



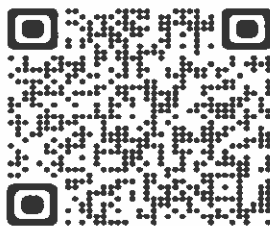
First Presbyterian Church of Natchez

Following
Christ.
Serving
Everyone.



Welcome!

We are delighted you have joined us in worship at First Presbyterian Church Natchez. So that we might get to know you a little better, please take a moment to fill out a connect card by scanning the QR code below.



You may also send your contact information to fpcnatchez@bellsouth.net.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MORNING WORSHIP

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 11, 2025, 10:30 a.m.

The Rev. Dr. Joan W. Gandy, Minister

The Rev. Chase Caldwell, Associate Minister

Mr. Vincent Bache III, Director of Music and Organist

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

We offer our lives in the life of Christ's church as we join together in ministry, remembering the call of every day from Sunday to Sunday.

THE GATHERING

Westminster Chimes

The chiming of the hour signals to us that it is time to worship.

Now let us direct our hearts to the One who calls us here!

Prelude *Meditation on My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* Robert Hebble

Welcome Rev. Dr. Joan Gandy

Call to Worship Psalm 95:6, 7

O Come let us bow down and worship.

Let us kneel before the Lord our maker.

For the Lord is our God.

We are the Lord's People, the flock that God shepherds.

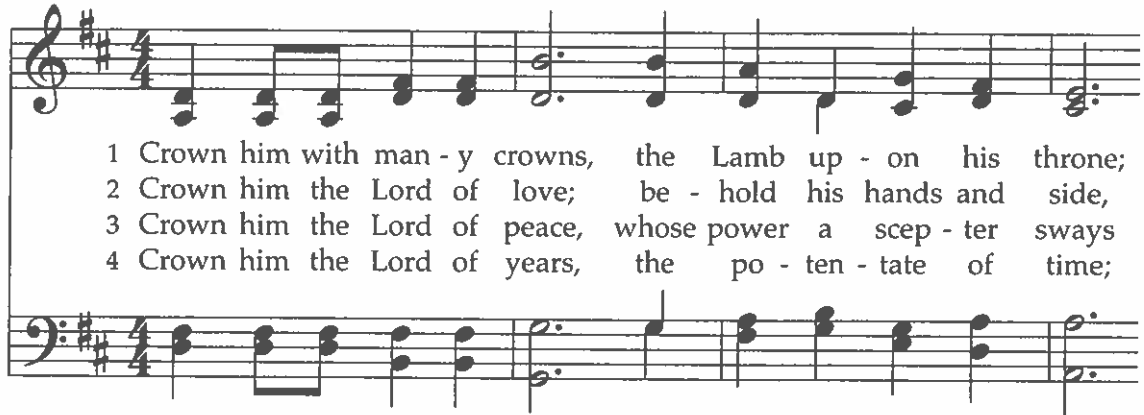
Praise the Lord!

The Lord's name be praised!

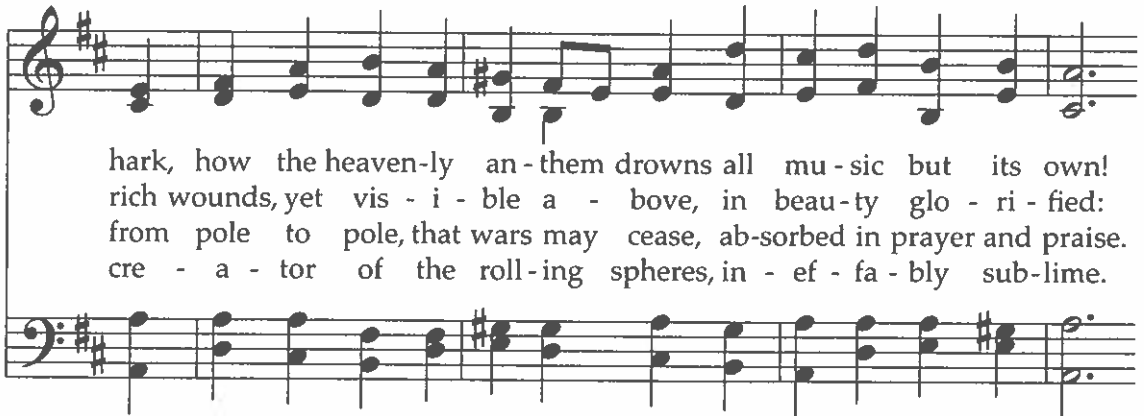
*Processional Hymn 268: *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

