

First Presbyterian Church
Energized by Grace

A SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

11:00 AM

A SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Lectionary Texts:

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22; Psalm 124; Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29; Psalm 19:17-14; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50

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 — *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship*

arr. Molly Ijames

SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

God of unquenchable fire and overflowing grace, cast out the demons that oppress us; take away the things that make us stumble. Lead us into your real of life and season us with your peace; in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME AND PARISH LIFE

PRELUDE — *The peace may be exchanged*

Dan Locklair

INTROIT — *As the Deer*

arr. Buryl Red

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.
You alone are my strength, my shield, to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 19

The law of the Lord is perfect,

Reviving the soul.

The decrees of the Lord are sure,

Making wise the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right,

Rejoicing the heart.

The ordinances of the Lord are true,

And righteous altogether.

May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you,

O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.

† HYMN 157 — *I Danced in the Morning*

LORD OF THE DANCE

† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of unity, we live in a world where our lives move between inclusivity and exclusivity. We often moved toward the latter, trying to oust from our circles those who do not think like us, act like us, or look like us. Forgive our need to reject and to always be on the lookout for those things that make us different. Give us the eyes of our Teacher, who knows unconditional love and compassion and sees us all as one, for it is in his name 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 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 Education building after the worship service.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

p. 161

The Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

MUSICAL MEDITATION — *O God, You Search Me* (Text found at Hymnal 29)

Bernadette Farrell

GOSPEL READING: Mark 9:38-50

p. 55

The Word of the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

SERMON — "A Perfect Recipe"

Rev. Andy G. Spaulding

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 — *Give Me Jesus*

arr. Bethany K. Smith

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 463 — *How Firm a Foundation*

FOUNDATION

† 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 — *Go Forth With Joy!*

Gwyneth Walker

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 Fellowship Hall storage closet.

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>	Rev. Barrett C. Milner
<i>Organist</i>	Creighton R. Holder
<i>Ushers</i>	Bo Elliott
	Teresa Flautt
	Carole Haney
	David McPhail

CALENDAR

Sunday, September 29

9:00 am Worship Service*
 9:45 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service*
 5:00 pm PYF

Monday, September 30

6:30 pm Troop 45

Tuesday, October 1

6:00 am Men's Breakfast @ The Beacon
 5:30 pm Diaconate
 6:00 pm UKirk

Wednesday, October 2

8:15 am Men's Bible Study
 10:00 am Book Study - *Gratitude*
 4:30 pm Bibles & Brews
 5:30 pm Chancel Choir
 5:30 pm Wednesday's Together*

Sunday, October 6

9:00 am Worship Service*
 9:45 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service*
 5:00 pm PYF

**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 - Carole Haney (2025) & Irma Buchanan (2026)
Children & Youth Faith Formation - Catie Hester (2024) & Brynne Quick (2026)
Clerk of Session - Catherine Servati (2026)
Finance - Richard DeVoe (2024) & Brent Hardin (2025)
Membership & Hospitality - Angela Manley (2025) & Matt Nielson (2026)
Mission - David Shaw (2025) & Laura Montgomery (2026)
Personnel - Melissa Hall (2024)
Property - Bradley Goodwiller (2024) & Bo Elliott (2025)
Worship - Hale Freeland (2024)

DIACONATE

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

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 FF 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>	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 my wife, Shelley Cribbs, and my father, Dr. Thomas Cribbs, birthdays by Tommy Cribbs.

Wednesdays Together: Join us on Wednesday nights as we gather for food, faith, and fellowship! Dinner begins at 5:30 with programming starting at around 6. This year, we are excited to debut 'Finding Faith Through the Journey of Life.' Each Wednesday night a member of our church family will speak about their faith journey, sharing their insights and experiences. Brynne Quick will be our speaker for this week. Separate programming for children included. Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, rolls, and cookies are on the menu for this week. There will be a kids bar with various options for our younger friends as well! There is a recommended donation of \$5 for adults and \$3 for children, with a maximum donation of \$20 per family. Please RSVP by marking your plans to attend in the friendship pads found in the sanctuary, or by calling the church office. See y'all on Wednesday!

FPC Pictorial Directory Photos: The Membership & Hospitality team, along with our ministers, are excited to announce an updated pictorial member directory is coming soon! Each Sunday in October, photos will be taken at the church. Please help us in our effort by selecting a time for you or your family to have a new photo taken for the church membership directory. There is a sign-up genius available in Fast Facts to choose a date/time slot to have your new photo taken.

Cookies for Kairos: Kairos is an international prison ministry which provides hope and expressions of Christ's love by providing fellowship, food, and opportunities for spiritual growth. Help the Kairos of Mississippi Ministry Team while they minister to and fellowship with Marshall County Correctional Facility inmates November 7-10. Bake or buy 1 dozen cookies and drop off Wednesday October 16, 5:30-6 pm in the Fellowship Hall, or Friday, October 18, 9-11 am, in the church office. Kairos requests that cookies are nut free, and homemade ones are packaged for freezing. If you have any questions, please contact Kathleen Mayo (kathleen.e.mayo@gmail.com). There is a signup genius available in Fast Facts.

UKirk: UKirk Ole Miss is back for another semester together, and sharing dinner each week continues to be a central part of this student faith community. If you're interested in providing one, you can see the schedule of available dates at ukirkolemiss.org/tuesday-meals. If you're a college student who wants to connect, or know one we should meet, visit bit.ly/3SCKpl0.

