

First Presbyterian Church
Energized by Grace

A SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Seventh Sunday of Easter

SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023

11:00 AM

A SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Lectionary Texts:

Acts 1:6-14; Psalms 68:1-10, 32-35; Isaiah 45:1-7; Psalms 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.

† Indicates all who are able may stand.



ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

GATHERING — *Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise*

arr. Cindy Berry

SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O God of glory, sovereign of all nations, the risen and ascended Christ calls us to carry your message of life to all people. Led by the power of your Holy Spirit, may we witness always to the hope to which we are called as we share Christ's love to the ends of the earth. Amen.

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME AND PARISH LIFE

PRELUDE — *Andante solenne* from *Six Variations On a Ground Bass*

Margaret Vardell Sandresky

INTROIT — *Word of God*

Bernadette Farrell

Risen Savior, with us always, make us now your living sign.

Recreate us for your purpose, in this place and in this time.

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35)

Let the righteous be joyful!

Let them rejoice before God.

Let us all be jubilant with joy!

Sing to God, all peoples of the world.

Sing praises to God most high.

From the sanctuary of heaven,

God gives life and renews the face of the earth.

Let the righteous be joyful!

Let them rejoice before God.

Let us all be jubilant with joy!

† HYMN 236 — *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*

CORONATION

† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53)

Living God, we confess that our faith is sometimes weak, our love for others can be faint, our prayers are often timid, and our gratitude is frequently unconvincing. When we stand looking toward heaven, yet feel far away from you, you draw near in mercy to forgive us, and fill us with your power, through the grace of Jesus, our resurrected Savior. Amen.

† KYRIE ELEISON

Three staves of musical notation in G major and 3/2 time. The lyrics are: Lord, have mercy up on us. Christ, have mercy up on us. Lord, have mercy 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.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Dave Garvey

*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: Psalms 47

p. 637

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL MEDITATION — *Alleluia*

William Boyce

(John and Stuart Schuesselin, trumpets)

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Acts 1:1-11

p. 143

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON — *"To the Ends of the Earth"*

Rev. Barrett C. Milner

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 — *Sonata in E Major, K. 380*

Domenico Scarlatti

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 744 — *Arise, Your Light is Come!*

FESTAL SONG

† BENEDICTION

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

ALLELUIA NO. 1

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! — Give thanks to the ris - en Lord; Al - le -
5
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give praise to His name.

† POSTLUDE — *Presto* from *Six Variations On a Ground Bass*

Margaret Vardell Sandresky

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 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. **Starting June 2, the office will close at 12:00 pm on Fridays for the summer months.**

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.



TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Proclaiming the Word</i> | Rev Barrett C. Milner |
| <i>Liturgist</i> | Martha Burnett |
| <i>Organist</i> | Creighton R. Holder |
| <i>Ushers</i> | Patrick Bolen |
| | Carole Haney |
| | Laura Lovelady |

CALENDAR

Sunday, May 21

9:00 am First Worship Service*
11:00 am Second Worship Service*

Monday, May 22

5:30 pm Adult Faith Formation

Tuesday, May 23

6:00 am Men's Breakfast @ the Beacon
10:00 am Grief Support Group

Sunday, May 28

9:00 am First Worship Service*
11:00 am Second 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 - Mary Haskell (2023) & Carole Haney (2025)
Children & Youth Faith Formation -
Kathryn Elliott (2023) & Catie Hester (2024)
Clerk of Session - Drew Mauldin (2023)
Finance - Richard DeVoe (2024) & Brent Hardin (2025)
Membership & Hospitality- Lee Miers (2023) & Angela Manley (2025)
Mission - David Shaw (2025)
Personnel - Goodloe Lewis (2023) & Melissa Hall (2024)
Property - Bradley Goodwiller (2024) & Bo Elliott (2025)
Worship - Hale Freeland (2024)

DIACONATE

Class of 2023 - Chloe Lloyd, Laura Lovelady,
Allison McCord, Shae Orrell, Adam Quick

Class of 2024 - Patrick Bolen, Tommy Cribbs,
Lindsey Estes, Kathy Orr Griffith, Jennifer Williams

Class of 2025: Teresa Flautt, Scotty Jimenez,
David McPhail, Laura Scott, Laura Whitten

CHURCH STAFF

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|--------------------------|------|
| The Congregation | <i>Ministers</i> | | Ext. |
| Rev. Barrett C. Milner | <i>Pastor</i> | bmilnerfpc@gmail.com | 3 |
| 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 | |
| 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 and in honor of the Graduating Senior Class of 2023 by their parents. Congratulations!

