

First Presbyterian Church
Energized by Grace

A SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 2022

10:30 AM

A SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Lectionary Texts:

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20; Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23; Genesis 15:1-6; Psalm 33:12-22; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40

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 — *Prayer from Sonata in g minor, Op. 40*

René-Louis Becker

SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O God, our joy and our comfort, we gather in your name to give thanks for all the gifts of this day. Our spirits abound with your gift of joy. Of all the many things we have received from your hand, the flame of joy is the most precious. We have also come to this hour of prayer bearing in our hearts the sorrows of our world. Comfort us with your presence that we may be strengthened to continue to proclaim your goodness and deliverance in all the earth; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME AND PARISH LIFE

PRELUDE — *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning*

arr. Lloyd Larson

CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from Psalm 50:1-2

The heavens declare the righteousness of God.

The earth declares God's beauty.

From the rising of the sun to its setting

God's word shines forth in glory.

Let us worship God together.

† HYMN 14 — *For the Beauty of the Earth*

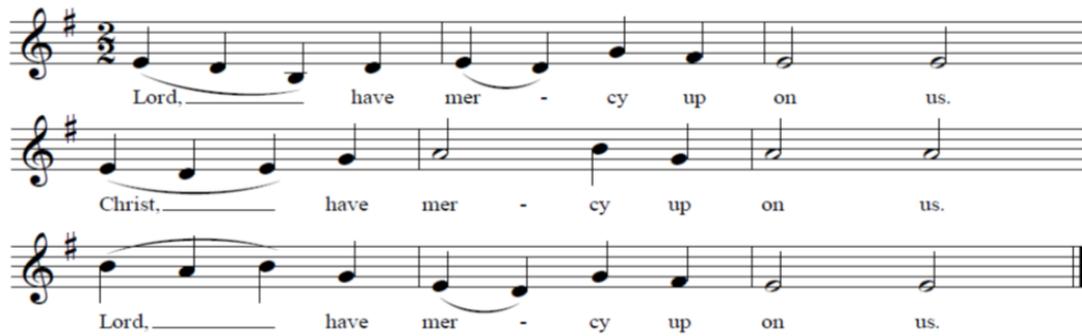
DIX

† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God of love, God of power, we have heard your promises of abundant life and have been afraid to believe them. You incite us to hope, but we fall back into fear. You call us to watch at all times for you, but we grow lazy and self-absorbed. We have worshiped you with our lips but have reserved parts of ourselves for our own purposes and plans. We are bound by our need for absolute certainty and so we often miss your living presence in the surprises of life. Renew us by turning our trust to you again. 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

PSALTER READING: Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23

p. 639

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL MEDITATION — *I rest in thee*

arr. Creighton Holder

GOSPEL READING: Luke 12:32-40

p. 91

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON — "In Good Hands"

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 — *Chorale*, Op. 3 No. 1

Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel

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.

Communion of the People

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 350 — *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning*

KEEP YOUR LAMPS

† 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 — *Voice of Praise*

Ellen Jane Lorenz

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 10:15 am -11:45 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 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. During the summer, the office will be open from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm. Regular office hours will return on Fridays starting after Labor Day.

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://fpcxford.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, or call the church office.



TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Proclaiming the Word....	Rev. Barrett C. Milner
Liturgist.....	Rev. Deb de Boer
Organist.....	Creighton Holder
Ushers.....	John Abernathy
	Chloe Lloyd
	Laura Jackson Lovelady
	Lee Miers

CALENDAR

Sunday, August 7

10:30 am Worship Service*
 4:30 pm PYF Kick-Off Party @ Premier Lanes
 5:00 pm Arc Benders

Monday, August 8

5:30 pm Session

Tuesday, August 9

6:00 am Men's Breakfast @ the Beacon
 5:30 pm Doors of Hope Step 2 Dinner
 5:30 pm APNC Meeting
 5:30 pm Membership and Hospitality

Wednesday, August 10

10:00 am Summer Bible Study

Friday, August 12

2:30 pm Popsicles and Play Fun Friday

Saturday, August 13

10:30 am Piecemakers Quilt Guild

Sunday, August 14

10:30 am Worship Service*
 11:45 am Mission's Lunch

**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 - 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 Goodwiller (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>		
Rev. Barrett C. Milner	<i>Pastor</i>	bmilnerfpc@gmail.com	Ext. 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 Children & 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	
Lizzie Kelly	<i>Interim Nursery Director</i>	lizcarlisle77@gmail.com	

THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY . . .

Summer Worship at FPC: On Sunday, June 5, the FPC church family began its annual summer worship schedule with one service in the sanctuary at 10:30 am. Our summer worship schedule will continue through Sunday, September 4. While regular Sunday school programming will break for the summer months, nursery care will continue for those in attendance, and a virtual worship option will be available for those on the go. We look forward to worshipping with you this summer at 10:30 am!

