



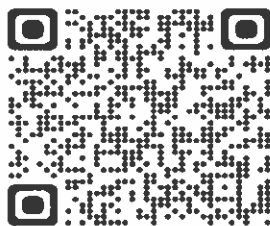
First Presbyterian Church of Natchez

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
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 14, 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

THE GATHERING

Greeting and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Joan Gandy

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

Melody in Mauve

Richard Purvis

Welcome

Rev. Gandy

Call to Worship

O God, we gather to praise you. Gathered, we commit ourselves to worship only you. Fill this place with your glory.

Many ways we witness your faithfulness every day! Gracious God, you visit the poor. You do not abandon them. You hear their prayers. Give us also merciful hearts to serve them.

You promise to feed the hungry, to give living water to the thirsty. Give us the bread of heaven, the cup of salvation, O God. Fill this place with your abundance.

O God, you are our God. Fill this place and the world with your Holy Spirit and your true Word. Fill us!

Praise the Lord!

The Lord's name be praised!. Amen.

*Processional Hymn: *To God Be the Glory*

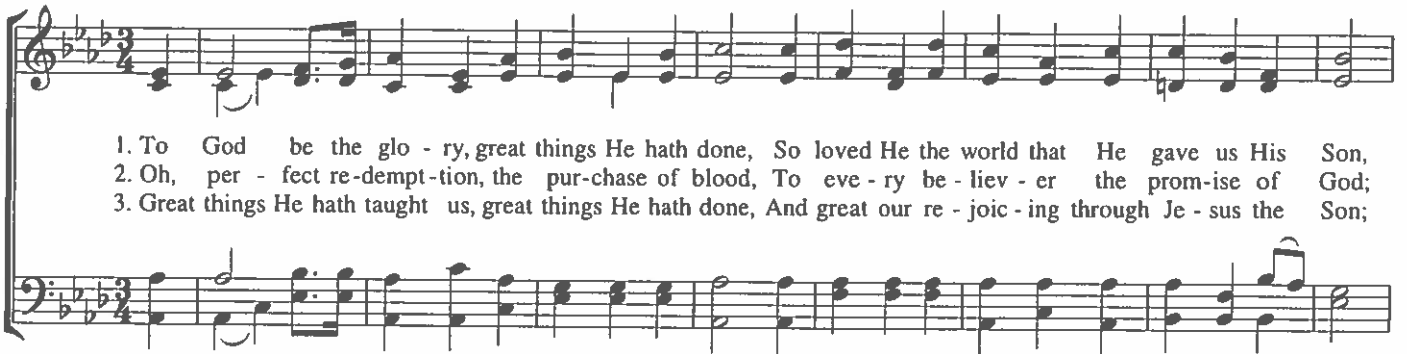
William H. Doane

To God Be the Glory

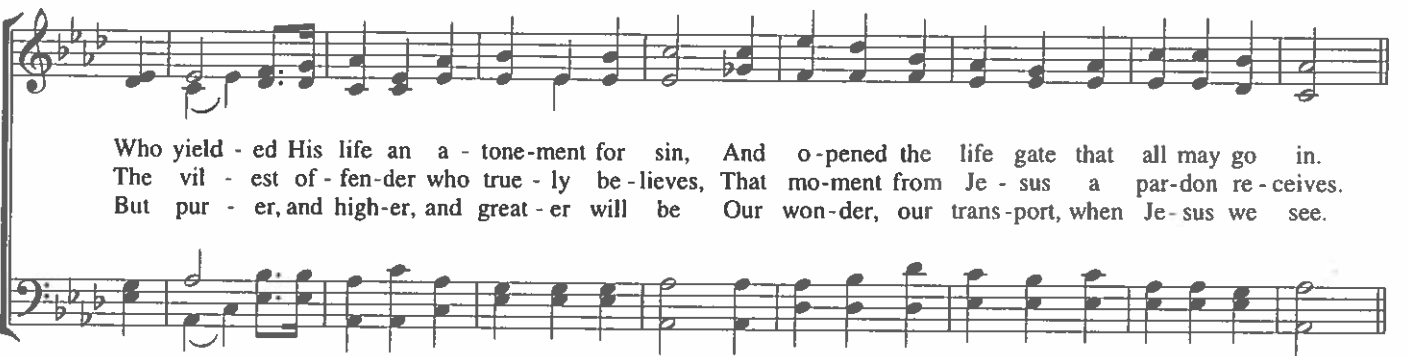
GALATIANS 1:4-5

Frances J. Crosby, *pub.* 1875

William H. Doane, *pub.* 1875

