

The Lord's Day

September 2, 2012
Ten Fifty O'clock

“And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD his God.” (Micah 5:4)

Please switch all communications devices to silent mode. Thank you.

Welcome and Announcements

+Prelude..... “Benediction” Alec Rowley

Call to Worship..... Psalm 122

Minister: I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the LORD!”

People: Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!

Minister: Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together, to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD.

People: There thrones for judgment were set, the thrones of the house of David.

Minister: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! “May they be secure who love you! Peace be within your walls and security within your towers!”

All: For my brothers and companions' sake I will say, “Peace be within you!” For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good. Amen! Let us worship God!

Choral Introit Dale Wood
“Let There Be Songs of Great Gladness”
Sanctuary Choir

***Ascription of Praise** (Psalm 122) CWM RHONDDA

I was filled with joy and gladness
When I heard them say to me:
“Let us make our pilgrim journey,
Then the Lord's house we will see.”
We were standing! We were standing!

In your gates, Jerusalem! In your gates, Jerusalem!

Taken from *The Book of Psalms for Worship* © 2009 Crown & Covenant Publications, 7408 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15208-2531. Used by permission.

***Prayer of Adoration**.....Ruling Elder Ken Gunnufsen

***Hymn No. 334** TRENTHAM
“Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

Private Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon Zephaniah 3:17

We confess our sins to a God who is near to us and delights in us. God's Word says, “The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.” Thanks be to God that he sings with joy because he sees us in Jesus our Savior!

Affirmation of Faith The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Question 73: Which is the eighth commandment?

Answer: The eighth commandment is, *Thou shalt not steal.*

Question 74: What is required in the eighth commandment?

Answer: The eighth commandment requireth the lawful procuring and furthering the wealth and outward estate of ourselves and others.

Question 75: What is forbidden in the eighth commandment?

Answer: The eighth commandment forbiddeth whatsoever doth or may unjustly hinder our own or our neighbour's wealth or outward estate.

Sacrament of Baptism

Maria Evylin & Thomas Jaydin Cooper, covenant children of Jeremy & Tinyke Cooper, by Dr. Sean Michael Lucas with Rev. Knox Baird assisting.

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.

Please complete the black Fellowship Folder and pass down the pew.

Presentation of God's Tithe and Our Offerings

Offertory “Shall We Gather at the River?” John Barr

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

+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.

Solo Bob Burroughs
“All That Thrills My Soul is Jesus”
Larry D. Smith

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Text 1 John 2:3-11 Pew Bible p. 1021

Sermon..... Dr. Sean Michael Lucas
“Do You Keep Jesus' Commands?”

***Hymn No. 585** HENDON
“Take My Life, and Let It Be”

*Benediction

Choral Response

***Postlude** “Festival Voluntary” Anonymous

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

Presiding Minister - Dr. Sean Michael Lucas
Assisting Elder - Ken Gunnufsen

Visitors - Visitors are encouraged to pick up a copy of the First Presbyterian Church newsletter in the Narthex or at the Welcome Center in the Fellowship Hall.

Notes on the Service

As we continue to sort through the issues of Christian assurance, we will be testing our hearts by asking the question, “Do you keep Jesus’ commands?” Not to say that we keep his Word faultlessly, but is the overarching narrative of your life one of “walking as he walked” and “loving as he loved”? If so, then you might have confidence that you belong to God the Father through Jesus his Son by the power of the Spirit. But if not, then perhaps you need to say, “Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.”

In our worship service this morning, we come as a rejoicing people, delighting to be in God’s city, Jerusalem, rejoicing to be the people of God. We are called to worship with Psalm 122 and we sing this back to our God as our ascription of praise. We delight to be where God promises to dwell; we delight to hear his Word and rest in his promises. But we also know that we need God’s Spirit to enable us to obey him—that’s why we pray, “Breathe on me, Breathe of God, fill me with life anew, that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.”

We also rejoice that we once again get to hear God’s promises to be a God to us and our children. As the Coopers bring their twins for baptism, we are mindful that our children are a heritage from the Lord; they represent “Ebenezers” that mark God’s faithfulness to us; and they serve as instruments of our sanctification, causing us to grow in our dependence upon our God. As we hear the promises of God in baptism, may God grant us grace to improve our baptisms and to pray for all of our covenant children.

Surely, our closing hymn this morning—the familiar words of Frances Havergal—needs to become the prayer of every heart: “Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure-store. Take my self, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.” May God make each one of us his holy instruments for his glory by his Word and his Spirit!