Summer Worship at FPC: On Sunday, June 4, the FPC church family begins its annual summer worship schedule with one service in the sanctuary at 10:00 am. Our summer worship schedule will continue through Sunday, September 3. 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 10:00 am!

Sunday Parking - Our on-site parking for Sunday worship and programming is limited, so we wish to reserve parking access for those with mobility limitations, health conditions, or other challenges. We thank you for your compassion and understanding, and we look forward to making our Sunday morning worship experience as welcoming and comfortable as possible for all who wish to participate.

Stewardship - The Finance committee announces the formation of the Stewardship Ministry Team: Susan Abbot (chair), Brent Hardin, Matt Nielson, David McPhail, Ben Griffith, Ann DeVoe, and Drew Mauldin. . If others are interested in joining, we would love to welcome you to participate in this very important work. Contact Elder Brent Hardin at 662-832-6564 or bmhardin22@gmail.com for more information.

Mission Opportunities, Join us! The Mission Team meets the first Monday of each month at 5:00. We seek creative and effective means to serve “the least of these.” Call the church office or contact David Shaw, missionteam@fpcxford.net, to become more involved. All FPC members from PYF through VIP are invited to serve in the following outreach programs. Please read Fast Facts for more information and to sign up.

- **Today is FPC's second Cents-Ability Collection Sunday.** Children are asked to bring their donation containers to the children's sermon at the 11:00 service. Adults at both services may place donations in the labeled buckets in the Narthex.
- Need a helping hand? **In Good Order** is a group of FPC volunteers 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, please contact the church office.
- **The Oxford Community Market** is more than just a farmer's market. A half dozen programs are in place to make fresh produce and nutritious food available to those who otherwise are not able to afford it. A variety of volunteers are always needed.

Sanctuary Floral Arrangements dates are available June 4, and July 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30. To provide flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one, contact Margaret Fancher at mfancher42@gmail.com or call 234-1359. Contributions to the Flower Fund are greatly appreciated.

VIPs & Young-ish Adults - Our joint get-together will be **June 8th from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm** at the home of Martha Kelley. It's important to call the church to sign up so that Martha can plan accordingly. When you call please tell Kate whether you will be bringing an appetizer or beverages (for more than just you). It will be a great time for us to get to know each other better and eat some delicious goodies.