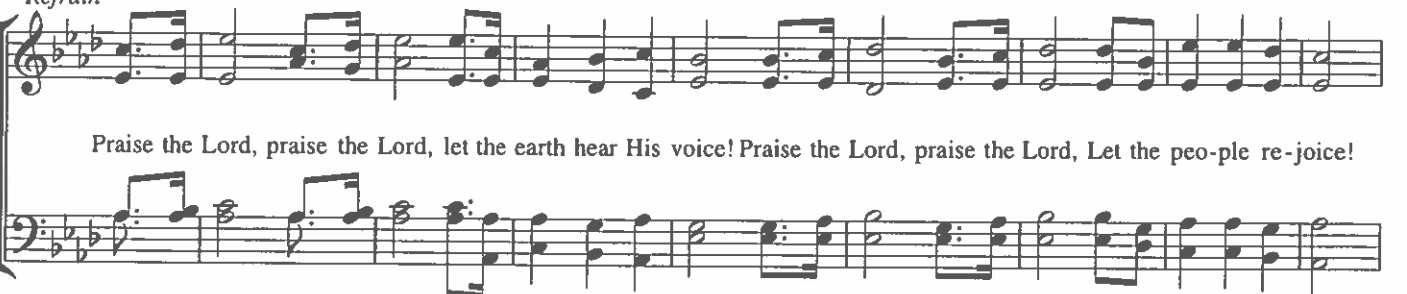


1. To God be the glo - ry, great things He hath done, So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
2. Oh, per - fect re-dempt-ion, the pur-chase of blood, To eve - ry be - liev - er the prom-ise of God;
3. Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done, And great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;

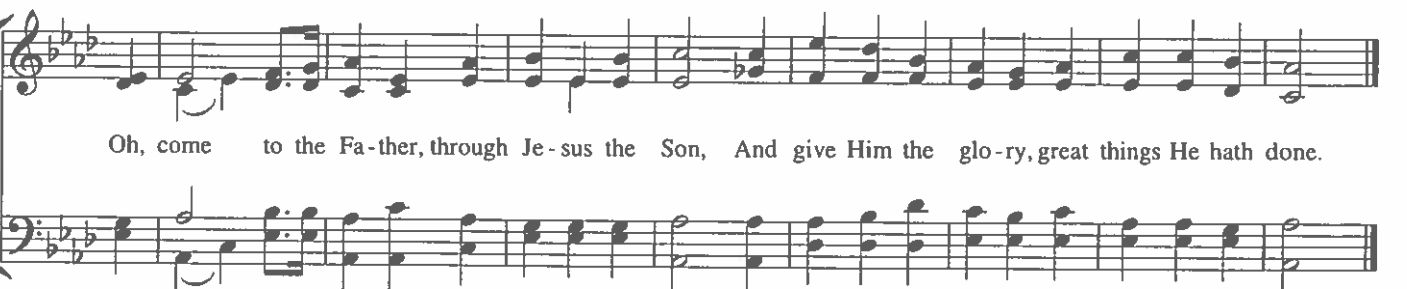


Who yield - ed His life an a - tone-ment for sin, And o-pened the life gate that all may go in.
The vil - est of - fen-der who true - ly be - lieves, That mo-ment from Je - sus a par-don re - ceives.
But pur - er, and high-er, and great - er will be Our won-der, our trans-port, when Je - sus we see.

Refrain



Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the peo-ple re-joice!



Oh, come to the Fa-ther, through Je - sus the Son, And give Him the glo-ry, great things He hath done.

Confession of Sin

Rev. Chase Caldwell

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

Call to Confession

See Hebrews 4:14-16

Remember that our Lord Jesus can sympathize with us in our weaknesses, since in every respect he was tempted as we are, yet he was without sin. Let us then with boldness approach the throne of grace that we may receive mercy. Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbors.

