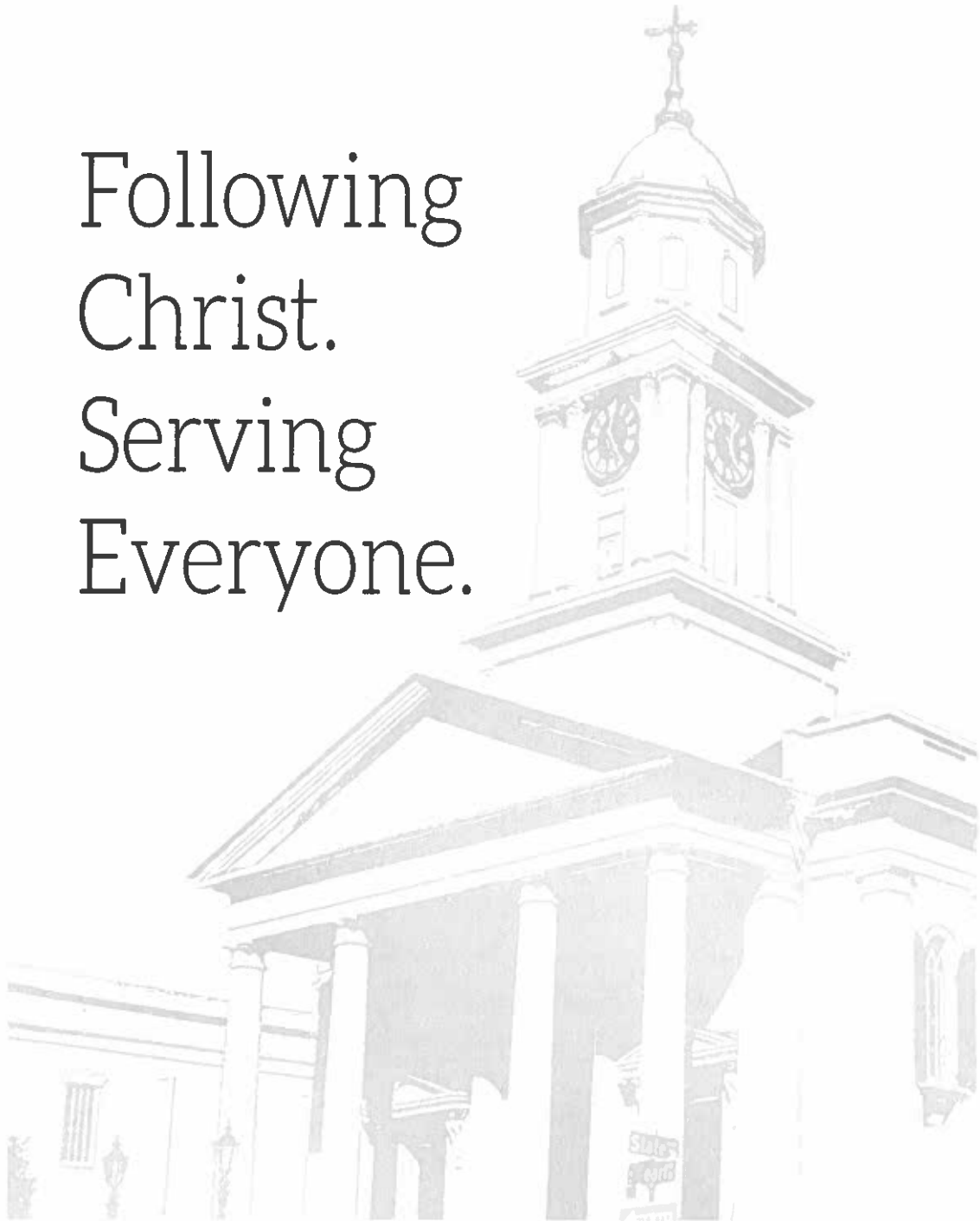




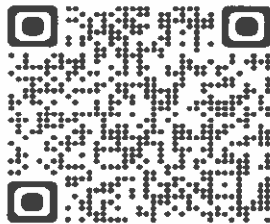
First Presbyterian Church of Natchez

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](mailto:fpcnatchez@bellsouth.net).

