



First Presbyterian Church
Energized by Grace

A SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

*Seventh Sunday of Easter
& Clean Water Sunday*

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2026
10:00 AM

A SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Lectionary Texts:

Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35; Isaiah 45:1-7; Psalm 21:1-7; 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

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.



ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

GATHERING — *Improvisation*

Creighton Holder

SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Dear God, we thank you that you never forsake us, that you never stop loving us. Trusting in your unfailing love, we have gathered to worship and praise you. Through your Holy Spirit, touch us, renew us, comfort, challenge us; for we pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME AND PARISH LIFE

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY — Mission Ministry

Greg Patton

PRELUDE — *Méditation*, Op. 76, No. 6

Cécile Chaminade

CALL TO WORSHIP

paraphrased from Psalms 42, 78, and 104

God, you split rocks in the wilderness, and gave your people abundant drink, as from the deep.

Come to us, Lord. Give us that abundant water.

You made streams come out of the rock, and caused waters to flow down like rivers.

Come to us, Lord. Send the waters down upon us.

You turned the desert into pools of water, the parched land into springs of water.

Come to us, Lord. Create springs in the parched deserts of our hearts.

As a deer longs for flowing streams, so my soul longs for you, O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

Come to us, Lord, and fill our longing.

† HYMN 475 — Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

† CALL TO CONFESSION

Scotty Jimenez

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, who has compassion for the lost and the least, in disbelief and denial, we ask: “When did we see you among us?” We should have seen you in the classmate on the playground whom we did not invite to join our game. Or in the stranger on the sidewalk whom we crossed the street to avoid. Or in the neighbor at the nursing home, whom we left to carry her pain alone. We should have seen you in the man begging for work or a warm meal, in the woman struggling to overcome addiction, in the child seeking refuge from the terrors of violence. But, instead, we turned away. Forgive us, Lord. Break our hearts for what breaks yours, and give us compassion and courage to respond to the suffering of this world. Amen.

† KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mer - cy up on us.
 Christ, have mer - cy up on us.
 Lord, have mer - cy up on us.

† 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.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Elizabeth Morgan Webb

Child of bless - ing, Child of prom - ise, bap - tized with the
 Spir - it's sign, with this wa - ter God has sealed you
 Un - to love and grace di - vine.

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

PSALTER READING: Psalm 42:1-5

p. 633

The Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

MEDITATION — *Rivers of Living Water* (see text on back)

Karen Marrolli

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 25:31-46

p. 35

The Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

SERMON — "When Did We See You?"

Rev. Barrett C. Milner

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

MOMENT FOR SILENT MEDITATION

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY — *Jesus Be With Us*

MATTHEW 25

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

GO AND WITNESS IN GOD'S NAME

† HYMN — Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service (see hymn on back)

BEACH SPRING

† BENEDICTION

† CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE — *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*

Donald Fishel

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give thanks to the ris - en Lord. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give praise to his name.

POSTLUDE — *Postlude on Beach Spring*

arr. Marianne Kim

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.

Parents of nursery aged children please note: a nursery is provided from **8:45 am - 11:15 am** for the following ages: 6 weeks - 4 years. The nursery and pre-school rooms are located in the Education Building, first floor.

UKIRK, our college campus ministry, meets for dinner & Bible study on Wednesdays throughout the semester, and other events throughout the year. More information is available at linktr.ee/ukirkofolemiss or on our Instagram [@ukirkofolemiss](https://www.instagram.com/ukirkofolemiss). All college students are welcome!

The FPC prayer chain is ready if you or someone you know is in need. Please contact Carlisle Wood at 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 Thursday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm and Friday 8:30 am - 12:00 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:

- Completing the pledge card in the friendship register found in your pew
- Online by choosing the tab titled "Giving" at the top of the church website
(<https://fpcxford.net/giving/>)
- Enrolling in direct deposit of withdrawal by contacting the church office.
- Scanning the QR Code provided here. Credit Card fees apply.
- Mailing gifts directly to the church office at 924 Van Buren Ave, Oxford, MS 38655

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



TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

<i>Proclaiming the Word</i>	Rev. Barrett C. Milner
<i>Liturgist</i>	Scotty Jimenez
<i>Organist</i>	Creighton R. Holder
<i>Ushers</i>	Whitney Bolen
	Ashley Callery
	Heather Harris
	Jessica Holder