DIADEMATA

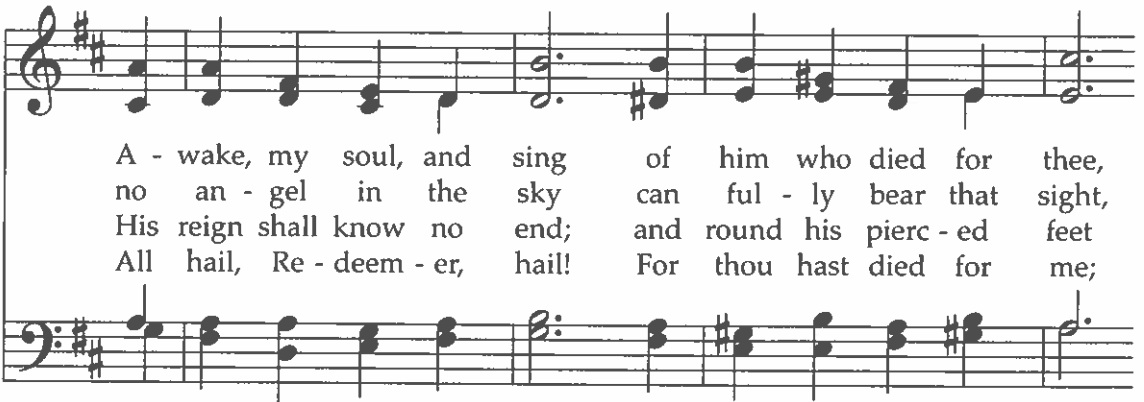
Crown Him with Many Crowns 268



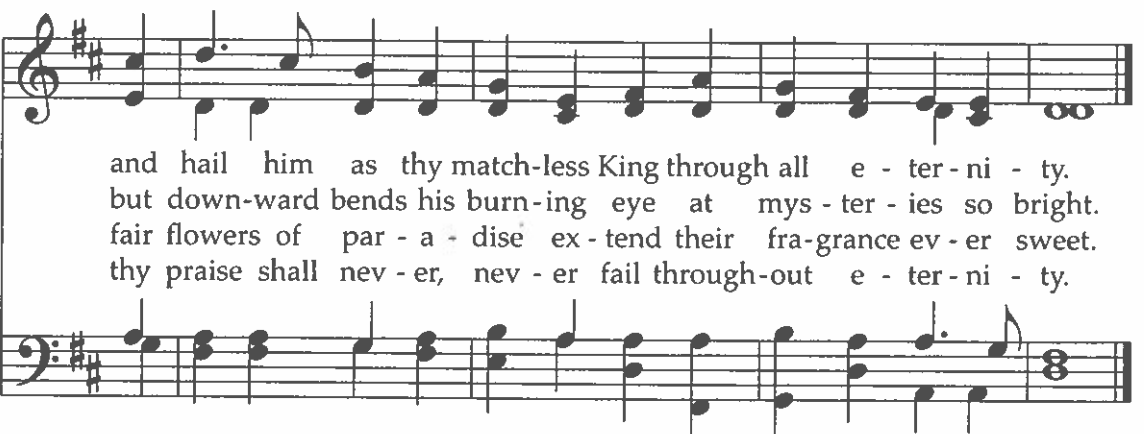
1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
 2 Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,
 3 Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scap - ter sways
 4 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time;



hark, how the heaven-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own!
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied:
 from pole to pole, that wars may cease, ab - sorbed in prayer and praise.
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 no an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
 His reign shall know no end; and round his pierc - ed feet
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 but down - ward bends his burn - ing eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.
 fair flowers of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.
 thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

This text is so familiar that it is easy to miss all its paradox, mystery, suffering, and beauty; it rewards careful reading and meditation outside corporate worship. The tune's composer, chapel organist at Windsor Castle, had much experience in creating a royal sound.

Confession of Sin

The congregation joins in Call to Confession and Unison Prayer of Confession. After silent prayer, all sing the *Kyrie (Lord, Have Mercy)*

Call to Confession

Rev. Chase Caldwell

John 13:34

Jesus said: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. Form us now into the people you desire us to be, O God, into a people with a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise.

In humility and faith, let us confess our sin to God.