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**MORNING WORSHIP**  
**Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

August 3, 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**

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Greeting and Announcements

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

*Allegro*

Samuel Wesley

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Joan Gandy

Call to Worship

adapted from Psalm 107:1-3, 3, 8-9

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

**His steadfast love endures forever.**

He gathered the people from trouble, from the east and from the west,  
from the north and from the south.

**Let the people thank the Lord for his steadfast love.**

Let them thank the Lord for his wonderful works to humankind.

**For he satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry he fills with good things.**

**Praise the Lord!**

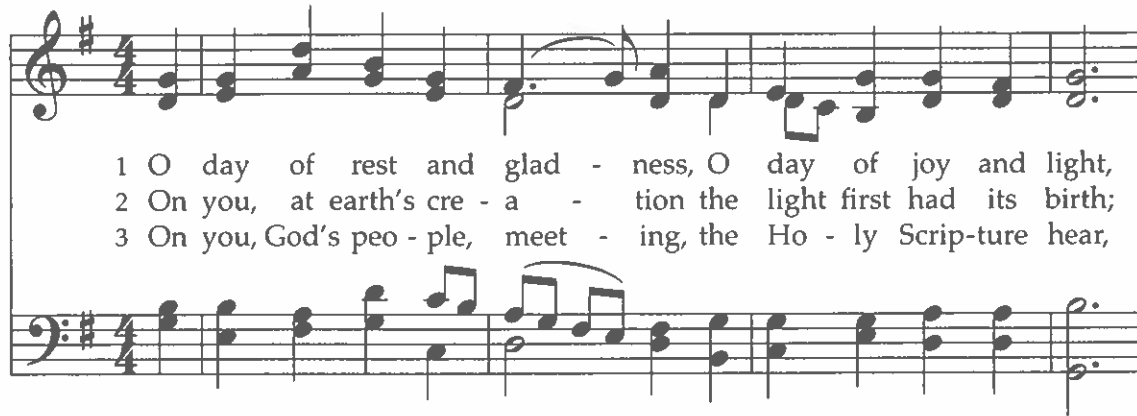
**The Lord's name be praised! Amen.**

\*Processional Hymn 393:

