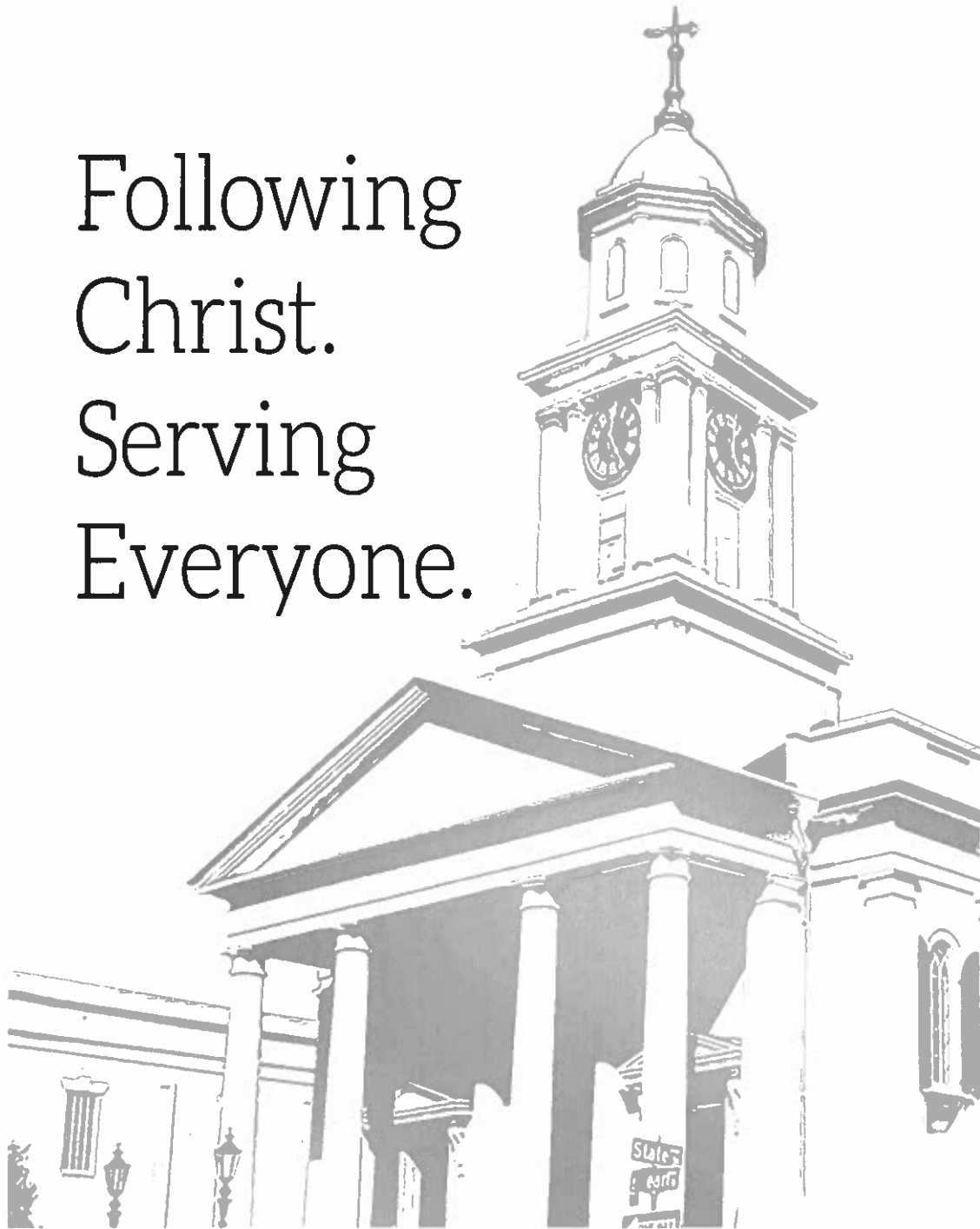




First Presbyterian Church of Natchez

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 Natchez
Morning Worship
Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time
June 23, 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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Offering our lives in the life of Christ's church Jim Lessley

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 *Air No. 1* Herbert Howells

Welcome Rev. Dr. Joan Gandy

Call to Worship Psalm 46:1-3

God is our refuge and strength.