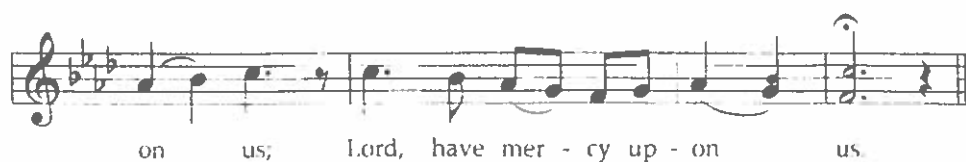
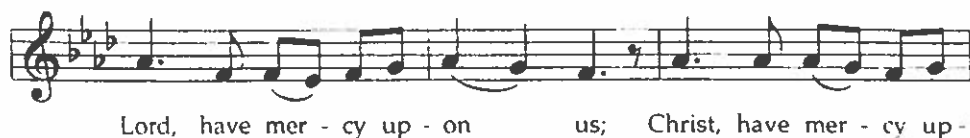
Unison Prayer of Confession

Forgiving Father, like disciples in all times and places, we are sometimes confused about where you call us to go, what you call us to do. We give in to the pressures of the culture around us. We give in to our frail human nature. Forgive us our sins, both those things we should not have done, and those things that we have left undone. Make us one with each other and with you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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

Hear the good news! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He 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, 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.

Prayer for Illumination

Jim Lessley, Reader

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Pew Bible Page 859

A Reading from Psalms: Psalm 51:1, 6-10

Pew Bible Page 640

Epistle Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17


Pew Bible Page 253

*Hymn 801, verses 1 & 2: *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want*



CRIMOND

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.

TEXT: Scottish Psalter, 1650; Korean trans. The United Methodist Korean Hymnal Committee, 2001.

Spanish trans. Federico J. Pagura

MUSIC: Jessie Seymour Irvine, 1872; harm. T. C. L. Pritchard, 1929

Korean Trans. © 2001 The United Methodist Publishing House (allman: The Copyright Company)

Spanish Trans. © Federico J. Pagura

Music Harm. © 1929 Oxford University Press

CRIMOND

CM

Gospel Reading: Luke 15:1-10

Pew Bible Page 95

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"No! Not One!"

Rev. 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

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Text: Sir Isaac Watts, 1719

Music: Carlton T. Russell

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 way,
And leads me for His mercy's sake in paths of truth and grace.

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

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
Oh, may Thy 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 nor a guest, but like a child at home.

*Response Hymn 606

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye Heavenly Host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving after the Offering

(Please be seated for the Congregational Meeting.)

Call for the Quorum

Call to Order

Prayer

Stated Purpose of the Meeting

Introducing the Slate proposed for the Officer Nominating Committee

Vote by the Congregation (after an opportunity to nominate others)

Announcement of the Vote

Prayer and Adjournment

THE SENDING

*Hymn: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

BLAENWERN

*Benediction

*Postlude

Prelude and Fugue in e minor

Johann Caspar Simon

Your Giving Report

FPC INCOME VS GOAL



The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of Vincent Bache III by Neva Bache and Ann O'Bryant.

Love divine, all loves excelling

Blaenwern



1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of
2. Come, al - migh - ty to de - liv - er, let us
3. Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion: pure and



heav'n to earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble
all thy grace re - ceive; Sud - den - ly re - turn and
spot - less let us be; let us see thy great sal -



dwel - ling, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
nev - er, nev - er more thy tem - ples leave.
va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee;



Je - sus thou art all com - pas - sion, pure un -
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee
Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry till in



bound - ed love thou art; vi - sit us with
as thy hosts a - bove; pray and praise thee
hea - ven we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1747

Music: William Pentro Rowlands, 1904

Music Notes: The Prelude this morning is the lush *Melody in Mauve* by American organist and composer Richard Purvis (1913-1994), and features the beautiful English Horn on the organ. The Anthem at the Offertory is a setting of *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* by living American composer Carlton T. Russell. The Postlude is the exuberant *Prelude and Fugue in e minor* by German Baroque composer, organist and teacher Johann Caspar Simon (1701-1776).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congregational Meeting: The FPC congregation will meet after worship today to elect members of the 2025-26 Officer Nominating Committee. Those nominated by the Session for this committee will be placed in nomination before the congregation; and the congregation will have an opportunity to make other nominations to the committee before the vote is taken. Thank you for taking part in this important work. On the slate for your consideration are George Bates, Ken Price, Phyllis Mashburn, Sally Fink, and Sammy Gore, chairman.