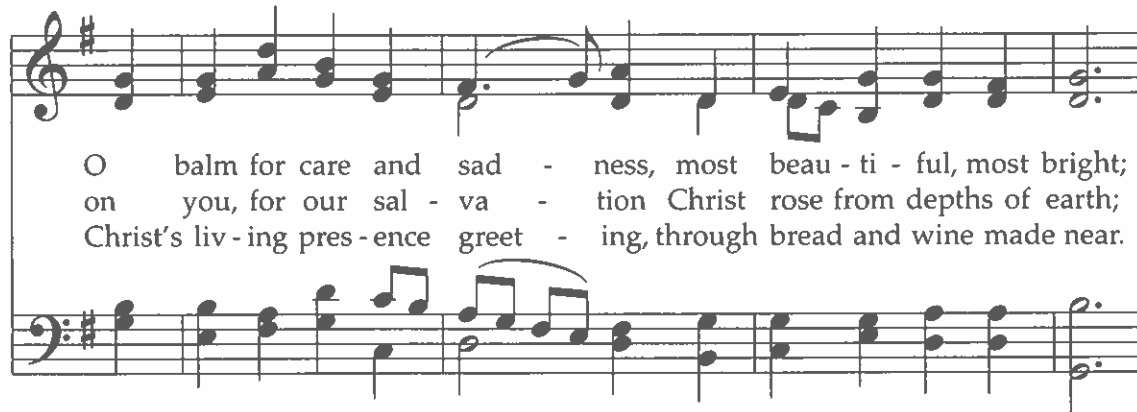
*O Day of Rest and Gladness*

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

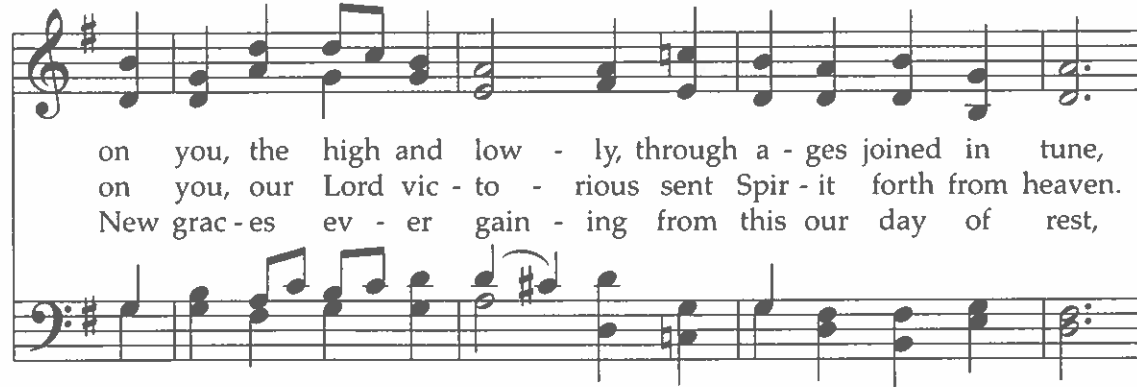
## 393 O Day of Rest and Gladness



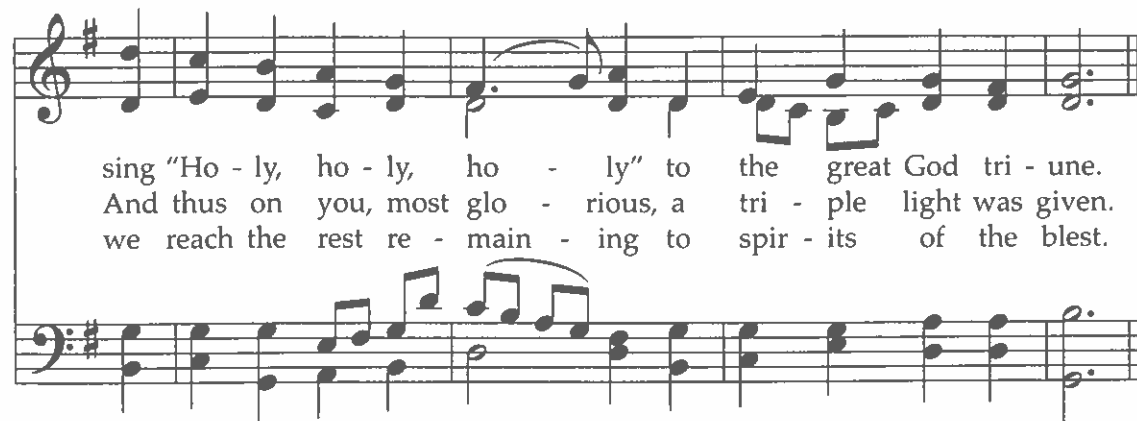
1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,  
 2 On you, at earth's cre - a - tion the light first had its birth;  
 3 On you, God's peo - ple, meet - ing, the Ho - ly Scrip-ture hear,



O balm for care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright;  
 on you, for our sal - va - tion Christ rose from depths of earth;  
 Christ's liv - ing pres - ence greet - ing, through bread and wine made near.



on you, the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune,  
 on you, our Lord vic - to - rious sent Spir - it forth from heaven.  
 New grac - es ev - er gain - ing from this our day of rest,



sing "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly" to the great God tri - une.  
 And thus on you, most glo - rious, a tri - ple light was given.  
 we reach the rest re - main - ing to spir - its of the blest.

In this text the first day of the week represents a threefold commemoration of Creation, Resurrection, and Pentecost—each an encounter with Trinitarian activity centered on one of the Three Persons. The tune name recalls the secular German song adapted for use with several hymns.

Minute for Mission:

Report from Youth Montreat Trip

### Confession of Sin

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

Richard of Chichester (1197-1253)

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits which you have won for us, for all the pains and insults which you have borne for us. O most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother, may we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day.

**Let us confess our sin before God and one another.**

### 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, so 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 through Jesus Christ your Son.**

### 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. May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **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

Doris Ann Benoist, Reader

Old Testament Reading: Hosea 11:1-11

*Pew Bible Page 1032*

A Reading from Psalms: Psalm 107:1-9, 43

*Pew Bible Page 687*

Epistle Reading: Colossians 3:1-11

*Pew Bible Page 246*

\*Hymn 847, verses 1 & 2: *Our Hope, Our Life*

O WALY WALY

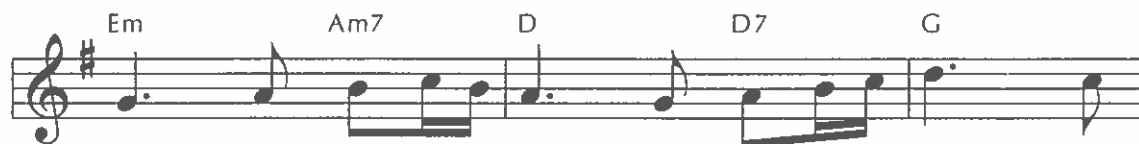
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## Our Hope, Our Life