A very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change.

Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea.

Though its waters roar and foam.

Though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

Praise the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised!

*Processional Hymn 463, verses 1-3: *How Firm a Foundation*

FOUNDATION

How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can be said than to you God hath said,
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

It seems odd now to think of singing this text to ADESTE FIDELES, but mainline churches did so well into the 20th century because of a cultural bias against shape note music. The vigor of the present tune seems especially right for the final line's reference to Hebrews 13:5.

TEXT: "K" in John Rippons's *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.
 MUSIC: American folk melody; Funk's *Genuine Church Music*, 1832, alt.

FOUNDATION
 11.11.11.11

Morning Prayer of Praise

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

1 John 1:8, 9

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

Unison Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God. Have mercy on us, O God. Create in us a clean heart. Renew a right spirit within us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.

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

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

Jim Lessley, Reader

Old Testament Reading: 1 Samuel 17:1a, 4-11, 19-23, 32-49 *Pew Bible Page 323*

Reading from Psalms: Psalm 9:1-2, 9-10 *Pew Bible Page 606*

Reading from the Epistles: 2 Corinthians 6:1-10 *Pew Bible Page 221*


*Gospel Hymn 450: *Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE

450


Be Thou My Vision

Capo 1: (D) E^b (G) A^b (D/F[#]) E^b/G (A7) B^b7 (D) E^b




1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true Word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
 4 High King of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

(A) B^b (D) E^b (G) A^b (A) B^b




naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

(G) A^b (D) E^b (F[#]m7) Gm7 (G) A^b (A) B^b



thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tower;
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

(Bm) Cm (D/F[#]) E^b/G (G) A^b (D) E^b



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heaven - ward, O Power of my power.
 High King of Heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

These stanzas are selected from a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. They are set to an Irish folk melody that has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"A Storm By Any Other Name..."

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*)

Traditional

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

Offertoire

Denis Bedard

*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 Dedication

THE SENDING

*Hymn 643: *Now Thank We All Our God*

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

*Benediction

*Postlude

"Finale" from Music for the Royal Fireworks

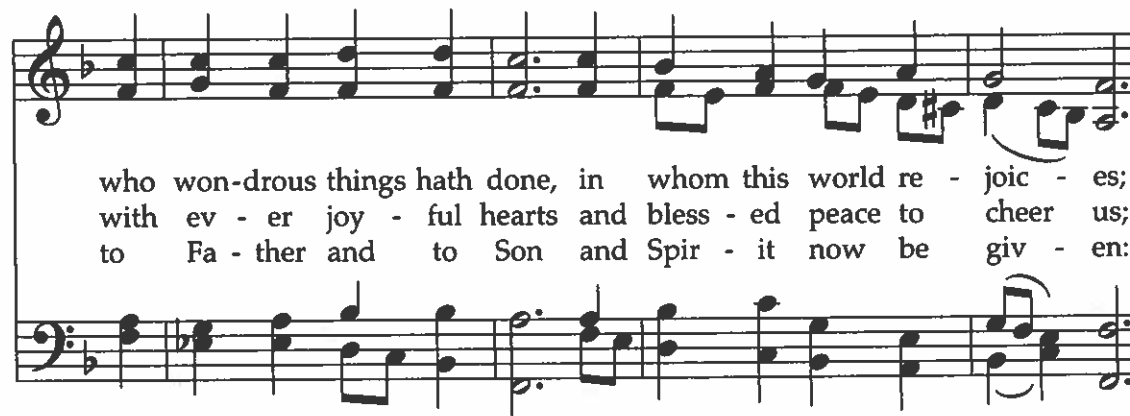
G. F. Handel

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Mr. & Mrs. Larry "Butch" Brown by their family.*

