

First Presbyterian Church
Energized by Grace

A SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

10:00 AM

A SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Lectionary Texts:

Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 149; Ezekiel 33:7-11; Psalm 119:33-40; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20

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 — Fugue in B-flat Major, Op. 16, No. 2

Clara Schumann

SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God, whose ways are far beyond our understanding, help us to trust your judgments so that we may do your will by loving you and one another. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME AND PARISH LIFE

CHORAL PRELUDE — *The Meditations of My Heart*

Elaine Hagenberg

May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord.
O Lord my Rock, O Lord my strength, O Lord my God and Redeemer.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus says, "Where two or more are gathered in my name,
I am there among them."

Christ is here.

Calling us to the water, beckoning us to the feast,

Christ is here.

Speaking to our souls, listening to our prayers,

Christ is here.

Binding us as one body, sending us out in service,

Christ is here.

Jesus says, "Where two or more are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Christ is here. Let us worship the Lord.

† HYMN 366 — Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

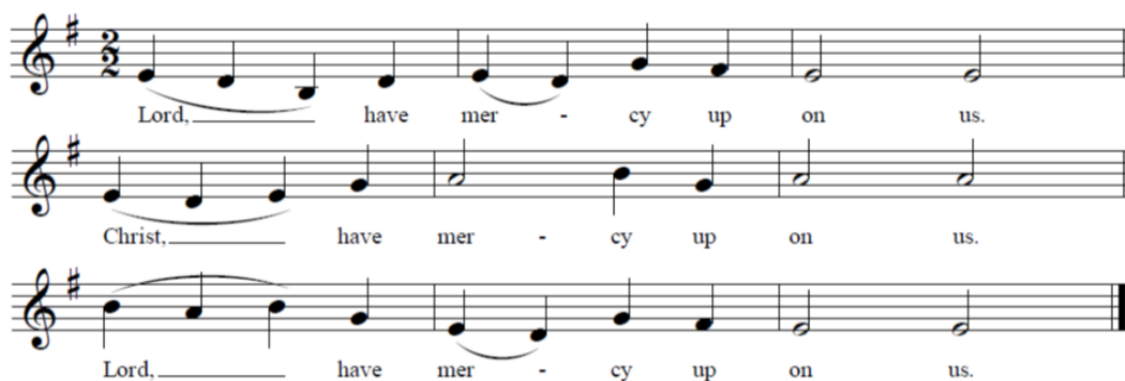
† CALL TO CONFESSION

Scotty Jimenez

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgiving God, you teach us to seek reconciliation with those who have wronged us; for, above all else, we are to love one another. But we let resentment smolder until anger flares, destroying any chance of peace. We blame others and refuse to repent. Grant us grace, we pray. Make space in our wounded hearts for the possibility of forgiveness, and teach us to turn toward others in love as you have turned toward us. 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.**

*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 119:33-40

p. 697

The Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

MEDITATION — *The Gift of Love*

arr. Marianne Kim

EPISTLE READING: Romans 13:8-14

p. 197

The Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

SERMON — "Carry the Candle"

Rev. Barrett C. Milner

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

MOMENT FOR SILENT MEDITATION

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The 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 — Prelude in B-flat Major, Op. 16, No. 2

Clara Schumann

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.

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.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

COMMUNION MEDIATION — *Adoration*

Florence Price

GO AND WITNESS IN GOD'S NAME

† HYMN 692 — Spirit, Open My Heart

WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

† 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 — *Postlude on Hyfrydol*

arr. Jason D. Payne

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://fpcoxford.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.



