

The Lord's Day

December 10, 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.....“He Comes to Us as One Unknown”.....Robert Farlee

Call to Worship.....Micah 5:2-5(a)

Minister: But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel.

People: And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. And he shall be their peace.

All: Amen! Let us worship together the God who has declared peace with us and reconciled us to himself through his Son, the Prince of Peace.

*Prayer of Adoration

***Hymn 208**..... ADESTE FIDELES
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Private Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon..... Luke 2:46-47, 50-55

My soul magnifies the Lord,
And my spirit rejoices in God my savior.
His mercy is for those who fear him
From generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;

He has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
He has brought down the mighty from their thrones,
And exalted those of humble estate.
He has filled the hungry with good things,
And the rich he has sent away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel in remembrance of his mercy,
As he spoke to our Fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.

***Hymn 194** VENI EMMANUEL
“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

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 Karen Buckwalter
“In the Bleak Midwinter”
Deep South Ringers

(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 Howard Helvey
“Love Came Down at Christmas”
Sanctuary Choir

Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, love divine; love was born at Christmas: star and angels gave the sign; star and angels gave the sign. Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, love divine; love was born at Christmas: star and angels gave the sign; star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead, love incarnate, love divine; worship we our Jesus, but wherewith for sacred sign?; but wherewith for sacred sign? Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine, love to God and neighbor, love for plea and gift and sign; love for plea and gift and sign.

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Scripture Reading Luke 2:1-7 Pew Bible p. 857

Sermon..... Rev. Ben Griffith
“When God Walks In”

***Hymn 202** CHRISTMAS CAROL
“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

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

*Choral Response

***Postlude** “As With Gladness Men of Old” Wayne Wold

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

Presiding Minister - Rev. Ben Griffith
Assisting Elder - Ruling Elder Ken Gunnufsen

Missionary of the Week - LOGOI

COMMUNITY LIFE

Lessons and Carols Service
tonight at 6 p.m.

Nursery family trip to Lewis Lights, this Wednesday, December 13. Meet in McIntosh Hall at 6 p.m.

Reception to honor Dr. Larry Smith, Sunday, December 17, during the Sunday School hour. Adult Sunday school classes will not meet during this time.

Please email Kathy at kyoung@fpcpca.net to reserve nursery for Christmas Eve morning and night.

Sanctuary Choir Schedule

- Rehearsal, today, 8:45 a.m., Choir Room.
- Christmas Choir Rehearsal, today, 4 p.m., Choir Room.

Committees

- Missions Committee Meeting, today, 4:30 p.m., Parlor.

Meetings

- 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 17th: AM – Rev. Ben Griffith preaching
PM – Christmas Hymn Sing

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

December 31st: 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. 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 December:

Jarrold 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:

Heather Starns, Maggie Starns, Betsy Starns

Nursery Volunteers for December 17:

Wyche & E McMullan



December 10, 2017

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
HATTIESBURG, MS 39402

Grace Transforms