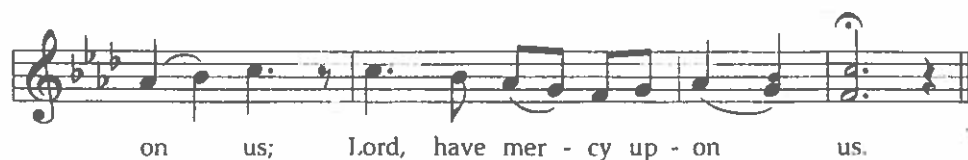
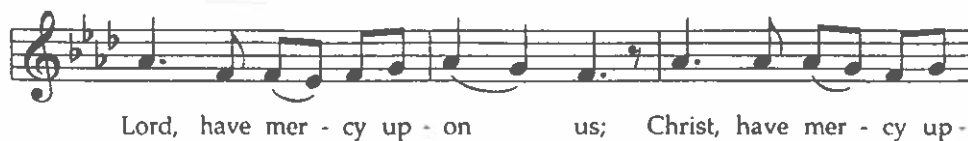
Unison Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, in raising Jesus from the grave, you shattered the power of sin and death. We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We overlook the poor and the hungry while you feed us in the green pasture and nourish us by the calming stream. We are deaf to the cries of the oppressed as you promise to us always to hear our cries and to be our Savior. Forgive us. Help us to trust you as our Shepherd, that we may know the joy of life abundant given in your precious and holy gift of love as we serve in your name.

Time for Silent Confession

Lord, Have Mercy upon Us
(Choir and congregation sing.)

Kyrie



Declaration of Forgiveness

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ that you are forgiven.

Amen.

*Response Hymn 581

Gloria Patri

GREATOREX

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.

*Greeting and the Peace

The peace of Christ be with all of you today.

And also with you.

THE WORD

Story and Prayers for Young Disciples

Afterwards, children may return to their seats or go to children's class.

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Dorothy Ann Thrupp and William Bradbury

Ms. Ora Reed, Guest Pianist

Prayer for Illumination

Kristen Graham, Reader

A Reading from Acts: Acts 9:36-43

Pew Bible Page 156

A Reading from Psalms: Psalm 23 (unison)

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff – they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Reading from Revelation: Revelation 7:9-17

Pew Bible Page 303

*Hymn 274, verses 1 & 4: *You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd*

PICARDY

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd 274

Capo 5: (Am) Dm (F) B^b (C) F (Em) Am (Am) Dm (A7) D7

1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep-herd. You, Lord, are both
 2 Clothed in light up - on the moun-tain, stripped of might up -
 3 You, who walk each day be - side us, sit in pow - er
 4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus! Wor - thy is our

(Dm) Gm (G) C (C) F (F) B^b (Em) Am (Dm) Gm (Am) Dm

prince and slave. You, peace-mak - er and sword-bring - er
 on the cross, shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,
 at God's side. You, who preach a way that's nar - row,
 cos - mic Christ! Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - tory;

(B^b) E^b (F) B^b (E) A (A/C#) D/F# (Dm) Gm

of the way you took and gave. You, the ev - er - last - ing
 beg-gared by a sol - dier's toss, you, the ev - er - last - ing
 have a love that reach - es wide. You, the ev - er - last - ing
 wor - thy still your peace and strife. You, the ev - er - last - ing

(Am) Dm (G) C (Am) Dm (Dm) Gm (Em) Am (Am) Dm

in - stant; you, whom we both scorn and crave.
 in - stant; you who are both gift and cost.
 in - stant; you, who are our pil - grim guide.
 in - stant; you, who are our death and life.

When it was first published, the author called this text "Christus Paradox," because so many attributes of Christ stand in tension with each other. Mindful of the works of Søren Kierkegaard, she drafted it on a commuter bus after "a particularly bad day" of prison ministry.

Gospel Reading: John 10:22-30

Pew Bible Page

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"To Be Un-snatched"

Rev. Dr. Gandy

*Apostles' Creed

Traditional

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

(debts/debtors)

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.

THE THANKSGIVING

Call for the Offering

*The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world and those who live in it.*

Psalm 24:1



Scan FPC QR code here to give online

Offertory Anthem *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

Text: Sir Issac Watts, 1674-1748

Music: Scott M. Anoil

My shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his name. In pastures fresh he makes me feed beside the living stream. He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake his ways, and leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death your presence is my stay. One word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away. Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread. My cup with blessings overflows; your oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days. Oh, may your house be my abode and all my work be praise. There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come. No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home. My Shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his name.

