

# The Lord's Day Morning

December 22, 2024  
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

**+Prelude**..... Dale Wood  
“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

**Call to Worship**..... Isaiah 43:1-3a, 11

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel: “Fear not, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are mine.  
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
and the flame shall not consume you.  
For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior...  
I, I am the LORD, and besides me there is no savior.”

## Prayer for God's Grace in our Worship

**\*+Hymn of Adoration 225** ..... IRBY  
“Once in Royal David's City”

**\*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<sup>†</sup>.  
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.

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

## Congregational Confession of Sin

We praise you Father that you sent your Son to earth to be our Savior.  
And through Christ you have sought us, found us and drawn us to  
yourself. We were like lost sheep, but by your grace,  
we now belong to you forever. You rejoiced to rescue us and you will  
always rejoice to do us good in Christ Jesus.

Forgive us, Lord, for the ways we have been like the Pharisees of Jesus'  
day, who did not care for the lost. Forgive us that unlike you,  
often we don't seek the lost and we don't rejoice to do them good in  
Christ. Forgive us for pride, self-righteousness, hardness of heart,  
worldliness that robs our affection for your mission and the love of  
comfort that extinguishes sacrificial love.

Renew us in your grace, O God. Enable us to live out of Christ's Spirit  
to manifest his goodness toward the lost and his joy  
over the recovery of the lost. For your name's sake we pray. Amen.

## Private Confession of Sin

**Assurance of Pardon** ..... Ephesians 1:7-8

You who trust in Christ have redemption through his blood,  
the forgiveness of your sins, according to the riches of his grace,  
which he lavished upon you.

**\*+Hymn of Response 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** ..... Plainsong, 10th century/arr. Trevor Manor  
“Of the Father's Love Begotten”  
*Sanctuary Choir*

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He,  
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore!

O that birth forever blessèd, when the virgin, full of grace,  
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race;  
And the babe, the world's Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face  
Evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heav'n adore him; angel hosts, his praises sing;  
pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him and extol our God and King;  
Let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert ring;  
Evermore and evermore!

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**\*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** ..... Darwin Jordan  
“A Rescuer for Everybody”  
Luke 2:1-20 (p. 857)

**\*Hymn of Response 223** ..... CHRISTMAS  
“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”

## \*Benediction

## \*Choral Amen

**\*Postlude** ..... “Variations on HYFRYDOL” ..... Diane Bish

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

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Presiding Minister - Darwin Jordan  
Assisting Minister - Knox Baird  
Assisting Elder - Wes Curry

## MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK

**Mike Rasmussen** is Vice President for US Ministry and Professor of Biblical Studies with HopeRussia, a Reformed seminary based in St. Petersburg. HopeRussia's mission includes planting gospel-centered churches in the Russian-speaking world in partnership with Mission to the World. Dr. Rasmussen has planted two PCA churches and taught in seminaries in the US and Scotland. He and his wife now live in Athens, Georgia. First Presbyterian Church will provide monthly support for Mike's ministry beginning in January.

<https://hoperussia.org/>

**Esdras Vasquez** has been part of the Peru Mission team since 2013. He was a deacon at the Cristo Rey Church in Trujillo for several years before being ordained as a pastor in 2015, when he became director of the church's university ministry. In 2021, Esdras was called as Senior Pastor of Cristo Rey. He also teaches Biblical Theology and Ethics at the Areopago Seminary and leads the Peru Mission Church Planting Center. Pray for Esdras and his wife, Megan.

<https://www.perumission.org/>

## VISITORS

We welcome you to First Presbyterian Church!

Please take a moment to provide us with a record of your visit using the attendance register at the end of each pew.

If you wish to be added to the mailing list for the church's weekly e-newsletter, send us an email— [first@fpchattiesburg.org](mailto:first@fpchattiesburg.org) or call the church office at 601-268-0303.

For more information about our congregation, visit our website at [fpchattiesburg.org](http://fpchattiesburg.org).

## FPC HARVEST CAMPAIGN

If you would like to learn more about the Harvest Campaign, contact Arrington Rhett or any member of the Facilities Planning Committee— Rob King, Shea McNease, Lee Norman, Abb Payne, Elizabeth Tullos.

Worship services are available live or archived at [facebook.com/fpchattiesburg](https://facebook.com/fpchattiesburg).

## 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  
 Dr. Kathy C. Young..... Director of Children's Ministry  
 Mrs. Whitney McMullan..... Assistant to Children's Ministry  
 Mr. Will Devenish ..... Student Ministry Intern

### Music Ministry Staff

Dr. Jesse Noote..... Director of Music Ministries  
 Mrs. Loleeta Rhett ..... Organist  
 Mrs. Christine Bellew..... K4-2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Children's Choir Director  
 Mrs. Hilary Strum ..... 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Children's 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  
 Louis Benton  
 Matthew Boyd  
 Wes Curry

Keith Easterling  
 Ken Gunnufsen  
 Randy Henderson  
 Rob Jackson  
 John Kosko

Wyche McMullan  
 Arrington Rhett  
 Bill Stanway  
 Bill Turpin

### Elders Emeriti

Frank Aderholdt  
 Henry Hawes  
 Richard A. Johnson

James (Pat) Chamblee  
 John R. Jackson Jr.  
 William C. Scruggs

James L. Duncan II  
 Robert Jackson Sr.  
 David Shull

### The Diaconate

CLASS OF 2025  
 Hunter Berry  
 John Howell  
 Garrett Jones  
 Weston Locastro  
 Randy Martin  
 Will Morgan  
 Steve Seales

CLASS OF 2026  
 Paul Durfield  
 Joe Gibbons  
 Chuck Jakab  
 Rob King  
 Drew McMullan  
 Keith Reeves  
 Aaron Strum

CLASS OF 2027  
 Wes Bonner  
 Tony Claytor  
 Tommy Lofton  
 Kelly McMullan  
 Lee Norman  
 Ben Pace  
 Quentin Parsons  
 Rob Robertson  
 Schaeffer Smith  
 Trey Sutton  
 Andres Tellez  
 Joseph Tullos

### Church Treasurer

Rob King

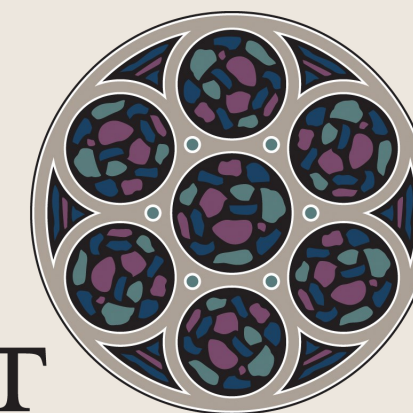
## Thanks to those serving today!

### Duty Deacons for December:

Kelly McMullan (head),  
 Paul Durfield, Joe Gibbons,  
 John Howell, Lee Norman, Keith Reeves

### Ushers for December:

Cal Boyd, Burn Curry,  
 Davis Dawkins, Rick Newman,  
 Rhett Robertson, Eli Smith



# The FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 22, 2024

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA  
 HATTIESBURG, MS 39402

*Grace Transforms*