



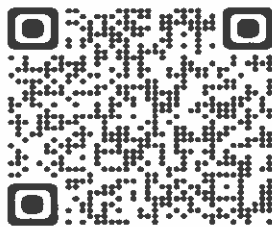
First Presbyterian Church of Natchez

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.

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 27, 2024 ~ 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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Offering our lives in the life of Christ's church

Join in the ministries of your church as God calls you!

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

Voluntary in F

Eric H. Thiman

Call to Worship

Psalm 24:7, 10

Lift up your heads, O gates!

Be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in!

Who is the King of glory?

The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory!

Praise the Lord!

The Lord's name be praised!

*ProceSSIONAL Hymn 1:

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

NICAEA

1 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

Descant

4 Ho - ly, - - - ly,

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! all the saints a - dore thee,
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

ho - - - ly,

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.

Much of the imagery of this hymn comes from Revelation 4:2–11, which its author, an Anglican bishop, knew as a reading appointed for Trinity Sunday. The tune, written specifically for this text, reinforces the Trinitarian theme by strong dependence on the D-major triad.

THE TRIUNE GOD

ho - - - - - ly,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!

Detailed description: This system contains three staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (D major) and a common time signature. It begins with a long note for 'ho' followed by a rest and then 'ly'. The middle staff is a piano accompaniment in treble clef, featuring a melody of eighth and quarter notes. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef, consisting of a steady bass line of quarter notes.

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in power, in love and pu - ri - ty.
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Detailed description: This system contains three staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (D major) and a common time signature. It begins with a long note for 'God' followed by a rest and then 'Trin - i - ty'. The middle staff is a piano accompaniment in treble clef, featuring a melody of quarter and eighth notes. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef, consisting of a steady bass line of quarter notes.

Minute for Mission

Bobby Meason, Chairman of Finance Committee

Morning Prayer

We behold your glory, O God, in the love shown by your Son.

He was lifted up on the cross and exalted anew.

Lead us to glorify your name every day in our love for one another.

Give us grace truly to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life. Amen.

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

Jesus said: Ask and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. Let us open our lives to God's healing presence, forsaking all that separates us from God and neighbor. Let us be mindful not only of personal evil but also of our communal sins of family, class, race, and nation. Let us confess to God whatever has wounded us or brought injury to others.

May God grant us mercy that we may become for each other, ministers of God's grace.

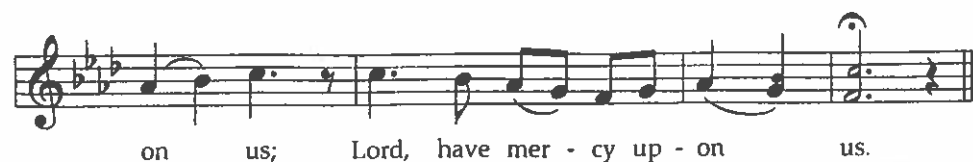
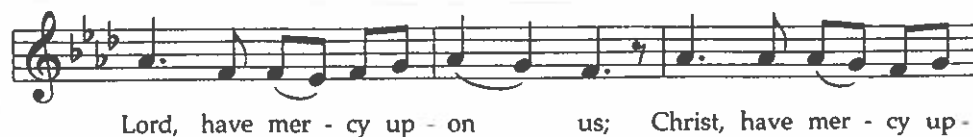
Unison Confession of Sin

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our sins, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength. We make our prayer through the precious and holy name of Jesus Christ your Son.

Time for Silent Confession

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

Kyrie



Declaration of Forgiveness

1 Timothy 1:15; 1 Peter 2:24

It is true! Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin and alive to all that is good. 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

Leader: The peace of Christ be with all of you today.

All: **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.

Prayer for Illumination

Dana Dent, reader

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-10

Pew Bible Page 898

Reading from Psalms: Psalm 126

Pew Bible Page 704

Epistle Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28

Pew Bible Page 269

*Gospel Hymn 370: *This Is My Father's World*

TERRA BEATA

This Is My Father's World 370

1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis - tening ears all
2 This is my Fa-ther's world. O, let me ne'er for - get that

na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.
though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul - er yet.

This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of
This is my Fa-ther's world. The bat - tle is not done: Je -

rocks and trees, of skies and seas, his hand the won - ders wrought.
sus who died shall be sat - is - fied, and earth and heaven be one.

When pastor of a Presbyterian church in Lockport, New York, the author of this text referred to his morning walks as "going out to see my Father's world." The tune created for these words is based on an English melody the composer learned from his mother when he was a boy.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"Homecoming"

Rev. Gandy

Affirmation of Our Faith

*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

Day by Day

Text: St. Richard of Chichester (1197-1253)

Music: Mark Scheizer

O holy Jesus, merciful Redeemer,
friend and brother,
May I know thee more clearly,
Love thee more dearly,
And follow thee more nearly, day by day.