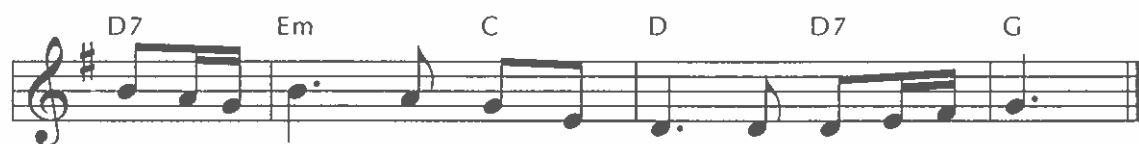
(Psalm 49)



1 Our hope, our life are in the Lord, the God we  
 2 Some flaunt their gold; some trust its power, but what they  
 3 Though wealth or learn - ing may be ours, or fame that  
 4 Be - yond this age of shame and sham we glimpse a



hon - or and con - fess. Why crave re - nown or  
 cher - ish will de - cay; and still the ran - som  
 spreads through - out the land, the shack - les of mor -  
 bet - ter des - ti - ny: the Lord will lift us



op - u - lence? They fade, those things we now pos - sess.  
 for a soul re - mains a price too great to pay.  
 tal - i - ty pre - vent so much that we have planned.  
 free from death to dwell in praise e - ter - nal - ly.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

As this recent paraphrase of Psalm 49 illustrates, human beings have long been tempted to put their trust in earthly assets, especially wealth and fame. But these are not enduring possessions, and they cannot save us. Only in God can we find unfailing hope and eternal life.



Gospel Reading: Luke 12:13-21

*Pew Bible Page 90*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

"Rich Toward God"

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.**

## 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

*Andante con moto*

Alexandre Guilmant

\*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

## SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

---

### Invitation to the Table

Friends, this is the Lord's Table. Our Savior invites all to share the feast which he has prepared.

### Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*(The minister continues in prayer.)*

...Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with the celestial choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

...With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service. Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

*(Minister continues in prayer, concluding with Lord's Prayer.)*

...Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, now and forever.  
As our Savior has taught us, we are bold to pray:

### 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.**

### Breaking the Bread

"The gifts of God for the people of God"

All sing: *Lamb of God*

The musical score for "Lamb of God" is written in 4/4 time and consists of four staves. The lyrics are: "Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace; grant us peace." The chord symbols are: C, F, G, Am, Am7, F, G, C, F, G, E, Am, Am7, F, G, G7, F, Em, F, E, Am, G, C, F, G7, C.

C F G Am Am7  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
F G C F G E  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
Am Am7 F G G7 F Em  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
F E Am G C F G7 C  
sin of the world; grant us peace; grant us peace.

## Communion of the People

Prayer of Thanksgiving after the Meal (unison)

**Loving God, you graciously feed us. We have received these holy mysteries in the bread of life and the cup of salvation. May we who have received this sacrament, be strengthened in your service; we who have sung your praises tell of your glory and truth; we who have seen the greatness of your love see you face to face in your kingdom. You have made us your own people by the death and resurrection of your Son our Lord, and by the life-giving power of your Spirit. Amen.**

## THE SENDING

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\*Hymn 14, verses 1-4: *For the Beauty of the Earth*

