

The Lord's Day

April 21, 2013
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..... “When in Deepest Need” J. S. Bach

Call to Worship.....Hebrews 4

Minister: Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it.

People: Lord, grant us grace to enter into your rest.

Minister: It remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of disobedience, again he appoints a certain day, “Today,” saying through David, “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.”

People: Lord, we hear your voice; we will not harden our hearts. Grant us grace to enter your rest.

Minister: There remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his. Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience.

All: Thanks be to God! Grant us grace to enter your rest, O Lord! Let us worship God!

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

***Ascription of Praise** (Hymn 735) GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

***Prayer of Adoration**Ruling Elder Bill Stanway

***Hymn No. 390** GERMANY
“Lord of the Sabbath, Hear Us Pray”

Corporate Confession of Sin

O Lord, be merciful to me a sinner. I confess to you that I have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. I know that, if you were to mark

my sins, I would be completely undone. But Lord, I plead the blood and righteousness of Jesus my Savior. Look at him and forgive me; cleanse me from all unrighteousness; and grant me new strength to forsake my sins and follow you in new paths of obedience. For I pray this in Jesus' name, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon Psalm 130:7-8

We confess our sins because we believe that with God, there is mercy and forgiveness. God's Word says, “O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.” Thanks be to God for his steadfast love and plentiful redemption gained through Jesus our Savior!

Affirmation of Faith The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Question 27: Wherein did Christ's humiliation consist?

Answer: Christ's humiliation consisted in his being born, and that in a low condition, made under the law, undergoing the miseries of this life, the wrath of God, and the cursed death of the cross; in being buried and continuing under the power of death for a time.

Question 28: Wherein consisteth Christ's exaltation?

Answer: Christ's exaltation consisteth in his rising again from the dead on the third day, in ascending up into heaven, in sitting at the right hand of God the Father, and in coming to judge the world at the last day.

Stewardship Moment

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 “Dance on ‘Come, Thou Fount’”Jeffrey Blersch

(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 Anthem “Restore My Joy” Cindy Berry
Sanctuary Choir

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Thy love, according to Thy love. Wash me from my iniquity; cleanse me from my sin and make me whole again. Accept the sacrifices that I bring, a broken spirit, a contrite heart. Cleanse me with hyssop and I will be clean. Wash me and I will be whiter than snow. Hide Thy face from my sin, let me once again hear joy. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation, restore my joy. Restore my joy. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation. O God, restore my joy. Then will I sing of Thy mercy. Then will I teach transgressors Thy ways, I will sing of Thy righteousness, and my mouth shall show forth Thy praise. O Lord, have mercy. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and restore my joy.

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Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading Matthew 12:1-14 Pew Bible p. 816

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon..... Dr. Sean Michael Lucas
“Responding to Jesus: Opposition”

***Hymn No. 497**..... MEIRIONYDD
“I Need Thee, Precious Jesus”

*Benediction

Choral Response

***Postlude** Stephen P. Johnson
“Salvation Unto Us Has Come”

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

Presiding Minister - Dr. Sean Michael Lucas
Assisting Elder - Bill Stanway

Flowers - The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory of Corinne Gillentine from the Dorcas Sunday School Class.

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

The themes of Sabbath and rest hang over our Scripture passage this morning. We have just heard Jesus invite us to come to him and find rest for our souls; now in Matthew 12:1-14, Jesus experiences conflict with the Pharisees over the Sabbath, the day of rest and gladness that God has given to his people. As we will see, Jesus will make stupendous claims: that he is greater than David and the priesthood, greater than the temple itself, because he is God, the Son of Man who is Lord of the Sabbath. How we respond to these claims charts our eternal destinies.

With this in mind, our service this morning draws on themes of rest and Sabbath. Our call to worship is drawn from Hebrews 4, which teaches us several things: that there remains a Sabbath rest for God's people; that we require God's grace to respond; and that, at the same time, we are to strive actively to enter into rest and not to disobey God's inviting word. It is the Triune God who calls us and who elicits our praise.

Our praise centers on Jesus as Lord of the Sabbath. Our first hymn, written by the great eighteenth century pastor Philip Doddridge, draws from our sermon text to show us that this day, the Sabbath day, points us forward to the ultimate Sabbath day in the new heavens and new earth: "Your earthly Sabbaths, Lord, we love, but there's a nobler rest above; to that our lab'ring souls aspire with ardent hope and strong desire." We long to enter that rest by God's grace and through Christ's work of humiliation.

While we are here, we seek to be good stewards of what God has given us. We observe the regular pattern of work and rest that is woven into the creation week and we bring the first fruits of what God has provided on this his day for the cause of ministry and mission (1 Cor 16:1-4). As we are reminded of our stewardship responsibilities, we joyfully give to the Lord who has purchased a full salvation and set us free from all our sins.

Indeed, Jesus' person and work demands a response. Though the Pharisees responded wrongly—with opposition and ultimately blasphemy—we must respond with hearts of faith and joy. The closing hymn reminds us how much we need Jesus and why: we are full of sin, we possess dead hearts, we are very poor, and we are strangers and pilgrims. But as we come to Jesus, Son of Man, Son of God, Lord of Sabbath, King of time, we come to the only one who can give us what we so desperately need: rest. Thanks be to God!

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

2013 CHURCH OFFICERS

The Session

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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 2013 Charles Greer, V Bert Kuyrkendall Shea McNease Doug Munn Adam Pennebaker Ben Rester Rob Tatum	CLASS OF 2014 Wes Curry Daniel Jussely Troy Russell Chip Wall	CLASS OF 2015 Grant Dyess John Elder Ron Keller Dennis McGaughran Drew Middleton D Palermo Stuart Rich Lee Rouse	CLASS OF 2016 Neal Gregg Michael Griffin George Null Chris Parsons Erin Riley Tommy Shook Chad Smith Greg Smith
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Church Treasurer
Rob Tatum

Assistant Treasurers
Ron Keller
Drew Middleton

Thanks to those serving today:

Duty Deacons for April: Rob Tatum, Chad Smith, Adam Pennebaker, D Palermo, Chip Wall, Ron Keller, Doug Munn

Ushers for April: Ken Gunnufsen, Robert Dews, Ralph Abraham, Morris Ames, Matthew Graves, Luke Hudson, Brad Bailey, Randy Henderson, Rand Henderson, Harrison Gunter

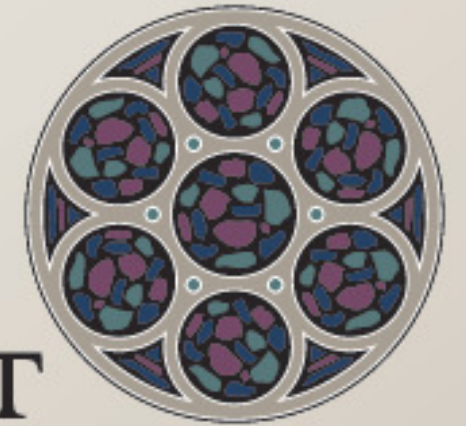
Duty Elder & Hospital Visitation:
Bill Stanway

Nursery Volunteers: Cindy Dawson, Laura Dawson, Alex Dawson, Skip Dews, Robert & Rachel Dews, Adam & Laura Pennebaker

Greeters for today:
9:30 - Caroline Grubbs
10:30 - Dennis McGaughran

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

April 21, 2013

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
 HATTIESBURG, MS 39402

Grace Transforms