

First Presbyterian Church
Energized by Grace

A SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023

11:00 AM

A SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Lectionary Texts:

Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123; Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; Psalm 90:1-12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

*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 — *Praise and Thanksgiving*

arr. Charles Callahan

SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

O God, the gift of your Son is the life-changing treasure that is truly beyond value. Your generosity and goodness astound us! Inspire us to teach your commandments and share your gospel, that all may enter into the joy of Christ. Amen

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME AND PARISH LIFE

PRELUDE — *Now Thank We All Our God with Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

arr. Cindy Berry

INTROIT — *You Are the Light*

Tom Fettke

You are the Light we see. You are the Truth we know. You are the Life we live.

You are the Hope, you are the Joy, you are the Song we sing.

Within our hearts, your light. Within our minds, your truth. Within our lives, your love.

Living your Hope, spreading your Joy, singing your beautiful Song.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 90: 1, 2

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations;

You have been our home throughout all the ages.

You were there before the world was made and will be forever.

From everlasting to everlasting you are God.

† HYMN 687 — *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*

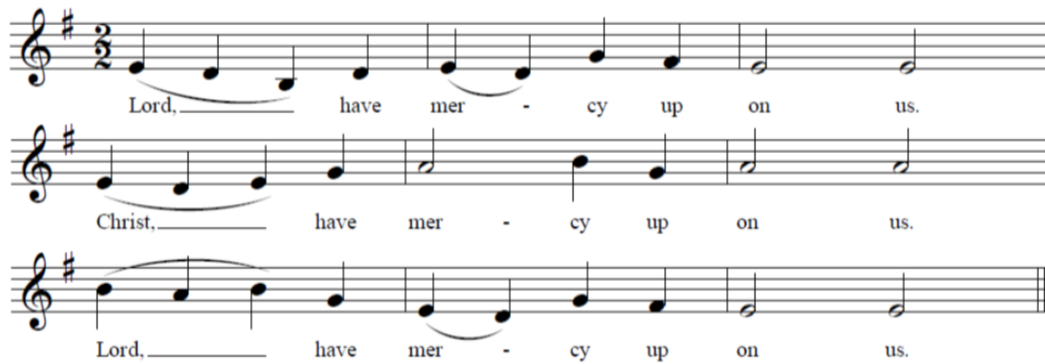
ST. ANNE

† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you have shown us the ways of justice and nurtured us with love. Even so, we have not lived according to your will. When we are oppressed or unjustly accused, we cling to fear and forget to trust in your deliverance. When we are giddy with power and abuse the rights of others, we hold tight to our privilege and forget your laws. Have mercy on us, Lord, for we are weak and prone to disobedience. Hear our confession, and respond to us with kindness, that we might turn to you again, walk in the light, and live in equity and peace; through 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.

TIME WITH YOUTH 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: Psalm 90:1-8, 12

p. 673

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MEDITATION — *Prelude on the tune Eventide*

arr. Raymond H. Haan

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 25:14-30

p. 34

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON — "Good and Faithful "

Rev. Andy G. Spaulding

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 — *Cantabile* from *Six Variations On a Ground Bass*

Margaret Vardell Sandresky

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 700 — *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

I'M GONNA LIVE

† 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 — *Nun danket Alle Gott* (Now thank we all our God)

arr. Albert L. Travis

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 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.



TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

<i>Proclaiming the Word</i>	Rev. Andy G. Spaulding
<i>Liturgist</i>	Tucker Bridgers
<i>Organist</i>	Creighton R. Holder
<i>Ushers</i>	Bo Elliott
	Teresa Flautt
	Angela Manley
	David McPhail

CALENDAR

Sunday, November 19

9:00 am Worship Service
 9:45 am Creation Sunday
 11:00 am Worship Service*
 5:00 pm Presbyterian Youth Fellowship

Thursday, November 23

Thanksgiving -Office Closed

Friday, November 24

Office Closed

Sunday, November 26

9:00 am Worship Service
 9:45 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service*
 6:00 pm Church Wide Ice Skating

**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. Andy G. Spaulding	<i>Associate Pastor</i>	aspauldingfpc@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 & 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>	wendybrady@gmail.com	

THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY . . .

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by Rose Paris and Irma Buchanan.

The church office will be closed Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 for the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

Christmas Tree Sales: Christmas Trees will arrive next week! The sale will begin on **Friday, November 24** and will continue while supplies last! The lot will be open from 9:00 – 5:00 each day. All proceeds support PYF summer trips.

Ice Skating: The Children's and Youth Faith Formation committee invites you to join us for ice skating at the old Armory Pavilion on **November 26** at 6:00 pm. Get in the holiday spirit with skating, cookies, coco, and church wide fun!

VIPs: Our final gathering of 2023 will be December 7 at 6:00 pm and Matthew and Melissa Hall's home. Bring an appetizer to share and whatever you chose to drink. No need to sign up, the Hall's know what to plan for. Lets go into the new year on a festive note!

Youngish Adults: Tis the Season for a Youngish Adults Christmas Party! It will be held at Catie and Paul Hester's home on December 6 starting at 6:00 pm. BYOB and an appetizer to share!

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** (lovepacksoxford.com) 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 November donations of Ramen Noodles are requested.** Drop your contribution by the church office anytime.
- **Memory Makers of Oxford** is a respite day service for those with memory loss. Structured activities provide enrichment for participants while allowing caregivers a much-needed break from the daily responsibility of caring for their loved one. Volunteers and donated supplies are needed to assist in these services.
- 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.