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. You will be kept abreast of our congregation's various outreach programs and opportunities to become personally involved.

- FPC continues to sponsor the Doors of Hope Step 2 Dinner the second Tuesday of each month in the Fellowship Hall. Two volunteers are needed monthly to host the meal. If you are interested in volunteering, look for the Signup Genius in Fast Facts or email fpcmissionteam@fpcoxford.net. This could be your mission!
- The Mission Team is hosting a lunch following the worship service August 14. Through your generous support, FPC partners with 14 different outreach agencies and programs—locally, regionally, and internationally. Come share a meal and learn how FPC reaches beyond our walls to engage in the world.

Sanctuary floral arrangement dates are available all Sundays in August. To provide flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one, contact Margaret Fancher at fancherm@bellsouth.net or call 662-234-1359. Contributions to the Flower Fund are greatly appreciated.

FPC Children: Join us for an after school Popsicles & Play Fun Friday on FPC's front lawn August 12th right after school until 4:30 pm. PreK - 5th grade welcome.

PYF Kick-Off: 6 - 12 graders please join us for our back to school Bowling Party at Premier Lanes on August 7 from 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm.

VIP's: Mark your calendar for the kickoff for this year's **VIP gatherings**, which will be held on **Thursday, September 8** from 5:30 - 7:30, hosted at the home of Dick and Diane Scruggs. Refreshments will be provided, and as usual, BYOB. Sign up sheet is available now through September 6. Please stop by/call church office by then so we can have a head count. Looking forward to seeing you all.

UKirk Ole Miss: We are heading into another year together, and in need of Tuesday night meal providers. To see the schedule, visit ukirkolemiss.org and click on Tuesday Meals under the Supporters tab. Questions? Or, are you a college student who's interested in learning more about our community? Contact Campus Minister Allison Wehrung at ukirk.olemiss@gmail.com.

Flawed Family of God: This Wednesday, August 10th, we'll be discussing, "The Traps of Competitive Parenting". Please read Genesis 29:1-30:24 and Chapter 8.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

FPC Members: Michael Abraham; Doug Fancher; Family of Jeffrey Butler; Jerry Wilson; Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC); Olivia Jane Flautt; Thomas Wade Simpson; Family of Nolan Waller; Family of Helen Scruggs; Family of Ann Caroline McIntosh; Tommy Patrick; Marianna Ochs; Max Williams; Lydia Moak; Margaret Fancher; Joe Murphey

Family and Friends: Susan Treas-Ewing; Nancy McPhail; Charlyn Wilson; Family of Karen Fosheim; 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 4th Air Support Operation

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

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies: Lord of all, to thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.

Even amid the scorching summer sun, the beauty of God's creation is present all around us. Our first hymn today reminds us to look for this splendor in our world, our neighbors, and even ourselves. Listen for these connection in the organ, especially during "sun and moon, and stars of light..."

As we gather for worship, we will hear the *Prayer* from René-Louis Becker's *Sonata in g minor*, Op. 40. This gorgeous meditation grows continuously, increasing in volume and texture. The same opening motive reappears, but in earnest as the music pleads for an answer to supplication. The piece ends with the final prayer being sent away to our listening God in the form of a rising figure in a surprising new voice.

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning originated as a spiritual, and recent adaptations have added new texts and musical passages. The text references the Parable of the Ten Virgins in the Gospel of Matthew, but also references a line from today's Luke passage: *Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks.* While this setting by Lloyd Larson was originally intended for choir, our adaptation features Dr. John Schuesselin playing the melody on trumpet and Ontarius Woodland playing percussion. Listeners will have a chance to join in singing this wonderful hymn later in the service.

A setting of the hymn tune PROSPECT from William Walker's *Southern Harmony* (1835), the meditation *I rest in thee* was arranged for dear friends experiencing a difficult season. While the tune is haunting and beautiful, the original text it was paired with is a moving reminder of God's presence in our sorrow: *The lone, wild fowl in lofty flight, is still with thee, nor leaves thy sight. And I am thine! I rest in thee. Great Spirit, come, and rest in me.*

Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel (1805-1847) was a German composer and pianist during the Romantic period who wrote hundreds of pieces in a variety of genres, though sadly did not live to see many of them published. In the last year of her life, she explored a new avenue of composition: the part song (a form of choral music). Six pieces were published in 1847 under the title *Gartenlieder* (Garden Songs), Op. 3. These stunning settings speak to the beauty of nature and simpler times. Charles Callahan recently transcribed these works for organ solo.

The postlude, *Voice of Praise* by Ellen Jane Lorenz, is full of joy and life, and harkens back to the final verse of the opening hymn: *For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given; for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven: Lord of all, to thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.*