DIX

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

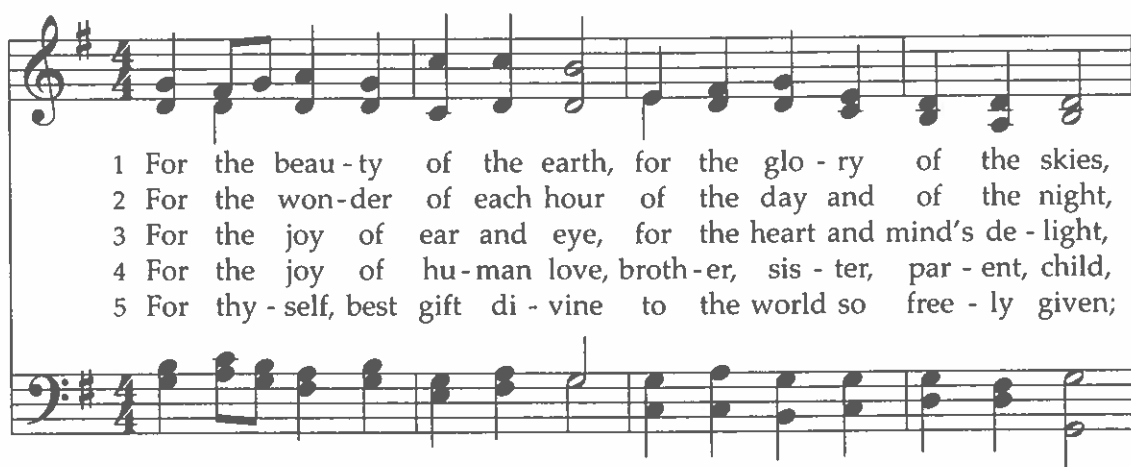
*Fughetta on Komm, Heilger Geist*

Andreas Armsdorf

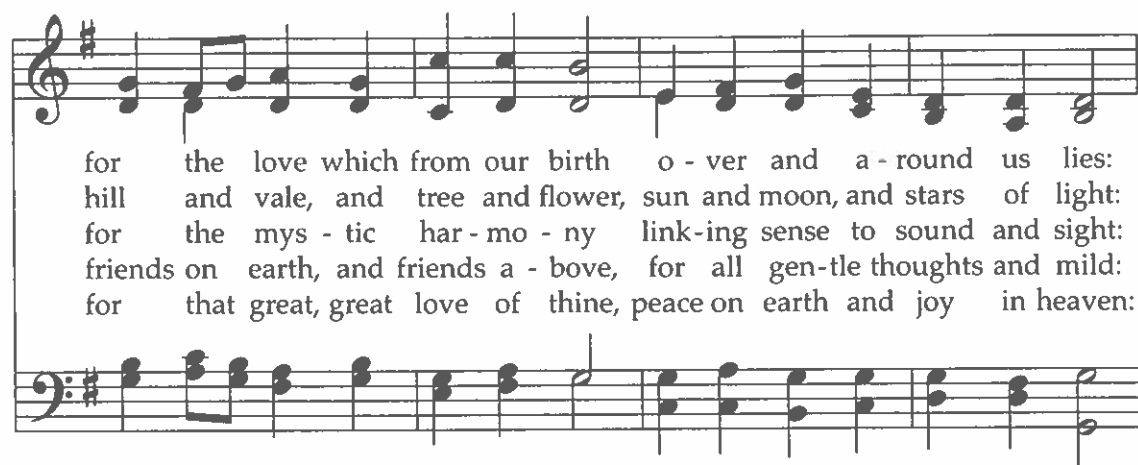
*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of the Stahlman family by Judy, Susan Jane, and Debbie.*

## For the Beauty of the Earth

14

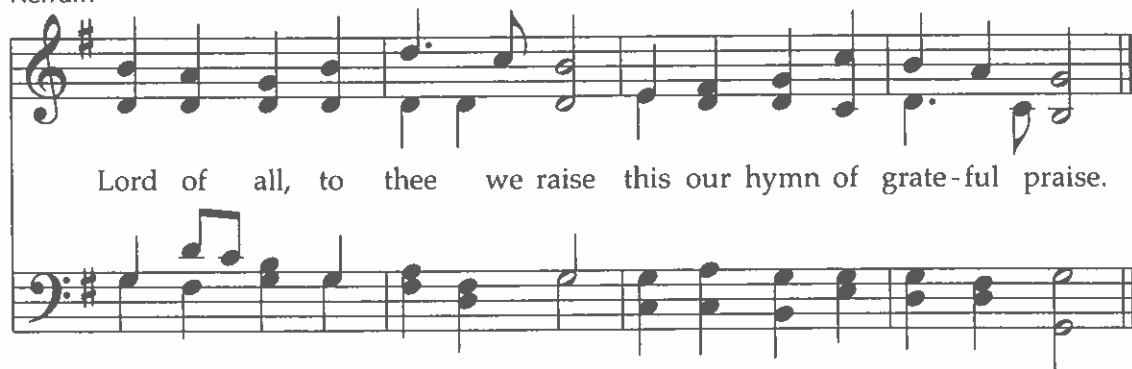


1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,  
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
 5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly given;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:  
 hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:  
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
 friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:  
 for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

## Refrain



Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

In the course of many revisions, the original eucharistic emphasis of this text has shifted to a hymn of thanksgiving for a wide range of human experience, with a Christological summation. It is set here to the tune that is customary in North America, though not elsewhere.