ONLINE GIVING



FAST FACTS

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>	Trey Byars
	Al Ling
	Marty Mauldin
	Nina Patrick

CALENDAR

Sunday, September 6

10:00 am Worship Service*

Monday, September 7 - Labor Day

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, September 8

6:00 am Men's Breakfast @ Bim Bam Burgers

5:30 pm Doors of Hope Step 2 Dinner

Wednesday, September 9

5:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

5:30 pm UKIRK College Ministry

Thursday, September 10

2:45 pm 4th & 5th Grade Bible Study

Sunday, September 13

9:00 am Sunday School*

10:00 am Worship Service*

5:00 pm Presbyterian Youth Fellowship

5:00 pm Arc Benders

**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)
Worship - Whitney Bolen (2027)

DIACONATE

Class of 2026: Stefanie Goodwillier, 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

Rev. Barrett C. Milner

Creighton R. Holder

Dave Garvey

Frances Saralvarez

Kaitlin Irby

Wade Simpson

Wendy Brady

Ministers

Pastor.....bmilnerfpc@gmail.com

Director of Music.....cholderfpc@gmail.com

Director of FF for Children & Youth.....dgarveyfpc@gmail.com

Office Administratorfsaralvarezfpc@gmail.com

Communications Directorkohillfpc@gmail.com

Property Manager.....wsimpson13@yahoo.com

Nursery Director.....wendybbrady@gmail.com

THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY . . .

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Dr. Thomas S. Hines
by Ben and Kathy Griffith.*

Game Day Parking: The CYFF Team will be selling parking passes in our lot for ALL Ole Miss home football games this year! This is a way to help support the youth on summer trips by keeping the cost of trips down to a manageable price point for families. We have season passes available for a discounted rate of \$350, cheaper than what you would pay if you paid for the games individually and it is a guaranteed spot each week! Email Dave at dgarveyfpc@gmail.com for a season pass or for more information.

4th & 5th Grade Bible Study: Parents of 4th and 5th graders - the bible study is back! The kids will meet on the front lawn of FPC for some fellowship and fun. The first one of the year is on Thursday, September 10, from 2:45 - 3:15. Tell the kiddos to invite their friends. All are welcome!

UKIRK College Ministry: All college students are invited to attend UKIRK, our campus ministry, which meets for dinner & Bible study on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm throughout the semester, and for other events throughout the year. More information is available at linktr.ee/ukirkofolemiss or on our Instagram [@ukirkolemiss](https://www.instagram.com/ukirkolemiss).

Youngish Adults: The Youngish Adults will be hosting a Kick-Off Gathering at The Hester's home on September 23, from 6 - 8 pm. BYOB, a dish to share, and a friend!

VIPs: We'll begin this year with a cookout at the church! Plan to join us at 5:30 pm on Thursday, September 24. We'll provide burgers, hot dogs, buns, condiments, toppings, and drinks. Please bring an appetizer, a side dish, or a dessert. Please call the church office or email Kate to let us know you are coming and what you are bringing. We are looking forward to a great time together!

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.

- **LovePacks** is an in-school pantry that provides food for 250 children in the Oxford and Lafayette county schools who experience hunger in their homes. For the month of September, squeezable applesauce pouches are requested. Your contribution may be left at the church office anytime.
- The **Doors of Hope Step 2 Dinner** hosts single mothers and their children the second Tuesday of each month in the fellowship hall. FPC volunteers are asked to serve as hosts. It's easy! See Fast Facts for more information and to sign up.

Sanctuary Floral Arrangements dates are available September 13, 27, and October 11, 18, and 25. 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.