CALENDAR

Sunday, May 17

9:00 am Sunday School*
10:00 am Worship Service*
11:15 am Cuban Luncheon
12:45 pm Music at First Piano Studio Recital
5:00 pm Great Escape Parent Meeting
5:30 pm Arc Benders
6:00 pm PYF End of Year Party

Monday, May 18

5:30 pm Session Meeting
6:30 pm Troop 45

Tuesday, May 19

6:00 am Men's Breakfast @ Bim Bam Burgers
9:45 am Lula Gregory Circle
12:00 pm Gerry Duvall Circle
5:30 pm Caroll Barr Circle

Wednesday, May 20

5:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, May 22

12:00 pm Popsicles on the Lawn

Sunday, May 24

9:00 am Sunday School*
10:00 am Worship Service*

**Nursery provided*

**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 - Irma Buchanan (2026)
& Ashley Callery (2028)
Children & Youth Faith Formation - Brynne Quick (2026)
& Corey Mauldin (2027)
Clerk of Session - Catherine Servati (2026)
Finance - Richard DeVoe (2028)
Membership & Hospitality - Matt Nielson (2026)
& Angela Manley (2028)
Mission - Laura Montgomery (2026)
& Michael Portner (2028)
Personnel - Al Ling (2027) & Trey Byars (2028)
Property - Hank Spragins (2027) & Anne Doty (2028)

DIACONATE

Class of 2026: Stefanie Goodwiller, Marty Mauldin,
Brad Mayo, Kathy Neff, Nina Patrick

Class of 2027: Heather Harris, Caroline McIntosh,
Monte Ochs, Dee Walker (clerk)

Class of 2028: Rebecca Black, Jessica Holder,
Elizabeth Miers, Ben Pettis, Lisa Tollison (moderator)

CHURCH STAFF

The Congregation	<i>Ministers</i>
Rev. Barrett C. Milner	<i>Pastor</i> bmilnerfpc@gmail.com
Creighton R. Holder	<i>Director of Music</i> cholderfpc@gmail.com
Dave Garvey	<i>Director of FF for Children & Youth</i> dgarveyfpc@gmail.com
Frances Saralvarez	<i>Office Administrator</i> fsaralvarezfpc@gmail.com
Kaitlin Irby	<i>Communications Director</i> kohillfpc@gmail.com
Wade Simpson	<i>Property Manager</i> wsimpson13@yahoo.com
Wendy Brady	<i>Nursery Director</i> wendybrady@gmail.com

THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY . . .

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of our sister church in Jagüey Grande, Cuba.

The Sacrament of Baptism will be administered during the 10:00 am service today to Elizabeth Morgan Webb, child of Taylor Webb and Catherine Servati. We welcome Betsy to the Roll of Baptized Children of the Church.

Cents-Ability: This morning is our quarterly Cents-Ability Sunday. It is a time when we join with churches from around St. Andrew Presbytery to pool our loose change in support of hunger initiatives in our respective communities. Place your coins (and bills!) in the buckets provided as you exit the Sanctuary. Thank you!

The Session has called a brief congregational meeting at the close of the 10:00 am worship service on Sunday, May 31. The purpose of this meeting will be to receive the slate of names of those individuals selected by our Nominating Committee for service on the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee and to affirm election via congregational vote. All are encouraged to attend.

Vacation Bible School: Join us for Vacation Bible School July 21-24. All students PreK4 through rising 5th grade are welcome! The registration link is available on our website and in Fast Facts. We are in need of volunteers to help with VBS. If you would like to help out, please shoot Dave an email!

Popsicles on the Lawn: Join the CYFF on May 22 on the front lawn at FPC for our annual popsicle celebration for the end of the school year! Just come after school ready to play, eat popsicles, and celebrate the last day of school.

Mission Opportunities: FPC seeks to serve "the least of these." See Fast Facts or call the church office for more details on the following outreaches as well as other opportunities.