*Prayer of Dedication

THE SENDING

*Hymn 32: *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

ELLACOMBE

*Benediction

*Postlude

Festivo

Martin How

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory
of Ann and Bazile Lanneau by Jeanie and Bazile Lanneau, Jr.*

32 I Sing the Mighty Power of God

1 I sing the might-y power of God that made the moun-tains rise,
 2 I sing the good-ness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.
 3 There's not a plant or flower be-low but makes thy glo-ries known.

that spread the flow-ing seas a-broad and built the loft-y
 God formed the crea-tures through the Word, and then pro-nounced them
 And clouds a-rise, and tem-pests blow, by or-der from thy

skies. I sing the wis-dom that or-dained the sun to rule the day.
 good. Lord, how thy won-ders are dis-played, wher-e'er I turn my eye,
 throne, while all that bor-rows life from thee is ev-er in thy care,

The moon shines full at God's com-mand, and all the stars o-bey.
 if I sur-vey the ground I tread, or gaze up-on the sky!
 and ev-ery-where that we can be, thou, God, art pres-ent there.

With minimal revision this text brings together six of the eight four-line stanzas in an 18th-century hymn written for children and originally headed "Praise for Creation and Providence." The anonymous German tune provides a fitting sense of breadth and wonder.

Music Notes: The Prelude this morning is the beautiful *Voluntary in F* by British organist and composer Eric H. Thiman (1900-1975). The Anthem at the Offertory is a choral setting of the Prayer of St. Richard, *Day by Day*, by American composer Mark Scheizer (1856-2019). The Postlude is *Festivo* by English 20th Century composer Martin How (1931-2022).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All Saints Sunday: Place names in the offering plate of any loved ones whose names you want called out during the All Saints remembrance time next Sunday.

Stewardship Season: In October, we prepare our hearts to plan giving for the coming calendar year. *You will receive pledge cards during the last week in October.* Please begin praying for discernment to plan your giving. The church operates based on a budget funded by your generous giving, whether you give by week, month, quarter, or year. Please talk with the pastor if you have questions about stewardship or want guidance on your planned giving. And thank you for your generosity in helping to fund ministries of this church!

Officer Training Class of 2027: New officers will continue classes at 4 p.m. on October 31 and November 7. Installation of officers will be on Sunday, November 17, during the 10:30 worship service.

Tuesday Bible Study: The Pastor's Bible Study meets on Tuesday, October 29, at 11 a.m. in the parlor of Stratton Chapel. Scriptures for this week are Ruth 1:1-18; Psalm 146; Hebrews 9:11-14; and Mark 12:28-34.

Third Thursday Book Club: Please join this group of avid readers who are meeting once a month for book discussion –Third Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. in the Stratton Chapel parlor. The selected book for November is *The Rose Code* by Kate Quinn. The date is November 21.

Thank you! The FPC Mission Committee continues to ship the hundreds of plastic pill bottles you are helping to collect. This is such a simple but effective and transformative mission! Thank you for helping medical missionaries! Keep it up!

Acolyte Formation: Acolytes meet with Rev. Gandy on Sunday at 9:45 a.m. in the sanctuary.

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 may 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.

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

Wonderful Wednesday: The Wednesday gathering will begin with a meal at 5:15 with Bible study afterwards. Scripture: Mark 4:1-34.

Wednesday Youth Group: Wednesday Youth Group will meet at 4:15 in the youth room. Our lesson (and candy quiz!) will be on Mark 12 this week.

Sanctuary Choir: The Sanctuary Choir rehearses Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m.

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.

Organ Update Fund: We are more than halfway there! Please help to get the organ update scheduled soon! The new programs will include rich new tones and instruments to give new ways for our gifted organist to give glory to God through music. Gifts may be made in honor of the organist and choir or in honor or memory of others. Every gift is important! Give by check or cash or scan the code below to give to the Organ Fund:



Photo Gallery Docents: Visits by tourists will begin to increase now that fall has arrived. Natchez in Historic Photographs is a favorite destination! Are you available to serve as a docent, welcoming and giving a few words of explanation about the church and photographs? Please consider donating a couple of hours to the museum as a docent. The exhibit is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call Rosemary Hall or the church office to sign up.

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.

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.