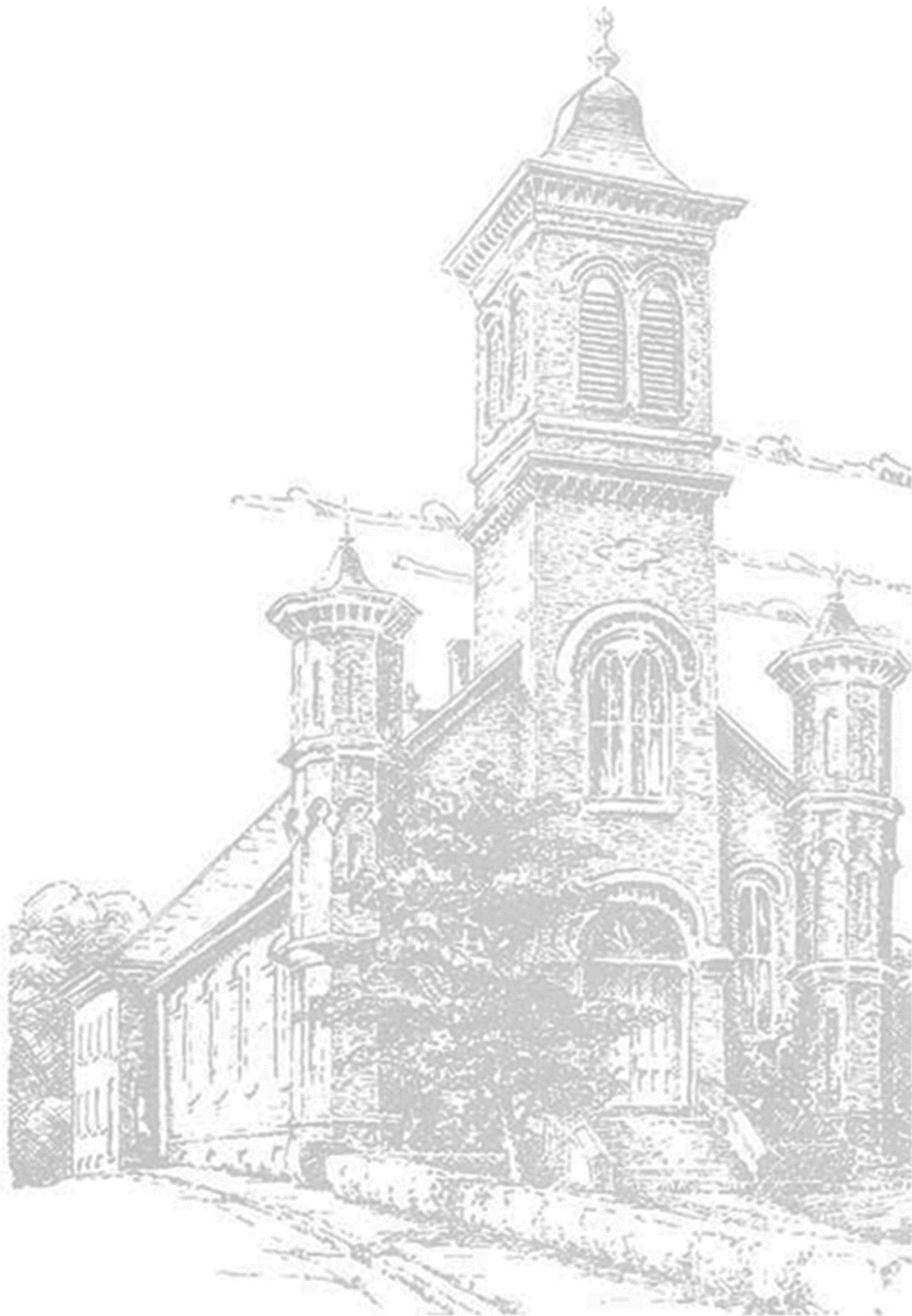
REMEMBER IN PRAYER

FPC Members: Ann O'Dell; Toni Joyer; Catherine Lawhorn; The Family of Tommy Smith; The Family of Richard Atkinson; 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; Lilly Biedenharn; Kay Tyler; Duke Goza; Keith Hayward; Becky Murphey; Ann Dickins; Scottye Boone; Leon McCullouch

Family and Friends: The Family of Mary Dale Mitchell; The Family of Dick Marchbanks; The Family of Marshall Roberson; The Family of Thomas Hines; Our friends in Jagüey Grande, Cuba; The Family of Jean Stevens and Blake Thacker; Beth Mitchell; Hannah Borden Miller; Ed Parker; Our 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; Amy Kennedy; The Family of Craig Hayden; The Family of Pat Howard; The Family of Lynda Grimes Ferris; 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; 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 26th Special Tactics Squadron, based in Cannon AFB, Clovis, NM

*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.*



First Presbyterian Church 924 Van Buren Avenue, Oxford, MS 38655 fpcoxford.net 662-234-1757