

CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION SERVICE

December 24, 2024
Five O'clock

Welcome to First Presbyterian Church!

Welcome and Announcements

+Prelude..... Dale Wood
“Silent Night, Holy Night”

Call to Worship Psalm 96:1-3, 7-9

Oh sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth!
Sing to the Lord, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples!

Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!
Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts!
Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

***+Hymn of Adoration 214** GLORIA
“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Prayer of Intercession

+Presentation of God’s Tithe and Our Offerings

Offertory Anthem John Rutter
“Candlelight Carol”
Drs. Louis and Damea Benton

How do you capture the wind on the water?
How do you count all the stars in the sky?
How can you measure the love of a mother?
Or how can you write down a baby's first cry?

Refrain
Candlelight, angel light, firelight and star-glow
Shine on His cradle 'til breaking of dawn
Gloria! Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Angels are singing "The Christ child is born"

Shepherds and wise men will kneel and adore him
Seraphim 'round him, their vigil will keep
Nations proclaim him their Lord and their Saviour
But Mary will hold him and sing him to sleep

Refrain
Find Him in Bethlehem laid in a manger
Christ our Redeemer, asleep in the hay
Godhead incarnate and hope of salvation
A Child with his mother that first Christmas Day

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Hymn of Thanksgiving 205 CRADLE SONG
“Away in a Manger”

Ministry of the Word Darwin Jordan
“A Message from Heaven's Chorus”
Luke 2:8-14 (p. 857)

Hymn of Response 203 MENDELSSOHN
“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing!”
(verse 1)

The Lord’s Supper

***Hymn of Response 203** MENDELSSOHN
“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing!”
(verses 2-3)

*Benediction

***Postlude** Raymond Haan
“Variations on ‘Sussex Carol’”

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

Presiding Minister - Darwin Jordan
Assisting Minister - Knox Baird

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

You are invited and are welcome to participate in the Lord’s Supper if you are a baptized Christian, a follower of Jesus Christ, and a member in good standing of this or some other Bible-believing church, recognized as belonging to the fellowship of Christian believers. If this does not describe you, we are glad you are here and commend to you this prayer for your use during this time of the Lord’s Supper.

Lord Jesus, the burdens of my life are too great for me. I know that my heaviest burden is my own sin. My sin has made me estranged from God and it is too great for me to carry. You say to all sinners, including me, “Come to me all who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest.” These are the words my guilty conscience longs for. Help me, Lord Jesus, to understand and believe your loving promise that I can have rest for my soul. And even more, that I can know you and have eternal life.

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..... K4-2nd Grade Children's Choir Director
Mrs. Hilary Strum 3rd-6th 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) Chambless
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

CARE FOR WIDOWS AND PASTORS IN NEED

This season, PCA churches around the country will collect donations to look after widows, retired ministers, and PCA church servants in distress. These funds are administered through the **Geneva Relief Fund** to provide financial assistance and support to our faithful servants, many of whom live near or below the poverty line. Gifts are used to help pay for basic needs like groceries, housing, and medical expenses.

Through the years, **First Presbyterian Church** has collected a Christmas offering to benefit widows and pastors in need.

If you wish to make a gift, your check should be designated for the **MINISTERIAL RELIEF FUND**

and placed in the offering plate or returned in one of the self-addressed envelopes available in the Narthex.

You may also visit genevabenefits.org/lookafter to make an online gift.

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this:

to visit orphans and widows in their affliction. JAMES 1:27

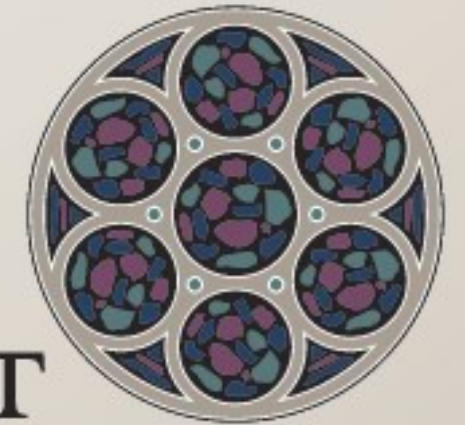
Thanks to those serving today!

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 24, 2024
Christmas Eve Communion Service

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
HATTIESBURG, MS 39402

Grace Transforms