**Music Notes:** The music this morning is pre-recorded from the organ as our Director of Music is away. Special thanks to Jay Fitch who is managing the recordings from the console. The Prelude is a lovely *Allegro* by British composer Samuel Wesley (1766-1837). The Organ Solo during the Offertory is *Andante con moto* by French organist and composer Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911). The Postlude is a short *Fughetta on Komm, Heiliger Geist (Come, Holy Ghost)* by German baroque composer Andreas Armsdorf.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Pastor's Bible Study:** The Pastor's Bible study meets Tuesday, August 5, at 11 a.m. in the parlor in Stratton Chapel. Scriptures for study are Isaiah 1:1, 10-20; Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; and Luke 12:32-40.

**Rally Day and Blessing of the Backpacks:** Mark your calendars to come at 9:15 on Sunday, August 10. Rally Day will begin in Stratton Chapel with a program there, including commissioning Sunday school and other teachers. The program will continue during worship service at 10:30, when students will bring forward their backpacks and electronic devices to be blessed.

**Deacons meeting:** The deacons will meet Monday, August 4, at 5 p.m. in the church library.

**Mission Meeting:** The Mission Committee will meet Thursday, August 7, at 5 p.m. in the church library.

**Session meeting:** The Session will meet Monday, August 11, at 5 p.m. in the church library.

**Grief Support Group at FPC:** First Presbyterian Grief Support Group will meet Wednesday at 4 p.m. in the church library.

**Third Thursday Book Club:** For the August reading, the TT Book Club will read *Remains of the Day* by Kazuo Ishiguro, a Nobel Prize for Literature Laureate. Readers will gather for discussion on Thursday, August 21, at 5 p.m. in the Stratton Chapel parlor. All are welcome!

**Grief Support Group:**

**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.

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

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

**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.

# AUGUST 2025

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

01

02

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

Noon AA  
meeting

Youth return  
from Montreat

03

04

05

06

07

08

09

Communion

8:30 Exercise class  
10 Staff meeting  
11:30 Prayer Group  
Noon AA  
5 Deacons  
7 Boy Scouts  
Troop 157

11 Bible Study

8:30 Exercise class  
Noon AA  
  
4:15 Youth  
5:15 Supper  
6 Bible Study

Noon AA  
meeting

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

9:15-Sunday  
School Assembly

8:30 Exercise Class  
10 Staff meeting  
11:30 Prayer Group  
Noon AA  
4:15 Finance  
5 Session  
7 Boy Scouts troop 157  
Troop 157

10:30 Pack Food  
Boxes

11 Bible Study

8:30 Exercise class  
10-Food Boxes  
Noon AA  
  
4:15 Youth  
5:15 Supper  
6 Bible Study

Noon AA  
meeting

Blessing of the  
Backpacks

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

8:30 Exercise Class  
10 Staff meeting  
11:30 Prayer Group  
Noon AA  
7 Boy Scouts  
Troop 157

11 Bible Study

8:30 Exercise class  
Noon AA  
  
4:15 Youth  
5:15 Supper  
6 Bible Study  
6 Choir Rehearsal

5 Book Club

Noon AA  
meeting

9:30--Stated  
meeting of the  
Presbytery-  
Pineview  
Presbyterian,  
Hattiesburg

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

Stewpot  
Sunday

8:30 Exercise Class  
10 Staff meeting  
11:30 Prayer Group  
Noon AA  
7 Boy Scouts  
Troop 157

11 Bible Study

8:30 Exercise class  
Noon AA  
4:15 Youth  
5:15 Supper  
6 Bible Study  
6 Choir rehearsal

Noon AA  
meeting

31

### **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](http://www.fpcnatchez.org)**

**[fpcnatchez@bellsouth.net](mailto:fpcnatchez@bellsouth.net)**

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