Youth Car Wash: Be prepared to remain after worship today and after the Congregational Meeting to take advantage of a great car wash by our youth. If you took part last year, you remember what a great job they did! Come on through the car wash in the parking lot of the Educational Building from 11:45 a.m. You choose what you want to give for the wash. The money collected will go toward general Youth Ministry programs.

Christmas Musical: The youth at First Presbyterian and youth from Dianne and Joe Good's Youth Center will join together for a Christmas program to be given at 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 30, in the FPC sanctuary. The noted Natchez musician Alvin Shelby will direct the program, "Around the World It's Christmas." Please spread the word among the young people you know: they are invited to participate if they are in grades six to twelve and want to sing! The first rehearsal was yesterday, September 13. Other rehearsal dates are September 27, October 11 and 25, and November 15 and 22, all at 1 p.m. The choir will give a preview to the community on Saturday, November 29, at 5:30, at the community Christmas tree lighting! Please pray for God's blessings to be

upon these young people and all who are working to make this a beautiful event for Natchez!

Children's Choir: Families, bring your children to the wonderful gathering of young people K-5th grade, for music classes on Wednesdays, from 4:15 to 5:15. Under the teaching of Becky Meason Jones, classes will meet in the youth area in the education building.

Sanctuary Choir: The Sanctuary Choir has resumed rehearsals on Wednesday of each week at 6 p.m. Now is an excellent time to join the choir if you have been thinking about doing so! Come to Wednesday rehearsal; or speak to Director of Music and Organist Vincent Bache after the service today if you are interested!

Pastor's Bible Study: The Pastor's Bible study meets Tuesday, September 16, at 11 a.m. in the parlor in Stratton Chapel. Scriptures for study are Jeremiah 8:18-9:1; Psalm 79:1-9; 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13. in the church library.

FPC Presbyterian Women: The Presbyterian Women will host their first luncheon on Wednesday, September 17, at 11:30 a.m., in Fellowship Hall. The program will include remarks about the new Bible study; and collection of the Thank Offering. Baby items will also be collected for the Nursery Mission at Merit Hospital. See you there!

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

Youth Group: First Presbyterian Youth Group meets Wednesdays at 5 p.m. in the youth room.

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

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.