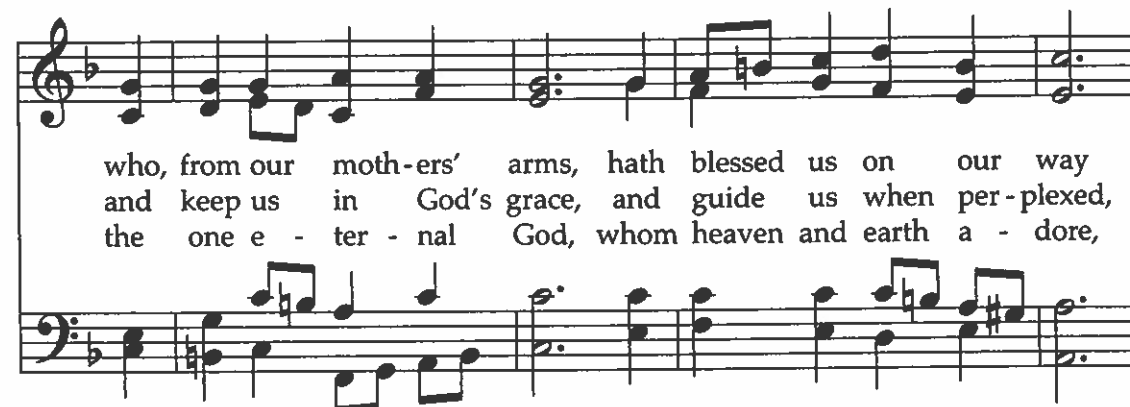
643 Now Thank We All Our God




1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voic - es,
 2 O may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in high - est heav - en,



who won-drous things hath done, in whom this world re - joic - es;
 with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us;
 to Fa - ther and to Son and Spir - it now be giv - en:



who, from our moth-ers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
 and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when per-plexed,
 the one e - ter - nal God, whom heaven and earth a - dore,



with count - less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
 the God who was, and is, and shall be ev - er - more.

Although this hymn is often used on large and festive occasions, its first two stanzas had much humbler beginnings: they originated as a family table prayer during the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648). These words have been associated with this tune since the mid-17th century.

Music Notes: The Prelude this morning is the lush *Air No. 1* from *Two Slow Airs* by English composer Herbert Howells (1892-1983). The organ solo at the Offertory is *Offertoire* from *Suite Liturgique* by Canadian organist and composer Denis Bedard (b. 1950). The Postlude is the majestic *Finale* from *Music for the Royal Fireworks* by George Frederick Handel (1685-1759).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTORS' TIME AWAY: Rev. Caldwell will be back in the office on Tuesday afternoon, June 25, after his week away. Rev. Gandy will be out of town with her family from June 25 through July 1. She will be back in the office on Tuesday, July 2. Please keep your pastors in prayer as they travel.

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY: The Pastor's Tuesday Bible Study will not meet on Tuesday, June 25. The class will reconvene on Tuesday, July 2. Consult the Sunday, June 30, bulletin for Scripture to be discussed.

VBS at FPC: Bible school will be held at First Presbyterian July 8, 9 & 10, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Bring children ages 7 to 12 for great fun, games, crafts, music, and Bible stories. Registration and activities will be in Fellowship Hall beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, July 8. There will be opportunity for early registration online, also.

Save the Date: Mark Sunday, August 4, on your calendars! On that day, all Sunday school classes and others in the congregation will join together in a Rally Day program in Stratton Chapel beginning at 9 a.m. The Rally Day spirit will continue into the Morning Worship service at 10:30 a.m., where we will have blessings of backpacks and laptops and other electronic study aids. After worship, we will gather for a delicious meal in Fellowship Hall.

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.

Book Club at FPC: A new book club is organizing at First Presbyterian. This group will select books to read and discuss at the monthly meeting. The first meeting will be Thursday, July 18, at 5 p.m. in Stratton Chapel parlor. The first book for discussion is *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles, highly recommended by several of our avid readers! Come and enjoy the lively discussions and good company.

Youth Summer Adventure Day: The FPC youth group will spend Saturday, June 29, in Baton Rouge, for a day that is sure to be packed with fun and excitement. The itinerary includes a visit to the Urban Air Trampoline Park, an escape room experience, and much more. To find out more or to register your student, contact Rev. Caldwell at 318-719-2060.