OCT. 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		01	02	03	04	05
		Viking tours 11 Bible Study	8:30 Exercise Noon AA 4 Grief Support Group 4:15 Youth 5:15 Supper 6 Bible Study; 6 Choir		Visit or call someone you haven't seen in a while. Noon AA	Invite a friend to join you for worship tomorrow!
Communion	06	07	08	09	10	11
<u>Sunday Schedule</u> 9:15 Sunday School Coffee Time 9:45 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship	8:30 Exercise Class 10 Staff meeting 11:30 Prayer Group Noon AA 5 Deacons meeting 7 Boy Scouts Troop 157	7 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast 11 Bible Study	8:30 Exercise 10 Rebekah Circle Noon AA 4 Grief Support Group 4:15 Youth 5:15 Supper 6 Bible Study 6 Choir		Visit or call someone you haven't seen in a while. Noon AA	Youth Retreat at Feliciana Retreat Center
	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:15 Sunday School Coffee Time 9:45 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship Youth Retreat	8:30 Exercise Class 10 Staff meeting 11:30 Prayer Group Noon AA 5 Session 7 Boy Scouts Troop 157	10:30-Pack Food Boxes 11 Bible Study	8:30 Exercise 10 Food Boxes Noon AA 4 Grief Support Group 4:15 Youth 5:15 Supper 6 Bible Study; 6 Choir	5 Book Club		Visit or call someone you haven't seen in a while. Noon AA
	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:15 Sunday School Coffee Time 9:45 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship	8:30 Exercise Class 10 Staff meeting 11:30 Prayer Group Noon AA 7 Boy Scouts Troop 157	11 Bible Study	8:30 Exercise Noon AA 4 Grief Support Group 4:15 Youth 5:15 Supper 6 Bible Study 6 Choir	4 Deacons' Training		Noon AA 5-7 Men's Culinary Event
	27	28	29	30	31	Nov. 1 Nov. 2
Stew Pot Stewpot Sunday 9:15 Sunday School Coffee Time 9:45 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship	8:30 Exercise Class 10 Staff meeting 11:30 Prayer Group Noon AA 7 Boy Scouts Troop 157	11 Bible Study	8:30 Exercise Noon AA 4 Grief Support Group 4:15 Youth 5:15 Supper 6 Bible Study 6 Choir	Viking Tours 4 Officer Training		

NOVEMBER

2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					01	02
NOTE: Daylight Saving Time ends November 3					Noon AA	
Communion	03	04	05	06	07	08
9:15 Sunday School Coffee Time 9:45 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship 11:30 Partners in	8:30 Exercise Class 10 Staff meeting 11:30 Prayer Group Noon AA 5 Deacons meeting 7 Boy Scouts #157 Youth return	VIKING TOUR 11 Bible Study	8:30 Exercise Noon AA 4 Grief Support Group 4:15 Youth 5:15 Supper 6 Bible Study 6 Choir	4 Officer training	Noon AA	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:15 Sunday School Coffee Time 9:45 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship	8:30 Exercise Class 10 Staff meeting 11:30 Prayer Group Noon AA 4:15 Finance 5 Session 7 Boy Scouts	10:30 Pack Food Boxes 11 Bible Study	VIKING TOUR 10 Rebekah Circle 10 Food Boxes Noon AA 4 Grief Support Group 4:15 Youth 5:15 Supper 6 Bible Study: Choir		Noon AA	5-7 Wild Faith Youth Bon Fire at the home of Chris and Chuck Borum
Installation of Officers	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:15 Sunday School Coffee Time 9:45 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship	8:30 Exercise Class 10 Staff meeting 11:30 Prayer Group Noon AA 7 Boy Scouts Troop 157 Youth return	VIKING TOUR 11 Bible Study	8:30 Exercise 10 Food Boxes Noon AA 4 Grief Support Group 4:15 Youth 5:15 Supper 6 Bible Study 6 Choir	5 Book Club	Noon AA	
24	25	26	27	Thanksgiving	28	29
Stewpot Sunday						30
9:15 Sunday School Coffee Time 9:45 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship	8:30 Exercise Class 10 Staff meeting 11:30 Prayer Group Noon AA 7 Boy Scouts Troop 157 Youth return	11 Bible Study	VIKING TOUR 8:30 Exercise Noon AA 4 Grief Support Group 4:15 Youth 5:15 Supper 6 Bible Study 6 Choir	Church Offices Closed Playschool Closed	Church Offices Closed Playschool Closed Noon AA	

Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Joan W. Gandy, Pastor
The Rev. Chase Caldwell, Associate Pastor
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 2024: George Bates, Stratton Bull, Bobby Meason, Cara Moody
Class of 2025: Chuck Borum, Sandra Burkes, Marc Doyle, Jay Fitch, Sammy Gore
Class of 2026: Mary Lessley, Helen Smith, Anne Vidal Suen

Officers Elect

Class of 2027: Bobby Meason, George Bates, Danna Mooney, and Ralph Loe
Clerk of Session: Rosemary Hall
Assistant Clerk of Session: Danna Mooney

DEACONS

Class of 2024: Kristen Abney (Moderator), Everette Ratcliffe, Hubert Smith
Class of 2025: Edie Christian, Rusty Jenkins, and Randy Smith
Class of 2026: Leigh Anderson, Ken Price

Officers Elect

Class of 2027: Kristen Abney, 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)
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601-442-2581**

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