*Response Hymn 609

Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him all creatures high and low;

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit One.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Prayer of Thanksgiving after the Offering

THE SENDING

*Hymn 801, verses 1, 2, & 5:

The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want

CRIMOND

*Benediction

*Postlude

Trumpet Tune

Giovanni Coperario

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory of our mother Ann Ballew by her daughters.

The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want 801

(Psalm 23)

1 The Lord's my shep-herd, I'll not want; he makes me down to lie
 2 My soul he doth re-store a-gain, and me to walk doth make
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear none ill,
 4 My ta-ble thou hast fur-nish-ed in pres-ence of my foes;
 5 Good-ness and mer-cy all my life shall sure-ly fol-low me,

in pas-tures green; he lead-eth me the qui-et wa-ters by.
 with-in the paths of righ-teous-ness, e'en for his own name's sake.
 for thou art with me; and thy rod and staff me com-fort still.
 my head thou dost with oil a-noint, and my cup o-ver-flows.
 and in God's house for-ev-er-more my dwell-ing place shall be.

This paraphrase of Psalm 23 comes from the so-called Scottish Psalter of 1650, actually produced by the Westminster Assembly and intended for use by all Presbyterians in the British Isles, in place of the Sternhold and Hopkins "Old Version" of the Church of England.

Music Notes: The Prelude this morning is the lush *Meditation on My Shepherd will Supply My Need* by American organist and composer Robert Hebble (1934-2020), and utilizes our new English Horn stop as a solo. We are delighted to have with us again our friend Ora Reed who will present *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* by Dorothy Ann Thrupp and William Bradbury as special music today. The Anthem at the Offertory is an arrangement for choir of *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* by living American composer Scott M. Aniol. The Postlude is the regal *Trumpet Tune* by early Baroque composer Giovanni Coperario (1575-1626) and features our new Festival Trumpet.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Session Meeting: The Session will meet Monday, May 12, at 5 p.m. in the church library.

May Book Club: First Presbyterian Church Third Thursday Book Club meets at 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 15, in the Parlor. The book this month is *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks.

Memorial: Arts Natchez Gallery at 425 Main Street is hosting "A Time to Remember John Larson." The event will be Sunday, May 18, at 3 p.m. Photographer John P. Larson spent many Sundays worshipping with us at First Presbyterian. Remember his family and close friends in your prayers. Attend the event if you are able.

Children's Sunday School: Elementary Sunday School Class for ages 4 to 9 meets in the youth and children's room across from the gym in the education building at 9:15 a.m. with Christine Borum.

Sunday School: Adult classes on Sunday morning meet with Sammy Gore in the Westminster Room 9:15-10; with Chuck Borum in the parlor 9:15-10; or with Rev. Chase Caldwell upstairs in Stratton Chapel 9-9:45.

Pastor's Bible Study: The Pastor's Bible study will meet Tuesday, May 6, at 11 a.m. in the parlor in Stratton Chapel. Scriptures are Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1-6; and John 13:31-35.

Presbyterian Women's Luncheon: The PW luncheon will be Wednesday, May 21, at 11:30 in Fellowship Hall. Officers will be elected and the Birthday Offering will be collected. Baby items will also be collected for the Nursery Mission at Merit Hospital.

Youth Group: First Presbyterian Youth Group meets Wednesdays at 4:15 in the youth room.

Prayer Chain: Anyone interested in participating in the prayer chain, please call the church office and leave your name and phone number.

Grief Support Group at FPC: First Presbyterian Grief Support Group meets on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. in the church library.

Wonderful Wednesday: Come for supper at 5:15 and stay for Bible study, held in the library beginning at 6 p.m.

Sanctuary Choir: The Sanctuary Choir rehearses on Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

Mississippi Delta Mission Trip: Our congregation is sending a team to Leland Presbyterian Church to serve in that church's local ministry of home repairs and community improvements. The trip will be from June 2-6, and is open to anyone who feels called to serve. To register, or for more information, reach out to Rev. Caldwell at 318-719-2060, or to George Bates at 601-807-5863.

Medicine Bottle Ministry: Keep the empty bottles coming! Thank you again for your excellent response to your mission committee's request for used pill bottles with labels removed. A gracious volunteer has offered to remove labels. Drop the bottles in the baskets with labels still on, if you prefer.

Acolyte Formation: Young people ages 9 to 16 are invited to become acolytes, assisting with worship services on Sunday. Please let Rev. Gandy know if a young person in your family would like to participate.

