

The Lord’s Day

December 17, 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**..... “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” ... Robert Hebble

Corporate Call to Worship Isaiah 11:1-10

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.
And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

**In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the
peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place
shall be glorious.**

Prayer of Adoration

***Hymn 218** REGENT SQUARE
“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

**Corporate Confession of Sin
and Assurance of Pardon** Isaiah 40:1-5

(People)
Almighty God,
I am a sinner and a rebel. The evil I have eagerly done and the good I
have lazily left undone display a heart that is at war with you and in love
with myself. I confess that I am powerless to end this warfare with you
that so wearies and grieves me. I deserve nothing from your hand except
your judgement. Have mercy on me, O God. Pardon my iniquity and
subdue my rebel heart with your grace.

(Leader)
Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her,
that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.

(People)
Everlasting Father,
My heart is a wilderness and a desert. I am spiritually dry, a wasteland of
wickedness, a parched and thirsty soul. Sin has turned the landscape of
my heart into rough, uneven ground, with valleys of guilt and shame,
and mountains of pride and self-centeredness. Have mercy on me, O
God. Forgive, heal, rebuild, and restore me so that I may see your glory
and delight in your goodness.

(Leader)
A voice cries:
In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
The uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain
And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

***Hymn 203** “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”MENDELSSOHN

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 “Trio: Joy to the World”Michael Helman

(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.

Solo “Gesù Bambino” Pietro A. Yon
Laura Broughton

Scripture Reading Luke 2:8-20 Pew Bible p. 857

Sermon..... Rev. Ben Griffith
“Surprised by Joy”

***Hymn 214**..... “Angels We Have Heard on High” GLORIA

***Benediction** Rev. Griffith

***Postlude** “O Come, All Ye Faithful” David Cherwien

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

Presiding Minister - Rev. Ben Griffith
Assisting Elder - Ruling Elder Wyche McMullan

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, which is part of the PCA

COMMUNITY LIFE

Christmas Hymn Sing
with Chaplain Chip Huey reporting
tonight, December 17, 6 p.m.

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.

Installation & Ordination for Newly Elected Officers, Sunday, January 7,
during morning worship service.

Meetings

- Fellowship Dominos, Tuesday, December 19, 10 a.m., F. Hall.
- Joint Session & Diaconate Meeting, Wednesday, December 20, 6 p.m., CH 206.

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 CHURCH OFFICERS

The Session

<u>CLASS OF 2017</u>	<u>CLASS OF 2018</u>	<u>CLASS OF 2019</u>	<u>CLASS OF 2020</u>
Grant Bennett	Matthew Boyd	Dan Didier	Louis Benton
Hugh Bolton	Robert T. Jackson, Jr.	Ken Gunnufsen	Wes Curry
Keith Easterling	Bill Stanway	Wyche McMullan	Randy Henderson
Matthew Wiggins		Shea McNease	John Kosko

Elders Emeriti

Frank Aderholdt	James (Pat) Chambliss	James L. Duncan II
John M. Faust	Henry Hawes	John R. Jackson Jr.
Robert T. Jackson, Sr.	Richard A. Johnson	William C. Scruggs
David Shull		

The Diaconate

<u>CLASS OF 2017</u>	<u>CLASS OF 2018</u>	<u>CLASS OF 2019</u>	<u>CLASS OF 2020</u>
Josh Blair	Kevin Arnold	Jeremy Cooper	Tony Claytor
Robert Dews	Bobby Blass	Mark Kolvites	Brian Smith
Jarrold Gray	Drew McMullan	Adam Pennebaker	Trey Sutton
Andrew Harwell	Gene Smith	Keith Reeves	Joseph Tullos
Eric Jordan	Schaeffer Smith		
B.J. Null			
Nathan Starns			
Craig Thieling			
Wade Wicht			

Church Treasurer

Jarrold Gray

Assistant Treasurers

Adam Pennebaker
Ron Keller
Schaeffer Smith

Thanks to those serving today:

Duty Deacons for December:

Jarrold Gray, Nathan Starns,
Craig Thieling, Kevin Arnold,
Jeremy Cooper, B. J. Null, Brian Smith

Nursery Volunteers for Today:

Wyche & E McMullan

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



The
FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

December 17, 2017

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
HATTIESBURG, MS 39402

Grace Transforms

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).