Mission Opportunities: FPC supports a variety of outreach ministries in the Oxford community to serve "the least of these." Feel called to participate? See Fast Facts or contact the church office for more information on how to become involved in a variety of ministries.

- FPC partners with **Doors of Hope** by providing the Step 2 Dinner the second Tuesday of each month in our fellowship hall. Volunteers are needed to host the meals.
- Need a little extra help with light home repairs or a yard chore? Know someone who does? **In Good Order** is available to assist.
- **Lovepacks** is an inschool pantry for underserved children. For the month of September squeezable applesauce packs are requested.
- Our neighbors in need often come by the church asking for assistance. **Blessing Bags** contain nonperishable food items, toiletries, and clothing.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

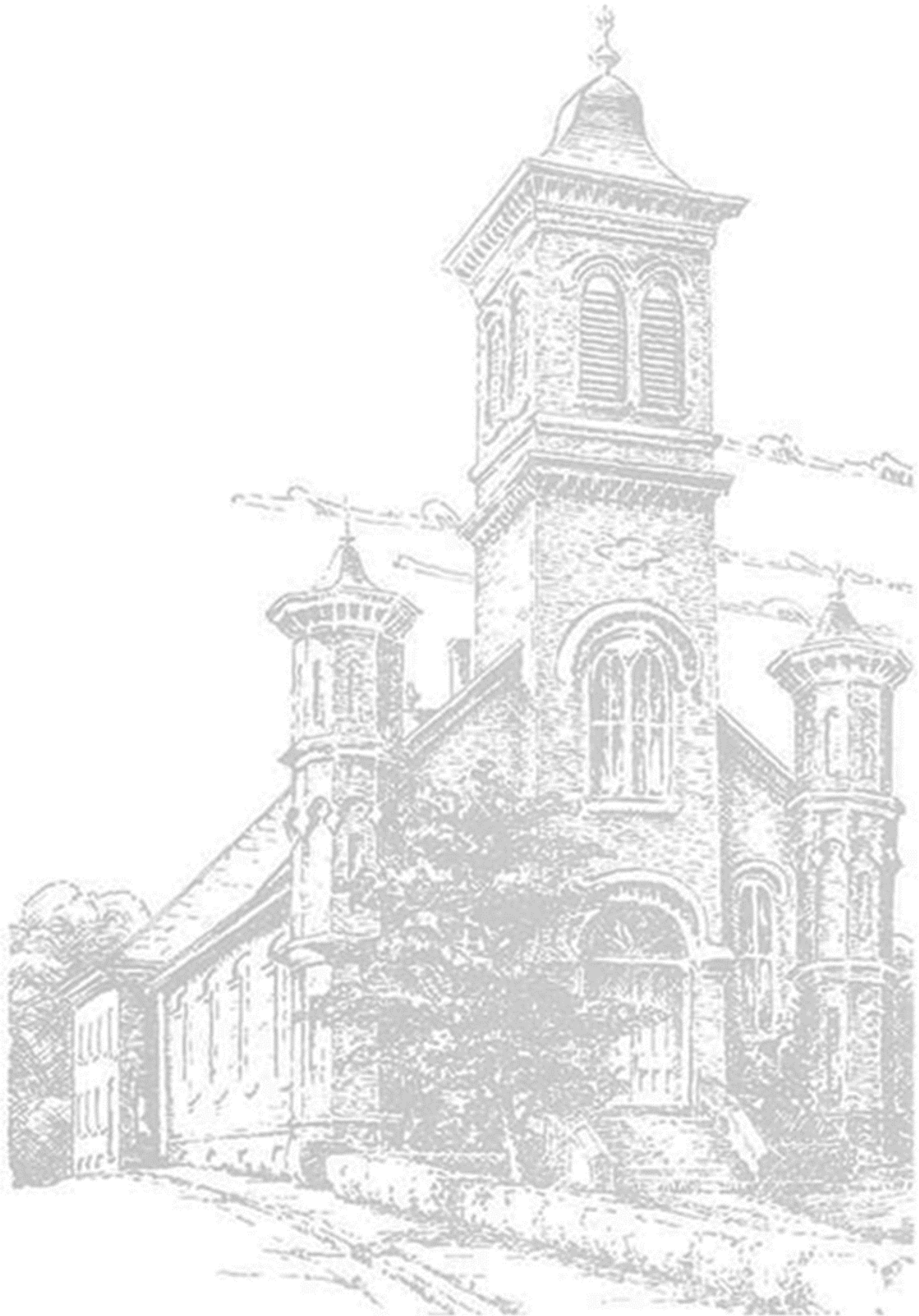
FPC Members: Steve Mauldin; Sandra Webb; Syd Shaw; Warner Biedenharn; Marjorie Selvidge; Becky Murphey; Ann Dickins; Margaret Fancher; Mrs. Pat Atkinson; Sarah, Cliff, and Sterlin Smith; Scottye Boone; Leon McCullouch

Family and Friends: Joni & Julie Cole; Sarah & Brian LaPrade; Sor Carla Rodriguez and Family; Hannah Borden Miller; The Family of Grady Tollison; Andrew Briggs; The Family of Beverly Biedenharn; Abdel Rigau León: Bob Flautt; Mike Flautt; Steve Mistilis; The Family of Jeanette Wilkinson; The Family and Friends of Terry Moon; Alex Saralvarez and Family; Sigrid Long; Family of Lynda Torbert Mathers; Eileen Cheney and Family; Family of Susan Treas-Ewing; Thomas Hines; Olivia Flautt; Dr. Gladys Memnon and Friends in Bongnotte, Haiti; Margaret Burnett; 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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