

# The Lord's Day

December 3, 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**..... Mark Sedio  
“O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”

**Call to Worship**..... Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Minister: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

**People: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

**All: Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.**

## \*Prayer of Adoration

**\*Hymn 195**..... ANTIOCH  
“Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come”

## Corporate Confession of Sin

God of grace and truth,

In Jesus Christ you have come to us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed your light, but have stubbornly loved our darkness.

In Jesus Christ you have come to us as the Wonderful Counselor. We confess that we have not received your wisdom, but have foolishly followed our own ways.

In Jesus Christ you have come to us as our King. We confess that we have not embraced your reign, but have sinfully rebelled against your lordship.

Have mercy on us, O God. Draw us to your marvelous light by your grace, and subdue our rebel hearts by your steadfast love. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

**Assurance of Pardon** ..... Isaiah 53:4-6

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

**\*Hymn 213** ..... GREENSLEEVES  
“What Child Is This”

## 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** ..... Daniel Gawthrop  
“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

**(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. Nancy M. Raabe  
“Creator of the Stars of Night”  
*Sanctuary Choir*

Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light, O Christ, redeemer of us all, we pray you hear us when we call. When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in splendor bright, not as a monarch, but the child of Mary, blessed mother mild. At your great name, O Jesus, now all knees must bend, all hearts must bow: all things on earth with one accord, like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord. Come in your holy might, we pray, redeem us for eternal day; defend us while we dwell below from all assaults of our dread foe. Amen.

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**Scripture Reading** ..... Luke 1:26-38 ..... Pew Bible p. 855

**Sermon**..... Rev. Ben Griffith  
“The Hopes and Fears of all the Years”

**\*Hymn 196** ..... HYFRYDOL  
“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

**\*Benediction**..... Rev. Griffith

## \*Choral Response

**\*Postlude** ..... “All Thy Works Praise Thy Name” ..... Jeffrey Klersch

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

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Presiding Minister - Rev. Ben Griffith  
Assisting Elder - Ruling Elder Dan Didier

Missionary of the Week - Chaplain Colonel Harry Huey (Chip) with Presbyterian and Reformed Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel, which is part of Mission to North America.

# COMMUNITY LIFE

## White Gift Service

Tonight, December 3, 6 p.m.

Please see this past week's enews for more information.

**Youth Christmas Party**, Wednesday, December 6, at 5:30 p.m. at the home of Josh and Lucy Blair.

**PCS Christmas Choral Concert**, Thursday, December 7, 6:30 p.m., FPC Sanctuary.

If you will be either needing nursery care or willing to serve in nursery during the Christmas Eve service, please email Kathy at [kyoung@fpcpca.net](mailto:kyoung@fpcpca.net).

### Sanctuary Choir Schedule

- **Rehearsal**, today, 8:45 a.m., Choir Room.
- **Christmas Choir Rehearsal**, tonight, 7:15 p.m., Choir Room.

### Committees

- **Missions Committee Meeting**, Sunday December 10, 4:30 p.m., Parlor.

### Meetings

- **Hope for Hattiesburg Meeting**, today, 4:30 p.m., Library.
- **Women's Ministry Council Meeting**, Dec. 5, 9:30 a.m., F. Hall
- **Fellowship Dominos**, Tuesday, December 5, 10 a.m., F. Hall.
- **Women's Ministry Evening Bible Study**, Monday, December 11, 6 p.m.
- **Women's Ministry Morning Bible Study & Christmas Luncheon**, Tuesday, December 12, 9:30 a.m., F. Hall.

### DECEMBER SUNDAY SERVICES

**December 10<sup>th</sup>:** AM – Rev. Ben Griffith preaching  
PM – Lessons and Carols service

**December 17<sup>th</sup>:** AM – Rev. Ben Griffith preaching  
PM – Christmas Hymn Sing

**December 24<sup>th</sup>:** AM – Service at 10:30 with Dr. David Jussely preaching; No Sunday School  
PM – Christmas Eve communion service at 5 p.m.