Adult 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

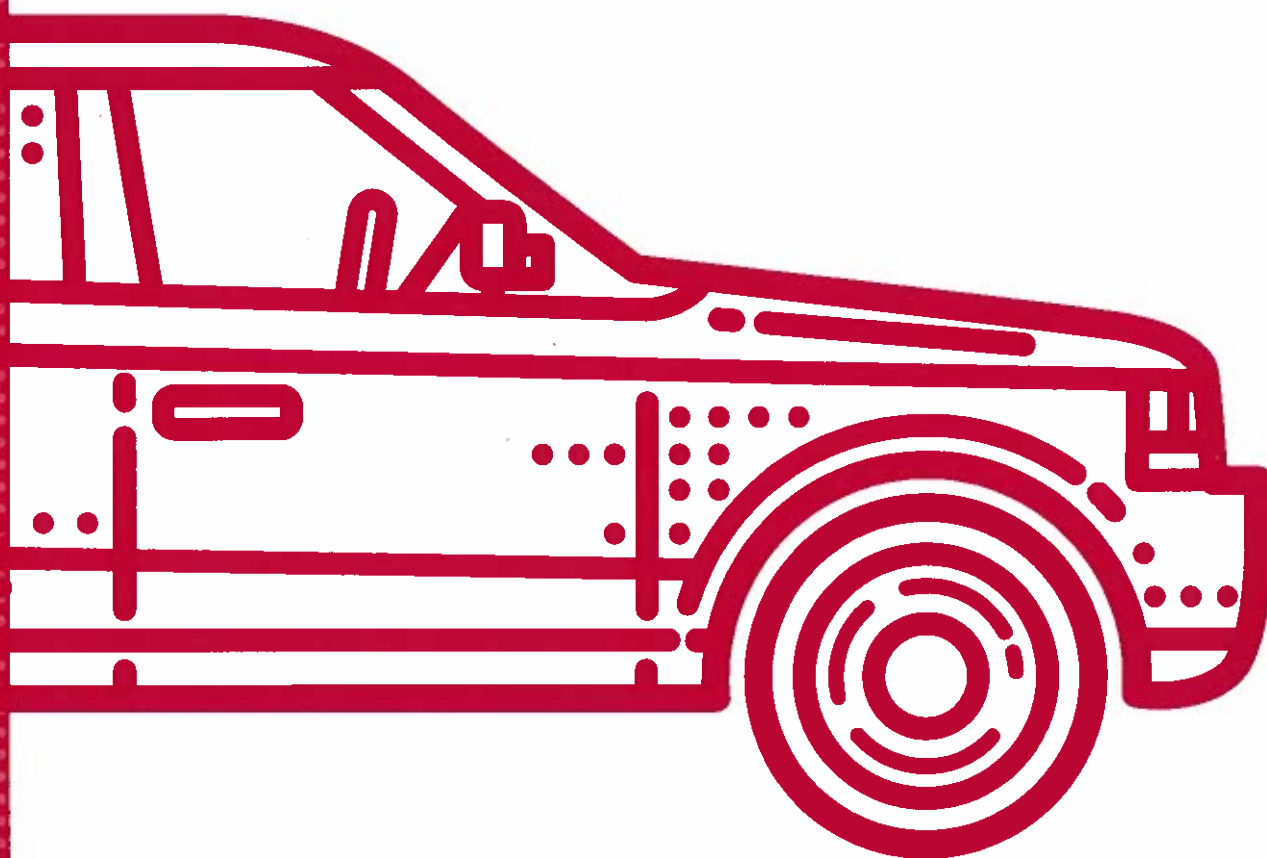
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

YOUTH CARWASH

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

11:45AM-2:00PM

CHURCH/PLAYSCHOOL PARKING LOT



SEPT. 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	01	02	03	04	05	06
Sunday Schedule 9:15 Sunday School Coffee Time 9:45 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship	LABOR DAY CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED	11 Bible study 5 Deacons meeting	8:30 Exercise class Noon AA 4 Grief Support 4:15 Children's Choir 5 Supper/Youth 6 Bible Study 6 Choir rehearsal		Noon AA meeting	
07	08	09	10	11	12	13
Communion	8:30 Exercise Class 10 Staff meeting 11 Cong. Dev. Committee 11:30 Prayer Group Noon AA 4:15 Finance 5 Session 7 Boy Scouts Troop 157	10:30 Pack Food Boxes 11 Bible study	10 Rebekah circle 10 Food Box distribution Noon AA 4 Grief Support 4:15 Children's Choir 5 Supper/Youth 6 Bible Study/Choir		Noon AA meeting	1 Youth Choir rehearsal with Alvin Shelby in the sanctuary
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
11:30 Congregational meeting 11:45 – 2 Youth Car Wash Fundraiser	8:30 Exercise Class 10 Staff meeting 11:30 Prayer Group Noon AA 7 Boy Scouts Troop 157	11 Bible study	8:30 Exercise 11:30 PW luncheon Noon AA 4 Grief Support 4:15 Children's Choir 5 Supper/Youth 6 Bible Study 6 Choir rehearsal	Viking Tour 5 Book Club	Noon AA meeting	PW Presbytery Fall Gathering at J. J. White Presbyterian in McComb, MS
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
11:30 Fellowship coffee	8:30 Exercise Class 10 Staff meeting 11:30 Prayer Group Noon AA 7 Boy Scouts Troop 157	Viking Tour 11 Bible study	8:30 Exercise class Noon AA 4 Grief Support 4:15 Children's Choir 5 Supper/Youth 6 Bible Study 6 Choir rehearsal		Noon AA meeting	1 Youth Choir rehearsal with Alvin Shelby in the sanctuary
28	29	30				
	8:30 Exercise Class 10 Staff meeting 11:30 Prayer Group Noon AA 7 Boy Scouts Troop 157	11 Bible study				

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

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