

The Lord's Day

April 23, 2017
Eleven O'clock

*Welcome to First Presbyterian Church!
We encourage you to complete the black fellowship folder
and to switch all communication devices to silent. Thank you.*

Welcome and Announcements

+Prelude.....“It Is Well With My Soul” Craig Phillips

Call to Worship..... Psalm 96

O Sing to the Lord a new song; Sing to the Lord, all the earth! For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the Lord made the heavens. Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. 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!

Choral Introit J. Marty Cope
“Praise to the Lord”
Sanctuary Choir

***Ascription of Praise** (Hymn 164, verses 1-2)..... AZMON

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace.

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

***Prayer of Adoration**

***Hymn 535** “O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!” EBENEZER

Corporate Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon..... Psalm 32

Minister: Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

People: Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit.

Minister: When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

People: For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

Minister: Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity.

People: I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord”—and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Minister: Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you while you may be found;

People: Surely when the mighty waters rise, they will not reach him.

Minister: You are my hiding place;

People: You will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.

Minister: I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you.

People: Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.

Minister: Many are the woes of the wicked, but the Lord's unfailing love surrounds the man who trust in him.

All: Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!

***Hymn 691** “It Is Well with My Soul” VILLE DU HAVRE

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 “Christ, the Life of All the Living” Flor Peeters

(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 arr. Craig Courtney
“I Am Bound for the Promised Land”
Sanctuary Choir
Loleeta Rhett and Dr. Ellen Elder, Pianists

Jordan's stormy banks I stand, and cast a wishful eye to Canaan's fair and happy land, where my possessions lie. I am bound for the promised land, I am bound for the promised land; Oh, who will come and go with me: I am bound for the promised land. Oh, the transporting, rapturous scene that rises to my sight! Sweet fields arrayed in living green, and rivers of delight! I am bound for the promised land, I am bound for the promised land; Oh, who will come and go with me? I am bound for the promised land. Filled with delight my raptured soul would here no longer stay; Though Jordan's waves around me roll, fearless, I'd launch away. I am bound for the promised land, I am bound for the promised land; Oh, who will come and go with me? I am bound for the promised land. Oh, who will come and go with me: I am bound for the promised land.

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Scripture ReadingMatthew 5:10-12 Pew Bible p. 810

Sermon..... “The Persecuted” Dr. Michael McKelvey

***Congregational Response** (Hymn 518)HENDON

Christ of All my hopes the ground, Christ the spring of all my joy,
still in you may I be found, still for you my pow'rs employ,
still for you my pow'rs employ

Let your love my heart inflame, keep your fear before my sight;
be your praise my highest aim; be your smile my chief delight,
be your smile my chief delight.

Firmly trusting in your blood, nothing shall my heart confound;
safely I shall pass the flood, safely reach Immanuel's ground,
safely reach Immanuel's ground.

***Benediction** Dr. McKelvey

***Choral Response**

***Postlude** “All Glory Laud and Honor” Craig Phillips

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

Presiding Minister - Rev. Ben Griffith
Assisting Elder - Ruling Elder Grant Bennett

Missionary of the Week - Dr. Paul Chinchen, President of African Bible Colleges

COMMUNITY LIFE

Deep South Ringers Spring Concert, tonight, 6 p.m., Sanctuary.

4 Corners Café Service Night to Provision Living, tonight, 6 p.m., meet in F. Hall.

Senior Night, Wednesday, April 26.

Book Club on “A Gentleman from Moscow”, Thursday, April 27, 12 noon, Parlor.

Fifth Sunday Services, Sunday, April 30, 6 p.m., Petal Presbyterian Church.

Women’s Ministry Scripture Dinner, Wednesday, May 3, 6:30 p.m., F. Hall. Contact Jaime Griffin (jstanley2976@yahoo.com or 850-255-7333) to make reservations to attend.

Save the dates: VBS registration begins May 1. Rally night is May 7, 6 p.m. VBS is scheduled for June 5-9. *Please consider being a VBS volunteer! Contact Allison Smith, Marion Curry, or Kathy Young for opportunities.*

Juarez Medical & Construction Trip, June 25-July 1.

Twin Lakes Camp, June 26-July 2. For more information go to www.twinlakescamp.org. For information about camp scholarship, contact Kathy Young.

Meetings

- **Women’s Ministry Council**, Tuesday, April 25, 9:30 a.m., F. Hall.