If you would like a copy of today’s sermon, please call the church office (601-268-0303). The entire service, as well as just the sermon, is available on CD. You may also download the sermon only from our website at www.fpcpc.net.

MINISTRY STAFF

Ministers

Sean Michael Lucas, B.A., M.A., Ph.D. Senior Minister
 Norman A. Bagby, Jr., B.A., M.Div. Minister of Visitation/Senior Adults
 C. Knox Baird, B.A., M.Div. Minister of Missions/Outreach
 David H. Jussely, B.S., M.Div., Ph.D. Minister of Teaching/Discipleship

Ministerial Assistants

Kathy C. Young, B.S., M.S. Director of Children’s Ministry
 Ben Griffith Director of Student Ministry
 Wes Crider. Nursery Coordinator

Music Ministry Staff

Larry D. Smith, D.M.A. Choir Director
 Samuel Porter, D.M.A. Organist
 Loleeta Rhett, B.M.Ed. Arts and Discipleship Coordinator, Accompanist
 Laura Broughton, D.M.A. Youth Handbell Choir Director
 Kerrin Hightower, M.A. Children’s Choir Director

Support Staff

Sara Sealy Office Manager/Financial Secretary
 Tracy Ross Assistant Office Manager
 Rodney Gillentine Properties Supervisor
 Don Hill Custodian

2012 CHURCH OFFICERS

The Session

CLASS OF 2012 Louis Benton Keith Easterling Ken Gunnufsen Randy Henderson	CLASS OF 2013 Henry Hawes Robert T. Jackson Jr. Greg Powell David Shull	CLASS OF 2014 Joel Flynt Robert T. Jackson Sr. Wyche McMullan	CLASS OF 2015 Frank Aderholdt Charles Greer IV Arrington Rhett Bill Turpin
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Elders Emeriti

James P. Bolton John M. Faust William C. Scruggs	Ted P. Clay John R. Jackson Jr.	James L. Duncan II Richard A. Johnson
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The Diaconate

CLASS OF 2012 Grant Bennett Joe Donnell Alex Hudson Robbie Johnson	CLASS OF 2013 Charles Greer V Bert Kuyrkendall Shea McNease Doug Munn Adam Pennebaker Ben Rester Corey Tator Rob Tatum	CLASS OF 2014 Wes Curry Daniel Jussely Troy Russell Chip Wall	CLASS OF 2015 Mark Duncan Grant Dyess John Elder Ron Keller Dennis McGaughran Drew Middleton D Palermo Stuart Rich Lee Rouse
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Church Treasurer Rob Tatum	Assistant Treasurers Ron Keller Drew Middleton
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Thanks to those serving today:

Duty Deacons for September: Corey Tator, Grant Dyess, John Elder, Chip Wall, Joe Donnell, Shea McNease

Nursery Volunteers: Bert Kuyrkendall, Troy & Lauren Russell, David & Patti Purser, Dan & Michelle Didier

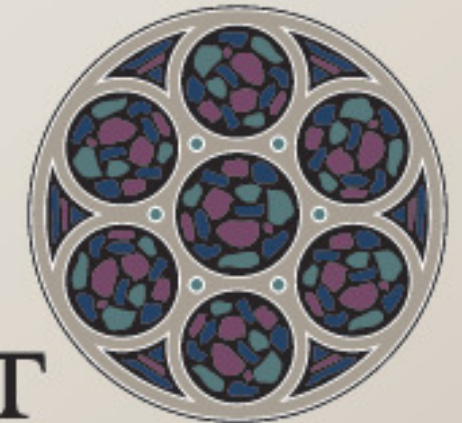
Ushers for September: Sam Lucas, Asa Henderson, Mason Starns, Wade Wicht, Glenn Mangum, Lance Mangum, Tom Tyner, Moses Kennedy, Rick Maddox

Greeters for today:
 9:30 - Malcolm English
 10:30 - Norman Bagby

Duty Elder & Hospital Visitation:
 Ken Gunnufsen

Mugger for today: Jimmy Alston

Mercy Support: If you are in need or aware of someone that may be in need of some assistance please contact our mercy committee or Adam Pennebaker at adam.pennebaker@pinebeltashley.com or 601-946-7133.



The FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 2, 2012

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
 HATTIESBURG, MS 39402

Grace Transforms