



# The People of First Presbyterian Church

## OUR GATHERING

The Chiming of the Hour		
Prelude	“What Child Is This”	arr. Berry
Welcome and Announcements		
Choral Call to Worship	“We Three Kings of Orient Are”	Kings of Orient
Prayer of Praise and Adoration		

Call to Worship *(from Psalm 148)*  
Praise the Lord!  
**Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!**  
Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!  
**Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!**  
Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!  
**Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.**  
Let us praise the Lord!

+Opening Hymn # 132 “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” In Dulci Jubilo

Prayer of Confession  
**Holy God, we confess that we have not made you Lord of all. We have allowed busy and hectic schedules to distract us from what is most important. We have selfishly considered our own needs over those around us. We have overlooked the people and places you are calling us to, out of fear or simply being blind to you at work in our midst. Immanuel, forgive us. Open our eyes to the ways we allow other things to take your rightful place in our lives. Give us the courage to be a voice for the voiceless and join in with you at work all around us. May we commit ourselves anew to following in the footsteps of your greatest gift to us – Jesus Christ. Amen.** *Moment for Silent Meditation.*

Congregational Prayer Response: ***O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me. From Hymn # 471 (Verse 1)***

Assurance of Forgiveness

Choral Anthem

## THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination	
The Word of God	Psalm 148 (p. 550) Luke 2:41-52 (pp. 55-56)

Children’s Message	2 Cents A Meal	Melissa McDuffie
Sermon	“So, What Now?”	Melissa McDuffie
Baptism of Jonah Aaron Richardson		Rev. Cader Howard

+Affirmation of Faith *from The Apostles’ Creed*  
**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 living 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 Gloria Patri, # 581 *Glory Be to the Father*  
**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.**

## OUR RESPONSE

+Hymn of Praise # 488 “I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry” Waterlife

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer  
**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.**

Call for the Offering

Offertory “Away In A Manger” Murray  
arr. Osman

+Doxology # 606  
**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

## SENDING

+Sending Hymn # 136 “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” Go Tell It

+Closing Prayer

+Postlude “Joy to the World” Handel  
arr. Mason

-----  
+ Indicates a time to stand as you are comfortable in doing so.  
**Please join in unison reading of the bold print.**

## Praise Reports

Julian Gardner!!!  
His Mother’s words:  
“After 16+ years...Julian no longer has to wear AFO braces and was able to do something huge and a little emotional. He went shoe shopping for shoes that fit his actual feet. Not his feet + plastic + Velcro + hardware; just his feet.”  
Congratulations Julian!  
You are literally a “WALKING” miracle.

Carol Jones!!!  
Carol Jones, recently diagnosed with breast cancer, is recovering well from her surgery. The surgery was a success and prayers were answered. The pathology report shows surrounding biopsies are negative. Carol is cancer free. She will follow up with doctors in Tupelo.

## Prayer Concerns

**Jon Fortman**  
*Health Concerns*

**Dorothy Fortman**  
*Recovery from broken leg*

**Allison L. Jones**  
*(Scott Jones’ Mother)*  
*Health Concerns*

**Julian Gardner**  
*Continued Prayers*

**Sherean Harrington**  
*(Hope Oakes Stepmother)*  
*Health Concerns*

**Noah Russell Nagy**  
*Continued Prayers*

**Simon Storer**  
*(Friend of Lee Hackett)*  
*Cancer Diagnosis*

**Scott Starkweather**  
*Recovery from Fall*

**Hope Oakes**  
*Health Concerns*

**Mary Anne Hamblen**  
*Hillary Richardson’s Mother*  
*Recovery from knee surgery*

**Hilda Nance**  
*Hillary Richardson’s Aunt*  
*Recovery from stroke*

**RJ Jennings**  
*Health Concerns*

*Please let the church office know if you have any praise reports or prayer concerns.*

THE CHURCH AT WORK

We welcome you to  
First Presbyterian Church!

A **Nursery** is available in the Education Building for the youngest worshipers (birth through Kindergarten).

**Restrooms** are located on both floors in the Education Building. Follow the signs or ask a friendly face who will be happy to help you find anything you need.

**Today**  
**1st Sunday of Christmas**  
9:00 a.m.  
Choir Rehearsal

9:45 a.m.  
Sunday School

11:00 a.m.  
Worship  
2 Cents A Meal  
Melissa McDuffie

Baptism of  
Jonah Aaron Richardson  
Rev. Cader Howard

**Wednesday**  
No Prayer Group

**Thursday**  
5:30 p.m. Al-Anon

**Next Sunday**  
**2nd Sunday of Christmas**  
9:00 a.m.  
Choir Rehearsal

9:45 a.m.  
Sunday School

11:00 a.m.  
Communion Worship  
Rev. Gregory Goodwiller

*The Office & PCDP will be  
closed December 22-January 2.  
Both will re-open on Monday,  
January 5th.*

Session

Dr. Tom Richardson, Moderator, Pro-Tem  
Hope DeVenney, Clerk of Session

<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
Maridith Geuder-1	Fran Brown-1	Hope DeVenney-4
Tori Pumphrey-4	Marthalie Porter-1	Tom Hatcher-2
Lezli Waits-4	Steve Porter-2	Anna Jones-4
Steve Wilkes-2	Susan Smith-2	Tom Richardson-3

Numbers beside names indicate Shepherding Group.