Sanctuary Choir Schedule

- **Rehearsal**, today, 8:45 a.m., Choir Room.

Wednesday Night Supper & Activities

- **Supper** at 5:30 p.m. (Menu: Senior ROAST Night! *Fajita/soft tacos/nachos FIESTA!! Pollo (chicken), carnitas (ROAST pork), carne (beef), pico de gallo, tortillas, lettuce, tomatoes, onions, chips & nacho cheese, green salad, Ms Kim’s surprise south of the border dessert.*)
- **Children’s Choir & Activities** at 6:15 p.m.
- **Youth Bake Auction** at 6:30 p.m.

Contribution Summary for March 31, 2017

General Fund Contributions-March	\$128,167.28
Building Fund Contributions-March	\$1,915.00
Year to Date Actual Revenue	\$366,879.32
Year to Date Budgeted Revenue	\$467,452.50
Difference	\$(100,573.18)

If you would like a copy of today’s service, visit our website, www.fpcpca.net/sermons. There you will find the entire service in video format as well as the sermon available for download. If you have questions, please call the church office (601-268-0303).

First Presbyterian Church Directory

Ministry Staff

Rev. C. Knox Baird. Minister of Missions/Outreach
 Rev. Ben Griffith Minister of Students
 Dr. David H. Jussely..... Minister of Senior Adults/Visitation
 Mrs. Kathy C. Young Director of Children’s Ministry

Music Ministry Staff

Dr. Larry D. Smith Choir Director
 Dr. Samuel Porter Organist
 Mrs. Loleeta Rhett Arts and Discipleship Coordinator, Accompanist
 Mrs. Kerrin Hightower Children’s Choir Director

Support Staff

Mrs. Tracy Ross Office Manager
 Mr. Rodney Gillentine..... Properties Supervisor
 Mr. Don Hill Custodian
 Mrs. Pat Hill Custodian

Mission Statement

First Presbyterian Church proclaims and practices the Gospel of God’s transforming grace for God’s glory alone.

Grace transforms our characters

We believe God’s grace unites us to Jesus by faith with the result that we become more like him. This character transformation develops through use of the means of grace and is displayed through lives of virtuous service.

Grace transforms our communities

We believe that God’s grace enables us to extend the same patient, sacrificial pursuit of relationship which God demonstrates toward us to our various spheres of community—our families, small groups, neighborhoods, work place, volunteer associations, and civic organizations.

Grace transforms our callings

We believe that God’s grace not only calls us to be saved, but calls us into a variety of vocations. We are workers with God in our homes, careers, church, and city to seek the flourishing of God’s world and the extension of Christ’s Lordship through work done well.

Grace transforms our city

We believe that God’s grace moves us toward our city, both Hattiesburg and the larger polities to which we belong, to seek its peace, welfare, and flourishing. We long for our city to know the reconciliation with God and others that the Gospel alone accomplishes.

Thanks to those serving today:

Duty Deacons for April:

Keith Reeves, Adam Pennebaker,
 Andrew Harwell, Eric Jordan, Gene Smith,
 Schaeffer Smith, Tony Claytor, Trey Sutton

Ushers for April:

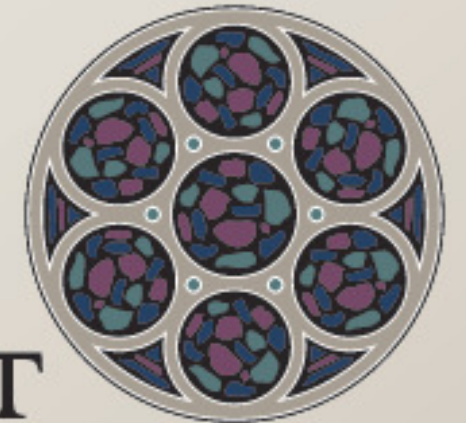
Warren Flynt,
 Eric Leatherwood, Sam Cole,
 Morris Ames, Bobby Dews, Tommy Dews,
 Brian Aehnlich, Barnes Benton

Nursery Volunteers for Today:

Dede English, Delaney Dukes, Emma Rich

Nursery Volunteers for April 30:

Subrina Johnson, Christi Dyess,
 Addison Blair Dyess



The FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 23, 2017

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
HATTIESBURG, MS 39402

Grace Transforms