TLC Food: Prepare a meal that is enough for two servings. Put it in a freezer container. Place a label on top of the container that says "TLC" and gives the date prepared; name of the dish (It can just say "beef stew" or "baked chicken") and your name as cook; write directions on the label for heating or cooking the dish. Please choose dishes that are simple with simple ingredients, not too salty or sweet. Place your dishes in the freezer in the hall outside the kitchen door in the education building for distribution to someone in our congregation when needed. And thank you! Call the church office with any questions.

Monday Prayer: Community prayer in the Prayer Room, located adjacent to the sanctuary, is held Mondays at 11:30 a.m. This prayer time is informal and offers opportunity to pray with others for people and things that are on each heart.

Pickleball at FPC: The FPC Fellowship Hall Pickleball Court is available to use Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The court must be reserved at least 24 hours in advance for 1 hour. To make a reservation, visit or call the church office at 601-442-2581. All users must check-in with the church office prior to play.

New Members Welcomed: If you are interested in becoming a member of First Presbyterian, you will be warmly welcomed. The first step is to let the minister know of your interest. You may see her before or after worship; or call the church at 601-442-2581 to speak with her.

AA Meetings: Open Gates AA Meeting meets Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 12 noon in the downstairs meeting room in Stratton Chapel. These are open discussion meetings.

Photo Gallery: Please consider donating a couple of hours to the museum as a docent. The exhibit is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. You may call Rosemary Hall or the church office to sign up.

Pastoral Visits: If you have special needs and wish to share them with the minister, please plan a visit so that you can talk about what's going on in your life. Contact the minister at 601-442-2581.

MAY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					01	02
						03
Sunday Schedule 9:15 Sunday School Coffee Time 9:45 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship						10:30-Playschool Mother's Day coffee in gym Noon AA
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
	8:30 Exercise Class 10 Staff meeting 11:30 Prayer Group Noon AA 5 Deacons 7 Boy Scouts Troop 157	Viking Tours 11 Bible Study	8:30 Exercise class Noon AA 4 Grief Support Group 4:15 Youth 5:15 Supper 6 Bible Study 6 Choir		Noon AA	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:30 Exercise Class 10 Staff meeting 11:30 Prayer Group Noon AA 4:15 Finance 5 Session 7 Boy Scouts		Viking Tours 10:30 Pack Food Boxes 11 Bible Study	8:30 Exercise class 10 Rebekah Circle 10 Food Boxes Noon AA 4 Grief Support Group 4:15 Youth 5:15 Supper 6 Bible Study: Choir	5 Book Club	Noon AA	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30 Exercise Class 10 Staff meeting 11:30 Prayer Group Noon AA 7 Boy Scouts Troop 157		Viking Tours 11 Bible Study	8:30 Exercise class Noon AA 4 Grief Support Group 4:15 Youth 5:15 Supper 6 Bible Study 6 Choir		Noon AA	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Stewpot Sunday	MEMORIAL DAY Church Offices closed Playschool Closed Noon AA	Viking Tours 11 Bible Study	8:30 Exercise class Noon AA; Playschool Board Meeting 4 Grief Support Group 4:15 Youth 5:15 Supper 6 Bible Study; 6 Choir		Noon AA	

Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Joan W. Gandy, Minister
The Rev. Chase Caldwell, Associate Minister
Mr. Vincent Bache III, Director of Music and Organist
Aretha Davis, Playschool Director
Pam McNeil, Office Administrator
Mary Ann Peoples, Financial Secretary
Deon Buford, Sexton

Officers of the Church

ELDERS

Class of 2025: Chuck Borum, Sandra Burkes, Marc Doyle, Jay Fitch, Sammy Gore

Class of 2026: Mary Lessley, Helen Smith, Anne Vidal Suen

Class of 2027: Bobby Meason, George Bates, Danna Mooney, Ralph Loe

Clerk of Session: Rosemary Hall

Assistant Clerk of Session: Danna Mooney

Treasurer: Stratton Bull

DEACONS

Class of 2025: Edie Christian, Rusty Jenkins, and Randy Smith

Class of 2026: Leigh Anderson, Ken Price

Class of 2027: Kristen Graham, Hubert Smith, and Sharon Williams

Thank you to Charles Hall (Director), Lance Harris, Ryan Sharp, Slade Gagnard, Robert Seyfarth, and Jon Borum for livestreaming and video services.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

117 South Pearl Street

(Mailing Address: 400 State Street)

Natchez, Mississippi 39120

601-442-2581

www.fpcnatchez.org

fpcnatchez@bellsouth.net

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