Wonderful Wednesday: Come for Wonderful Wednesday. Food is at 5:15 p.m. There is no Bible study on June 26 but come to enjoy food and fellowship at the table. There will be no Wednesday gathering on July 3.

Photo Gallery Docents: Attendance has been high during the past few months at Natchez in Historic Photographs. 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. - 4 p.m. Call Rosemary Hall or the church office to sign up.

Grief Support Group at FPC: First Presbyterian Grief Support Group meets Wednesdays at 4 p.m. in the church library. Come. Share. Be blessed. Grief Support Group will not meet Wednesday, June 26.

Sanctuary Choir: The Sanctuary Choir rehearses on Sundays at 9:45 a.m. through the month of July.

Handbell Choir: The Handbell choir is taking a summer break. Rehearsals will begin again in the fall.

Organ Update Fund: A fund-raising effort is under way to update and upgrade our beautiful organ at First Presbyterian by adding new instruments and rich new musical tones. Gifts may be made in honor of the organist and choir or in honor or memory of others. Every gift is important!

Give to the Organ Fund:



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.

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.



See, Hear, and Share Jesus!

VBS@First Presbyterian Church Natchez

July 8-10, 9AM-12PM

Ages:7-12

400 State St.

Scan here to register:



JUNE 2024

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

01

Communion 02 03 04 05 06 07 08

9:15 Sunday School
Coffee Time
9:45 Choir rehearsal
10:30 Worship

8:30 Exercise
10 Staff meeting
11:30 Prayer Group
Noon AA
7 Boy Scouts

11 Bible Study

8:30 Exercise
Noon AA
4 Grief Support Group
4:15 Youth
Wonderful Wednesday
5:15 Supper
6 Bible Study

5 Deacons

Visit or call someone you haven't seen in a while.
Noon AA

10 Wild Faith
Invite a friend to join you for worship tomorrow!

09 10 11 12 13 14 15

9:15 Sunday School
Coffee Time
9:45 Choir rehearsal
10:30 Worship
SSS Pot Luck Luncheon

8:30 Exercise
10 Staff meeting
11:30 Prayer Group
Noon AA
3:30 Youth: DQ & Decorating
4:15 Finance Committee
5 Session meeting
7 Boy Scouts

11 Bible Study

8:30 Exercise
10 Rebekah Circle
Noon AA
4 Grief Support Group
4:15 Youth
Wonderful Wednesday
5:15 Supper
6 Bible Study

5:30-7:15
Turtles, Plants, & more!
Field trip to the home of Dennis and Judy Kelly

Visit or call someone you haven't seen in a while.
10-noon Playschool Fun Day
Noon AA

Invite a friend to join you for worship tomorrow!

16 17 18 19 20 21 22

9:15 Sunday School
Coffee Time
9:45 Choir rehearsal
10:30 Worship

8:30 Exercise
10 Staff meeting
11:30 Prayer Group
Noon AA
7 Boy Scouts

11 Bible Study

8:30 Exercise
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Wonderful Wednesday
5:15 Supper
6 Bible Study

Visit or call someone you haven't seen in a while.
Noon AA

Invite a friend to join you for worship tomorrow!

23 24 25 26 27 28 29

Stewpot Sunday
9:15 Sunday School
Coffee Time
9:45 Choir rehearsal
10:30 Worship

8:30 Exercise
10 Staff meeting
11:30 Prayer Group
Noon AA
7 Boy Scouts

11 Bible Study

8:30 Exercise
Noon AA
4 Grief Support Group
4:15 Youth
Wonderful Wednesday
5:15 Supper
6 Bible Study

Visit or call someone you haven't seen in a while.
Noon AA

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Youth Adventure Day
Invite a friend to join you for worship tomorrow!

30

9:15 Sunday School
Coffee Time
9:45 Choir rehearsal
10:30 Worship

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

DEACONS

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

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

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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601-442-2581

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fpcnatchez@bellsouth.net

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