**December 31<sup>st</sup>:** AM – Service at 10:30 with Rev. Knox Baird preaching; No Sunday School  
PM – No evening service

If you would like a copy of today's service, visit our website, [www.fpcpca.net/sermons](http://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

## 2017 SESSIONAL COMMITTEES

**Worship Committee:** Oversees the worship activities of the congregation, especially Sunday services and special worship meetings, and use of the sanctuary.

Members are Dan Didier (Session Chairman), Andrew Harwell (Daconate representative);  
*Class of 2017* - Grant Bennett, Mary Ann Scruggs, Louis Young; *Class of 2018* - Claudia Powell,  
J. P. Culpepper, Marion Curry; *Class of 2019* - Dan Didier, Grace Jennings;  
*Class of 2020* - Wes Curry, Betty Arnold, Claire Kolvites

**Christian Education Executive Committee:** Coordinates the regular Christian Education activities of the church for all ages from nursery to adult.

Members are Robert Jackson, Jr. (Session Chairman), Brian Smith (Daconate representative);  
Caroline Grubbs (WIC representative); *Class of 2017* - Matthew Wiggins, Heather Starns;  
*Class of 2018* - Rob Jackson Jr., Allison Smith, Bill Stanway; *Class of 2019* - Kristin Parsons,  
Whitney McMullan, Marge Crowe; *Class of 2020* - Louis Benton

**Congregational Committee:** Encourages, plans, and oversees evangelism, outreach, assimilation, and shepherding for the congregation.

Members are Ken Gunnufsen (Session Chairman), Trey Sutton (Daconate representative);  
*Class of 2017* - Hugh Bolton; *Class of 2018* - Trey Sutton, Brian & Bridgett Aehnlich;  
*Class of 2019* - Ken Gunnufsen, Schaeffer Smith, Wyche McMullan; *Class of 2020* - John Kosko,  
Brad Farris, Amanda Farris

**Missions & Benevolence Committee:** Coordinates and encourages involvement with and support of local, national, and international missions and benevolences.

Members are Shea McNease (Session Chairman), Mark Kolvites (Daconate representative);  
*Class of 2017* - Keith Easterling, Molly Blass, Lynn French; *Class of 2018* - Tim Crowe, Charles  
Wilson, Terri Wilson, Kim Palermo, Matthew Boyd; *Class of 2019* - Shea McNease, Mary Ann  
Easterling, India Smith, Haley Shook, Nate Thornton; *Class of 2020* - Randy Henderson

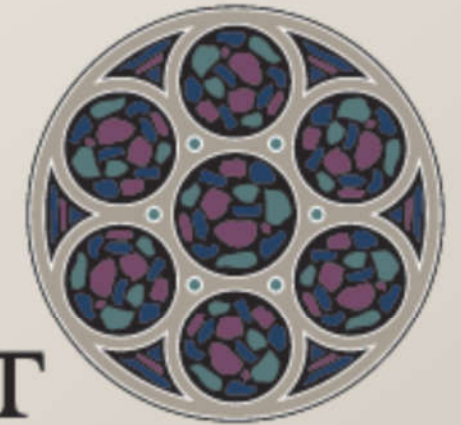
### Thanks to those serving today:

**Duty Deacons for December:**  
Jarrod Gray, Nathan Starns,  
Craig Thieling, Kevin Arnold,  
Jeremy Cooper, B. J. Null, Brian Smith

**Ushers for December:**  
John Davis Woodward,  
John Patrick Garriga, Caden Zaremba,  
Ed Allegretti, Stephen Tucker,  
Barnes Benton, Andrew Rogers,  
John White, Jody Norris, Rick Maddox

**Nursery Volunteers for Today:** Audie Shook,  
Haley Shook, Olivia Shook

**Nursery Volunteers for December 10:**  
Heather Starns, Maggie Starns, Betsy Starns



The  
**FIRST**  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

December 3, 2017

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA  
HATTIESBURG, MS 39402

Grace Transforms