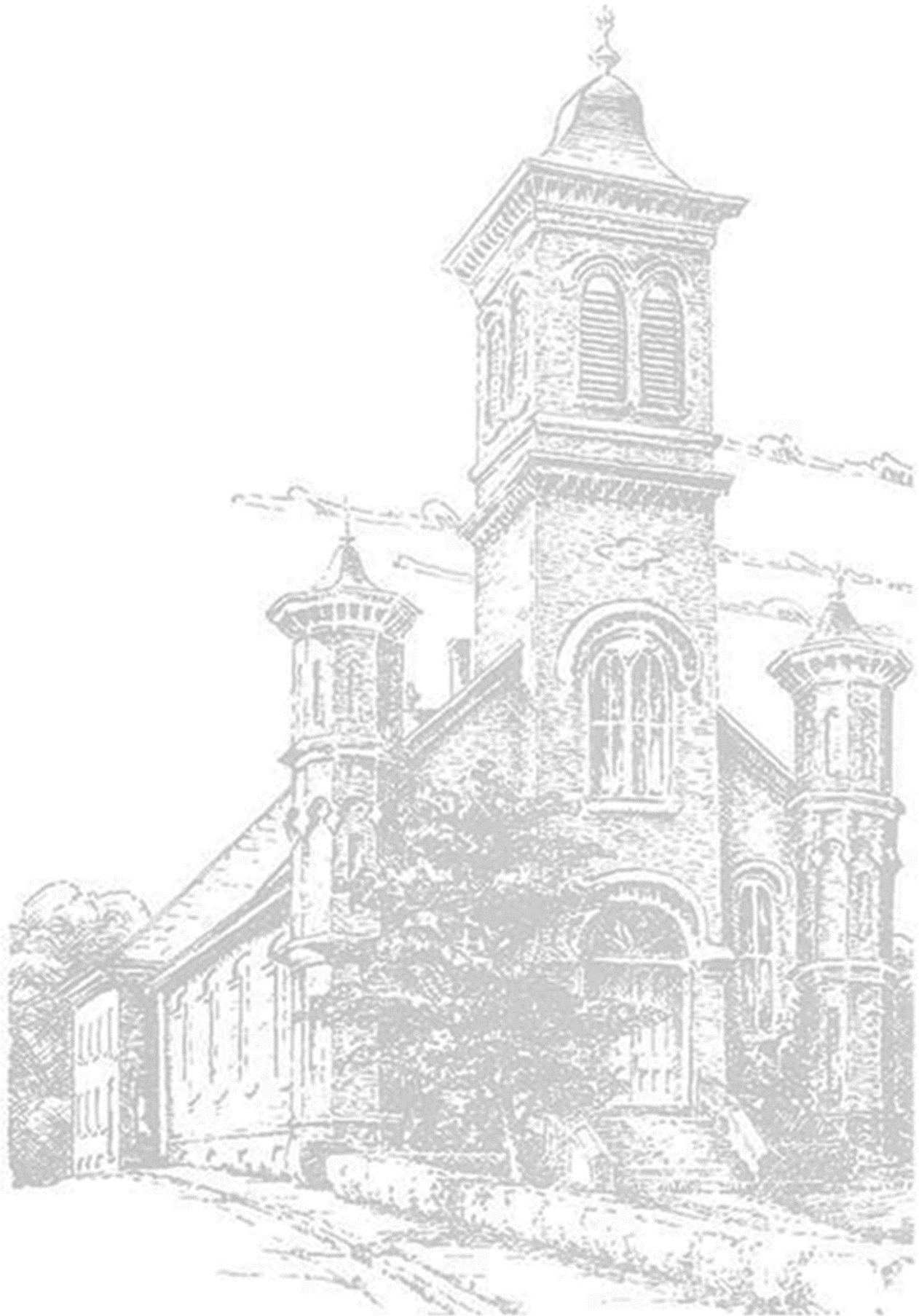
REMEMBER IN PRAYER

FPC Members: Ann O'Dell; The Family of William “Wylie” Coleman; The Family of Trenia Reynolds; The Family of Mary Kay McDowell; The Family of Martha Walcott, The Family of Nancy Rogers; Sarah, Cliff, and Sterlin Smith; Family of Alisa Reed Elliott; Keith & Cheryl Hayward; Scottye Boone; Jean Blackston; Leon McCullough; Family of John Edge, Family of Joe Murphey; Jane Henderson; Family of Dr. Bobby Kennedy; Doug & Margaret Fancher; Thomas Wade Simpson; Family of Nolan Waller, Family of Helen Scruggs, Family of Janet Barnes; Family of Ann Caroline McIntosh; Family of Lynton Dilley; Max Williams; Lydia Moak; Michele Howie

Family and Friends: The Holmes Family of Batesville; Family of Don Howie; Family of Richard Flautt; Mike Flautt; Family of George Caffey; Family of Pat Ewing; Family of Dr. and Mrs. Gerry Foret; Family of Helen Nielson; Family of Shirley Bragg Donnelly; James Chavers; Kathy Bremer; Susan Treas-Ewing; Nancy McPhail; Charlyn Wilson; Family of Thomas Mayo; Family of George Walker; 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.*



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