Seasonal berries and greenery dates are available December 3, 17, 24, and 31. To provide seasonal greenery and berries in honor or in memory of a loved one, contact Margaret Fancher at fancherm@bellsouth.net or call 234-1359. Contributions to the Flower Fund are greatly appreciated.

Poinsettias: Members are invited to help decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas by purchasing poinsettias for \$12 each in memory or in honor of friends or loved ones. The deadline for ordering is **Thursday, December 14**. The order form is available in Fast Facts.

The Carroll Barr Circle is again this year sending Christmas cards to residents of the local Detention Center. We are asking for contributions of Christmas cards to be brought to the church office before November 27. Thank you all.

At the River: We would like to cordially invite you to the showing of Carolyn Crowder's documentary "At the River". Carolyn will be joining us for the showing and a discussion afterwards. It will be held on **November 29, at 5:30 pm**, in the Fellowship Hall. Popcorn and soft drinks will be provided! Check out Fast Facts for more information.

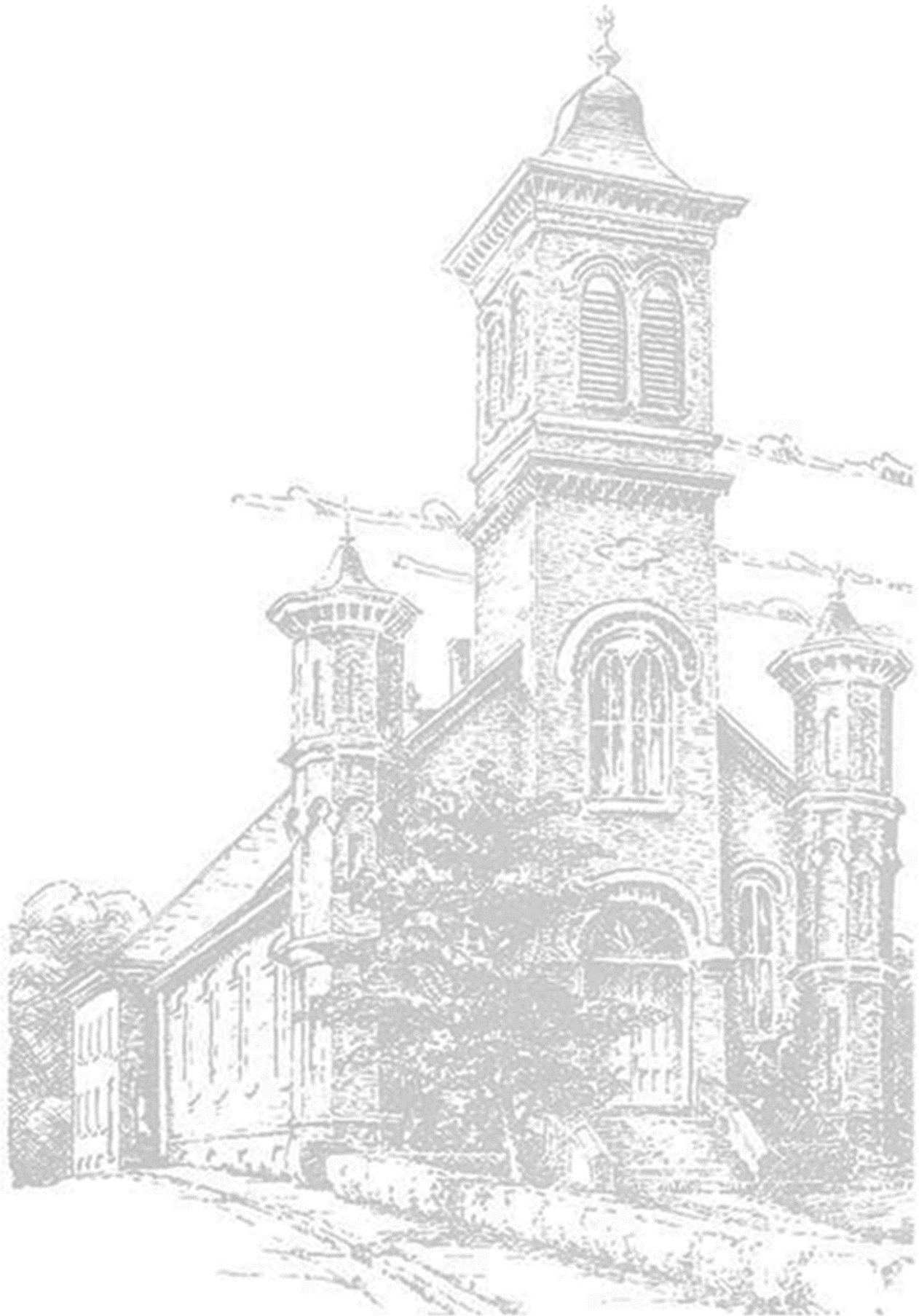
REMEMBER IN PRAYER

FPC Members: Becky Murphey; Curtis Wilkie; Family of Tommy Patrick; Ann Dickins; Margaret Fancher; Louise Waller; Mrs. Pat Atkinson; The Family of Charles Montgomery; The Family of William "Wylie" Coleman; The Family of Nancy Rogers; Sarah, Cliff, and Sterlin Smith; Keith & Cheryl Hayward; Scottye Boone; Jean Blackston; Leon McCullouch

Family and Friends: Dr. Keith Mansel; Dr. Gladys Memnon and Friends in Bongnotte, Haiti; Family of Tommy Marshall; Family and Friends of Dr. Jack Davis Brown; Susan Treas-Ewing; Margaret Burnett; Family of Dr. Macklyn Ward Hubbell; 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.*



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