Diaconate

<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
Hope Oakes-3	Lee Hackett-1	Roger Burlingame-2
Eric Waits-4	Mary Nelson-1	Holly Longton-3
Sue Hatcher-3		Jennifer Mearkle-2

Numbers beside names indicate Shepherding Group.

Helping Hands Immediate Needs:

Canned ready-to-eat soups, peanut butter and boxed cereals.

HELPING HANDS BLANKET DRIVE

Helping Hands has started its annual blanket drive. New blankets may be dropped off in the education building. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please reference Helping Hands Blanket Drive.

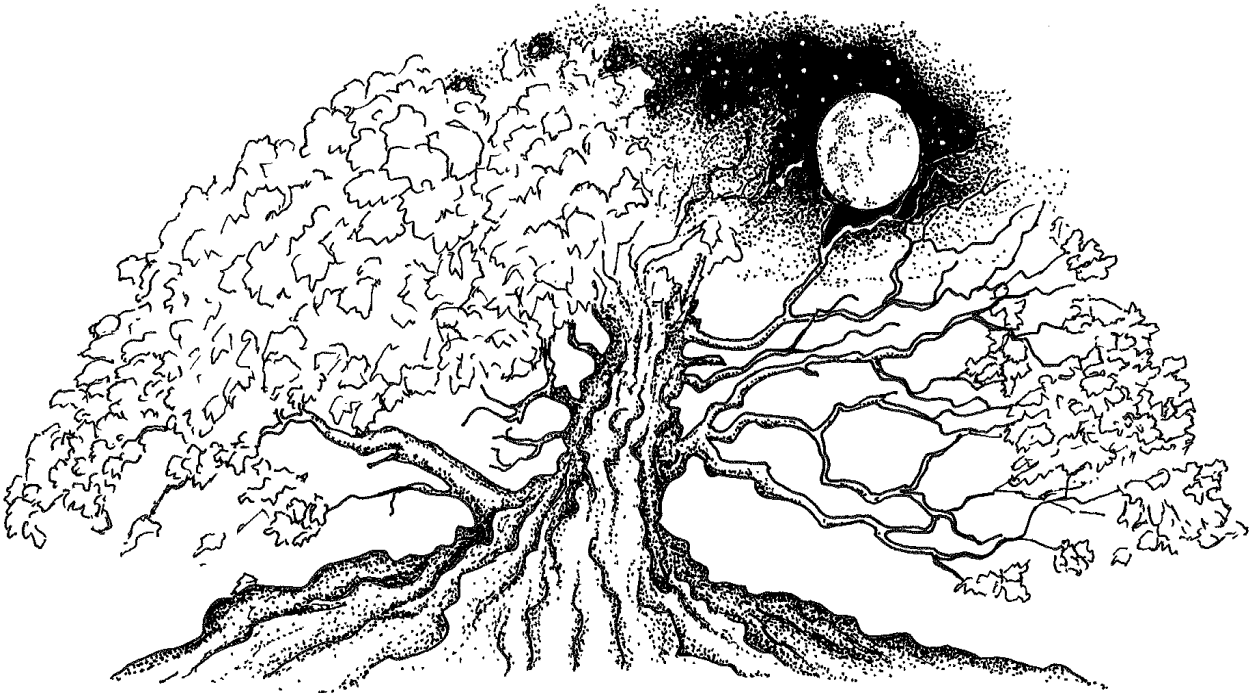
First Presbyterian Church

3200 Bluecutt Road P. O. Box 9681 Columbus, MS 39705 (662) 328-5992  
Moderator, pro-tem: Dr. Tom Richardson (662) 574-9636  
Email: tcrichardson425@gmail.com  
Clerk of Session: Hope DeVenney (662) 549-5479  
Email: Hope.DeVenney@outlook.com  
Administrative Assistant: Tracie Hanson (662) 328-5992  
Email: firstprescolumbus@gmail.com  
Interim Choir Director: Doug Browning  
Accompanist: Shirley Ellis  
PCDP Director: Lezli Waits  
Custodian: Rowland Jennings

Connect with us:  
Email: firstprescolumbus@gmail.com  
Website: Firstprescolumbus.org  
Facebook: Firstprescolumbus  
Twitter: @Columbusfpc



First Presbyterian Church  
Columbus, Mississippi



In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with  
God, and the Word was God. John 1:1

“So, What Now?”  
Melissa McDuffie  
December 28, 2025

