

The Lord's Day

September 16, 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..... Felix Mendelssohn
Chorale Variations: “Our Father in Heaven”

Call to Worship.....Jeremiah9:23-24

Minister: Thus says the LORD: “Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD.” Amen! Let us worship God!

Choral Introit “Let All the WorldKenneth Pelmar
in Every Corner Sing” ed. Paul Oakley
Sanctuary Choir

***Ascription of Praise** (Hymn 3, verses 1 & 5) WARRINGTON

Give to our God immortal praise; mercy and truth are all his ways: wonders of grace to God belong; repeat his mercies in your song.

He sent his Son with pow'r to save from guilt and darkness and the grave: wonders of grace to God belong; repeat his mercies in your song.

***Prayer of Adoration** Ruling Elder Robert Jackson, Jr.

***Hymn No. 170**..... “Fairest Lord Jesus”CRUSADER'S HYMN

Private Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon Matthew 9:13; John 3:14-15

We confess our sins to God because we believe that Jesus is our Savior from sin. God's Word tells us that Jesus said, “I came not to call the righteous, but sinners” and “as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.” As sinners trusting in the Son of Man who was lifted up in our place, we have confidence of pardon through Jesus. Thanks be to God!

Affirmation of Faith The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Question 79: Which is the tenth commandment?

Answer: The tenth commandment is, *Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.*

Question 80: What is required in the tenth commandment?

Answer: The tenth commandment requireth full contentment with our own condition, with a right and charitable frame of spirit toward our neighbour, and all that is his.

Question 81: What is forbidden in the tenth commandment?

Answer: The tenth commandment forbiddeth all discontentment with our own estate, envying or grieving at the good of our neighbour, and all inordinate motions and affections to any thing that is his.

Sacrament of Baptism

Louis Jenkins Kosko, covenant child of John and Kendy Kosko, by Dr. Sean Michael Lucas with Paul Kosko, Ruling Elder at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Greenwood, 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 “Blessed Jesus, We Are Here”J. S. Bach

(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.

Choral AnthemK. Lee Scott
“The Whole Armor of God”
Sanctuary Choir

Give me, O Christ, the strength that is in thee, that I may stand in ev'ry evil hour; faints my poor heart except to thee I flee, resting my weakness in thy perfect pow'r. Give me to see the foes that I must fight, pow'rs of the darkness throned where thou shouldst reign; read the directings of thy wrath aright, lest, striking flesh and blood, I strike in vain. Give me to wear the armor that can guard, over my breast thy blood-bought righteousness; faith for my shield, when fiery darts rain hard, girded with truth, and shod with zeal, with zeal to bless. Give me to wield the weapon that is sure, taking through pray'r thy sword into my hand, word of thy wisdom, peaceable and pure, so, Christ my Conqu'ror, I shall conqu'ror stand. Yes, having all things done, O Christ my Conqu'ror, having all things done, I shall stand. I shall stand!

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Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Text1 John 2:18-27.... Pew Bible pp. 1021-1022

Sermon..... Dr. Sean Michael Lucas
“Who is Jesus to You?”

***Hymn No. 642** “Be Thou My Vision”SLANE

*Benediction

Choral Response

***Postlude** “Our Father in Heaven”Felix Mendelssohn

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

Presiding Minister - Dr. Sean Michael Lucas
Assisting Elder - Robert Jackson, Jr.

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

We come again to 1 John to hear him asking us questions that are meant to probe our spiritual condition. This morning's question is a bit different—whereas the previous questions had to do with our *ethics* (how we live), this morning's question has to do with our *doctrine* (what we believe). But we must not think that doctrine, and especially doctrine about Jesus, has to do simply with our heads; nor should we think that this is an unimportant concern. Rather, our question this morning—"who is Jesus to you?"—asks a question that goes deep into our hearts and raises fundamental questions about whom or what we trust.

Our service of worship this morning is structured around the thought that we know God as he is revealed in Jesus. Our call to worship from Jeremiah 9 tells us that the most important thing about us is not that we have money or power, but that we "understand and know the Lord." Such understanding and knowing comes as we delight in the Father through the Son by the Spirit.

As a result, our singing calls upon us to give to God immortal praises as we rejoice in the Gospel: "He sent his Son with pow'r to save from guilt and darkness and the grave." This Son is no one other than our "fairest Lord Jesus" who is ruler of nature, "Son of God and Son of Man." Notice this morning how *doctrinal* these hymns are—what we believe about Jesus inevitably influences how we sing about him, how we worship him. Doctrine leads to doxology.

We also delight this morning to have another baptism. As John and Kendy Kosko bring their son Louis to be baptized, we look forward to that day when he too will answer the question of "who Jesus is to him" with the strong affirmation, "I believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God" (Matt 16:18). We pray for this for Louis just as we pray this for each of our covenant children. May God make it so!

In response to God's Word this morning, we will sing the familiar eighth century hymn text, "Be Thou My Vision." As you sing, recognize that this is a prayer—you are asking God in Jesus to be your vision, to be your best thought, to be your wisdom, to be your Father, your battle shield, your shelter, your inheritance, your High King, your treasure. My prayer is that God will grant you grace to answer the question, "Who is Jesus to you?" with these affirmations so that your assurance might be deepened and strengthened and your holiness might increase. To God alone be the glory!

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

Thanks to those serving today:

Duty Deacons for September: Corey Tator, Grant Dyess, John Elder, Chip Wall, Joe Donnell, Shea McNease
Nursery Volunteers: Charles & Sweetie Greer, Mary Abraham, Abb & Jennifer Payne, Kate Jakab, and Joan Jakab

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

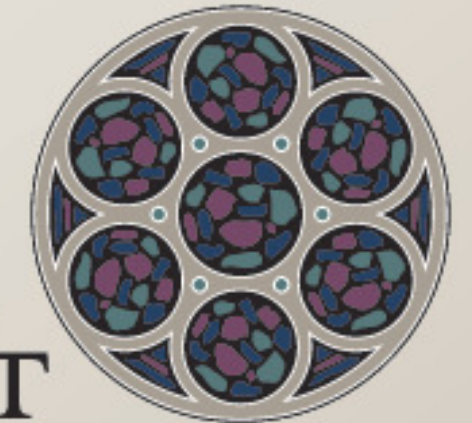
Greeters for today:

9:30 - Mike & Tina Perkins
 10:30 - Ron Keller

Duty Elder & Hospital Visitation:
 Robert Jackson, Jr.

Muggers for today: Joe & Marcia Gatewood

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 16, 2012

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
 HATTIESBURG, MS 39402

Grace Transforms