells donated clothing and household items while employing intellectually impaired individuals. PYF'ers through VIP'ers are needed to volunteer a few hours of their time at the store. Contact Melissa Perler at [540-597-3583](tel:540-597-3583) for more information. This could be your mission!

**Sanctuary Floral Arrangement** available dates are October 23 and November 6, 13, and 20. To provide flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one, contact Margaret Fancher at [fancherm@bellsouth.net](mailto:fancherm@bellsouth.net) or call 662-234-1359. Contributions to the Flower Fund are greatly appreciated. Two couples or individuals can also share the responsibility and the cost.

**VIP's:** Our October gathering will be Friday the 7th at Greg Patton's home. It will start at 5:30 pm. The bus will be providing transportation. If you plan on taking the bus, please arrive at the church by 4:45, as the bus will be leaving at 5:00 pm. Greg will provide barbeque, along with the fixings and drinks. We will need the VIPs to contribute the sides. Please see Fast Facts for the list of what is needed. When calling the church office to sign up, please make sure to state what you plan to bring, and if you will be taking the bus.

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

**FPC Members:** Jean Blackston; Leon McCullouch; Family of John Edge, Family of Joe Murphey; Jane Henderson; Family of Dr. Bobby Kennedy; Michael Abraham; Doug & Margaret Fancher; Family of Jeffrey Butler; Thomas Wade Simpson; Family of Nolan Waller, Family of Helen Scruggs, Family of Janet Barnes; Family of Ann Caroline McIntosh; Family of J.T. Davis; Tommy Patrick; Marianna Ochs; Family of Lynton Dilley; Max Williams; Teresa Flautt; Lydia Moak; Michele Howie; Family of Betty Mullen White

**Family and Friends:** Family of Helen Nielson; Family of Millie Meaders; Family of Shirley Bragg Donnelly; James Chavers; Kathy Bremer; Susan Treas-Ewing; Nancy McPhail; Charlyn Wilson; Family of Thomas Mayo; Family of George Walker; Family of Gloria Smith Griffith; Valentina Iepuri and Ukraine family; Charissa Johnson; Sarah Luchin and Family; Sigrid Morrison Long; Connie Whelan; Lenoir Stanley; Doors of Hope Families; Bob Flautt; Lafayette County Detention Center inmates; Parchman Prison inmates; Haven House residents; Our Haiti partners; Oxford & Lafayette County First Responders; Community leaders

**U. S. Military:** SSgt Jason Freeland, USAF 17th Special Tactics Squadron

*Please pray, too, for those with unspecified needs.  
If you wish to have a name removed or added to this list, please contact the church office.*

## MUSIC NOTES

Today is a special day in the life of the Church as we observe World Communion Sunday. Though this tradition is now celebrated by many denominations across the world, it began as a gift from the Presbyterian Church. The first “World-Wide Communion Sunday” was held at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania in 1933. This church sought to demonstrate the interconnectedness of the Christian faith, regardless of denomination. They chose to focus on what unites us rather than what divides us. May this gift of ecumenical fellowship inspire us to look beyond differences and open our hearts to our sisters and brothers in all places. **All are welcome in this sacred space!**

*The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end;  
they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.*

As we gather for worship, we will hear Marianne Kim’s setting of *Sweet Hour of Prayer*. This hymn text was written by a blind English minister, Rev. William Walford who was noted for his articulate sermons and astonishing memory. Kim’s setting utilizes a flowing accompaniment under an oboe solo. The subtle shifts between simple and compound meters separate the verses and refrain. As the work builds, it relates the hymn’s text: *Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer! Thy wings shall my petition bear to him whose truth and faithfulness engage the waiting soul to bless.*

At 101, Margaret Vardell Sandresky continues to compose and cultivate an incredible legacy of music-making. A Fulbright Scholar and the first woman to present her research at a national music theory conference, she is an award-winning composer, organist, music theorist, and professor. In the 1970’s, Sandresky focused theory research and study on early mass settings, which lead to the creation of the *L’homme arme Organ Mass*. *L’homme arme* (The armed man) was one of the most popular secular tunes of the Burgundian School in the 15<sup>th</sup> century and the origin of over 40 settings of the mass ordinary in the medieval and renaissance periods. An intriguing work, Sandresky combines a variety of styles in the six movements, and the cantus firmus (the melody that serves as the basis for a polyphonic work) is always present. The *Agnus Dei* is a beautiful movement that recalls the tune’s medieval origins with open fifths and a solo flute that imitates a wooden recorder.

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant us peace.*

Drawn from another French medieval melody, *Old 124<sup>th</sup>* is a hymn tune based on the *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, an early edition of the Genevan Psalter, a metrical psalter supervised by John Calvin for the Reformed churches of Geneva in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Charles Callahan’s setting is based on the text *Draw Nigh and Take the Body of the Lord*, which offers a fitting line for this day: *With heav’nly bread Christ makes the hungry whole, gives living waters to the thirsting soul.*

*For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

During communion, we will hear Karen Marolli’s moving work, *Come Before the Table*, which reminds us that Christ’s table is meant for all people. Full of syncopation and repetition, Marolli uses drums to accompany the voices; percussion is directly linked to the human heartbeat and our shared walk through this life. Another medieval moment, the middle section uses the Eucharistic hymn *Adoro te devote* (I devoutly adore you). Marolli’s touching words remind us of the scripture reading from above and the unending love that binds us together: *Come before the table, oh come before the table, oh come before the Lord. Come and share the love that makes us one. Come with one spirit, come with one voice. Come as you are knowing we all belong. Come and share the blessing, oh come and share the promise. Come with one mission, come with one love and voice. Come near and far; let all the world rejoice! Thee we adore, oh hidden Savior; thee, who at this blessed feast are pleased to be. Come and share the love that makes us one.*

As we leave today to the sound of Gordon Young’s *Trumpet Voluntary*, may our hearts be moved to action, the action of love and acceptance of *all* people. Carry these words from our final hymn: *No one is a stranger here, everyone belongs; finding our forgiveness here, we in turn forgive all wrongs.*