

The Lord's Day Morning

December 3, 2023
Ten Forty-Five O'clock

*Welcome to First Presbyterian Church!
Please complete and pass the black friendship pad at the end of the pew.*

Welcome and Announcements

+Prelude..... Wilbur Held
“Of the Father's Love Begotten”

Call to Worship..... Luke 1:76-79

“And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
to give knowledge of salvation to his people
in the forgiveness of their sins,
because of the tender mercy of our God,
whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high
to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

***+Hymn of Adoration 194**..... VENI EMMANUEL
“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

***Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles' Creed (150 AD)

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.

[†]This “descent clause” is a summary statement of Christ's passion, death, and burial.
i.e., the universal Christian Church

Call to Confession 2 Corinthians 7:9-10

As it is, I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because you were
grieved into repenting... For godly grief produces a repentance that leads
to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.

Private Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon Jeremiah 31:33-34

“For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after
those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will
write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my
people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his
brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the
least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their
iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

***+Hymn of Assurance 221**..... ES IST EIN' ROS' ENTSPRUNGEN
“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

Prayer of Intercession 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.

+Presentation of God's Tithe and Our Offerings

Offertory Anthem arr. Mack Wilberg
“In the Bleak Midwinter”
Sanctuary Choir

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heav'n cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain;
Heav'n and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter, a stable-place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give Him, give my heart.

***Doxology** (Hymn 731) OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise Him, all creatures here below;
praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

(Four and Five-year olds dismissed to Children's Church)

Ministry of the Word..... Rev. Darwin Jordan
“The Word: Creator, Life and Light”
John 1:1-5, 14 (p. 886)

***Hymn of Response 218** REGENT SQUARE
“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

***Benediction**..... Rev. Jordan

*Choral Amen

***Postlude** “While By the Sheep” Gordon Young

*Please stand if you are able.
+The ushers may seat worshippers.

Presiding Minister - Rev. Darwin Jordan
Assisting Minister - Rev. Knox Baird
Assisting Elder - Ruling Elder Grant Bennett

MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK

Roger and Abi Lowther lead Mission to the World's Tokyo Community Arts team, a team of artists and professionals working alongside Japanese nationals to assist church planting through worship, arts, evangelism, and discipleship. Roger and Abi serve at Grace City Church Tokyo as well as leading MAKE Collective, a global network of missionary artists within MTW. Pray for Roger and Abi and their four teenaged sons: Aidan, Eastin, Coen, and Kaizen. roger@communityarts.jp

United Christian Ministries is an outreach to financially disadvantaged families in our community, seeking to disciple young people and assist their families with tangible needs. Pray for Jack and Gayle Kennedy as they lead the ministry, and pray for the establishment of a Bible study and fellowship time for young women. If you wish to provide Christmas gifts for UCM children, visit the Angel Tree in Taylor Hall. Jrkennedy1@comcast.net

VISITORS

We welcome you to First Presbyterian Church!
Please take a moment to complete the **WELCOME! Card**
found in the pew rack and place in the offering plate.

For more information about our congregation,
please visit our website: fpchattiesburg.org.

COMMUNITY LIFE

White Gift Service, tonight, 6 p.m. *Please bring canned goods for distribution to those in need of food in our community.*

Women's Ministry Council Meeting, Tuesday, December 5, 9:30 a.m., Taylor Hall

Fellowship Dominoes, Tuesday, December 5, 10 a.m., Taylor Hall.

Lessons and Carols Rehearsal, Saturday, 9-11:30 a.m., Choir Suite.

No Wednesday Night Supper and Activities until January.



Christmas Calendar of Events

Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 10 at 6 p.m.

The Sanctuary Choir will lead us in this traditional service in which, through the Word and music, the story of the coming of Christ and His redemption unfolds.

Christmas Caroling

Sunday, December 17 at 5 p.m.

Christmas Eve Communion Service

Sunday, December 24 at 5:00 p.m.

Pre-service music begins 20 minutes prior to the service.

Church offices will be closed on Monday, Dec. 25 and Tuesday, Dec. 26.

SERMON NOTES

“The Word: Creator, Life and Light”

John 1:1-5, 14

1. Creator (v. 3)

2. Life and Light (vv. 4-5)

First Presbyterian Church Directory

Ministry Staff

Rev. Darwin Jordan Interim Senior Minister
 Rev. C. Knox Baird Minister of Missions, Mercy and Mature Believers
 Dr. David H. Jussely Minister Emeritus
 Rev. Josh Adair Minister of Discipleship
 Dr. Kathy C. Young Director of Children's Ministry
 Mrs. Whitney McMullan Assistant to Children's Ministry
 Miss Laura Gunnufsen Assistant Director of Student Ministry

Music Ministry Staff

Dr. Jesse Noote Director of Music Ministries
 Mrs. Loleeta Rhett Organist
 Mrs. LeAnn Murphy 4 Year Old-1st Grade Choir Director
 Dr. Ashley Allen 2nd-6th Grade Choir Director

Support Staff

Mr. Arrington Rhett Church Administrator
 Ms. Tracy Ross Office Manager
 Mr. Bill Turpin Project Coordinator
 Mr. Don Hill Custodian
 Mrs. Pat Hill Custodian
 Mr. Hank Hawes Custodian

CHURCH OFFICERS

The Session

| | | |
|---------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Grant Bennett | Dan Didier | John Kosko |
| Louis Benton | Keith Easterling | Wyche McMullan |
| Hugh Bolton | Ken Gunnufsen | Arrington Rhett |
| Matthew Boyd | Randy Henderson | Bill Stanway |
| Wes Curry | Rob Jackson | Bill Turpin |

Elders Emeriti

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Frank Aderholdt | James (Pat) Chambless | James L. Duncan II |
| Henry Hawes | John R. Jackson Jr. | Robert Jackson Sr. |
| Richard A. Johnson | William C. Scruggs | David Shull |

The Diaconate

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <u>CLASS OF 2023</u> | <u>CLASS OF 2025</u> | <u>CLASS OF 2026</u> |
| Josh Blair | Hunter Berry | Paul Durfield |
| Robert Dews | Garrett Jones | Joe Gibbons |
| Neal Gregg | John Howell | Chuck Jakab |
| Kelly McMullan | Weston Locastro | Rob King |
| Wade Ratcliffe | Randy Martin | Drew McMullan |
| Erin Riley | Will Morgan | Keith Reeves |
| Nathan Starns | Steve Seales | Aaron Strum |

Church Treasurer

Rob King

Thanks to those serving today:

Duty Deacons for December:

Wade Ratcliffe, Weston Locastro, Rob King,
 Robert Dews, Steve Seales

Ushers for December:

Brian Aehnlich, Jack Boyd, Andrew Jakab,
 Jack Jones, Daniel Jussely, Dews Jussely



The FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 3, 2023

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
 HATTIESBURG, MS 39402

Grace Transforms