- Each June volunteers from FPC staff the **Pantry**. Stronger backs are needed Tuesday mornings to stock the shelves; all are invited to distribute groceries to clients on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. To sign up see this week's Fast Facts or call the church office, 662-234-1757.
- **LovePacks** (lovepacksoxford.com) provides food assistance for over 250 children in the city and county schools. The food item for May is packs of ramen noodles. Drop your donation by the church office.
- **In Good Order.** Need a helping hand? FPC volunteers are available to assist members who may need a little extra help with a yard project or light home repairs. If you would like assistance or know of someone who does, call the church office at 662-234-1757.
- **Memory Makers of Oxford** (memorymakersoxford.org) is a respite day service for those with memory loss. They welcome donations of items on their wish list or volunteers to assist with programming. For more information call 662-234-3332.

Sanctuary Floral Arrangements dates are available May 17, 31, and June 7, 14, and 28. To provide flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one, contact Kate at the church office, 662-234-1757, or kohillfpc@gmail.com. Contributions to the flower fund are greatly appreciated. If you want a particular date to provide flowers on a Sunday morning, please reserve that date in advance.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

FPC Members: The Family of Richard Atkinson; David Flautt; The Family of Chad Russell (Jeannice Russell's son); Jane Henderson; The Family of Jim Gilbert; Larry Hadenfeld; The Family of Sarah Smith; The Family of Syd Shaw; Lee Borden; The Family of Max Williams; Vaughn Grisham; William Rogers; Carey Hanson; Lilly Biedenharn; Kay Tyler; Duke Goza; Keith Hayward; Tommy Smith; Becky Murphey; Ann Dickins; Scottye Boone; Leon McCullouch

Family and Friends: Hannah Borden Miller; Ed Parker; bOur sister Presbyterian Church in Jagüey Grande, Cuba.; Clifford Cobb; The Family of Carolyn McClinton; Ray Balach; Ray Poole; The Family of Dan West (Emily Freeny); Fel Macias; Jhon Johnson; The Family of Ariadne Welch; Amy Kennedy; The Family of Craig Hayden; The Family of Pat Howard; The Family of Lynda Grimes Ferris; Marshall Roberson; Lynessa Erler; The Family of Helen Dupree Brandon; Richard Bremer; Helen Luckett; Minor Atkinson; Melissa Cribbs; Mike Flautt; Steve Mistilis; Sigrid Long; Eileen Cheney and Family; Thomas Hines; Olivia Flautt; Dr. Gladys Memnon and Friends in Bongnotte, Haiti; Doors of Hope Families; Lafayette County Detention Center inmates; Parchman Prison inmates; Haven House residents

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.*

There shall be rivers of living water; there shall be streams of spirit light.
 There shall be rivers of living water that cleanse the soul and give us sight.
 There shall be pathways of flowing fountains, where rivers seek us to embrace.
 O let the thirsty come before him and drink the well of healing grace.
 O does your soul cry out for oneness, like the deserts seek the rain,
 like the deer longs for the well spring? Great spirit, quench us and sustain!
 O let the thirsty come before him and drink the well of healing grace.
 There shall be rivers of living water; praise God for this.

HYMN — *Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service*

BEACH SPRING



1 Lord, whose love through hum - ble ser - vice Bore the weight of
 2 Still Your chil - dren wan - der home - less; Still the hun - gry
 3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, Till Your love's re -
 4 Called by wor - ship to Your ser - vice, Forth in Your dear



hu - man need, Who up - on the cross, for - sak - en,
 cry for bread; Still the cap - tives long for free - dom;
 veal - ing light In its height and depth and great - ness,
 name we go, To the child, the youth, the a - ged,



Of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed, We, Your ser - vants, bring the
 Still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, Your deep com -
 Dawns up - on our quick - ened sight, Mak - ing known the needs and
 Love in liv - ing deeds to show; Hope and health, good - will and



wor - ship Not of voice a - lone, but heart, Con - se -
 pas - sion Healed the sick and freed the soul, Use the
 bur - dens Your com - pas - sion bids us bear, Stir - ring
 com - fort, Coun - sel, aid, and peace we give, That Your



crat - ing to Your pur - pose Ev - 'ry gift that You im - part.
 love Your Spir - it kin - dles Still to save and make us whole.
 us to tire - less striv - ing, Your a - bun - dant life to share.
 ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom May Your mer - cy know and live.