



The People of First Presbyterian Church

OUR GATHERING

The Chiming of the Hour Prelude	“Come Just As You Are”	Pethel
------------------------------------	------------------------	--------

Welcome and Announcements Choral Call to Worship Prayer of Praise and Adoration	“Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord”	Hall
---	----------------------------------	------

Call to Worship
The decrees of the Lord are wonderful,
The unfolding of God’s word gives light and understanding.
Turn to us, O God, and be gracious to us.
Make your face shine upon your servants.
We come together to worship the living God.

+Opening Hymn # 47	“Bless All Who Trust in God”	Franconia
--------------------	------------------------------	-----------

Prayer of Confession
God of grace, we want to understand what the kingdom of heaven is like, but our minds are clouded by cares and concerns of the world. We fail to trust your power, hidden in all things. We fail to watch for you, working out your purposes in mysterious ways. We fail to be whole-hearted in our faith and discipleship. We fail to put our trust in the treasures of your kingdom instead of the treasures of the world. Gracious God, hidden and manifest, give us eyes to see and ears to hear your good news for the world even here and now. Transform our lives and our world by your grace. Amen.
Moment for Silent Meditation.

Congregational Prayer Response: **“How our hearts with joy abound, with your beauty all around; words are feeble to express your great love and righteousness “**
(From Hymn # 333)

Assurance of Pardon		
Anthem	“I’ll Worship Only at the Feet of Jesus”	Gaither/Miller

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination		
The Word of God	Genesis 29:15-28 (p. 25) Romans 8:26-39 (p. 148) Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 (p. 14)	

Children’s Message	2 Cents A Meal
--------------------	----------------

Sermon	“The Kingdom of Heaven IS”	Rev. Deacon Pam Rhea
--------	----------------------------	----------------------

+Affirmation of Faith from (from The Barmen Declaration, 8.14-8.16)
As Jesus Christ is God’s assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is he also God’s mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to his creatures. We reject the false doctrine, as though there were areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ, but to other lords — areas in which we would not need justification and sanctification through him. 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 #625	“O Lord My God” (Verses 1 and 2)	How Great Thou Art
----------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------------

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	“Take My Life, Lead Me, Lord”	Rawls arr. Sikes
-----------	-------------------------------	------------------

+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 # 547	“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”	Ar Hyd y Nos
---------------------	-------------------------------------	--------------

+Blessing and Benediction

+Postlude	“Hymn to Joy”	Beethoven
-----------	---------------	-----------

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

Praise Reports

Welcome Melissa McDuffie!

Prayer Concerns

Jon & Dorothy Fortman
Health Concerns

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

Sherean Harrington
(Hope Oakes Stepmother)
Health Concerns

Noah Russell Nagy
Continued Prayers

Simon Storer
(Friend of Lee Hackett)
Cancer Diagnosis

Toni Oakes
Prayer Requests

Hilda Nance
(Hillary Richardson’s Aunt)
Recovery from stroke

Wayne Bruchey
Health Concerns

Rowland Jennings
Health Concerns

Boyd Hardy
(Friend of the Gaskin Family)
Cancer Diagnosis

Alice Harris
(Friend of the Gaskin Family)
Cancer Diagnosis

The Allen Family
(Friend of Martha Jo Mims)
On the loss of James Allen

Peggy Barksdale
(Tracie Hanson’s Mom)
Continued Recovery

Gaines Gaskin
Recovery from broken shoulder

Chris Hannon & Adele Elliot
(Friends of Eric Krieger)
Health Concerns

Friend of Marthalie Porter
Prayer Concerns

Ralph Null
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 - 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
9th Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal
9:45 a.m.
Sunday School

11:00 a.m.
Worship/2 Cents A Meal
Rev. Deacon Pam Rhea

Fellowship Meal-Boxed lunch
Shepherding Group 1

5:00 p.m.
FPC/FUMC Gospel Jubilee
Location: FUMC Starkville
See Bulletin Insert

Wednesday
12:30 p.m.
Prayer Group

Thursday
5:30 p.m. Al-Anon

**Next Sunday
10th Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal
9:45 a.m.
Sunday School

11:00 a.m.
Worship—Rev. Johnny Wray
Blessing of the Backpacks

Christian Education Meeting
Following worship

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-1	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-2		Jennifer Mearkle-2

Numbers beside names indicate Shepherding Group.

Sunday, July 19, 2026 – Attendance: 50

Helping Hands Immediate Needs:

Canned Chef Boyardee, canned vegetables, and boxed cereals.

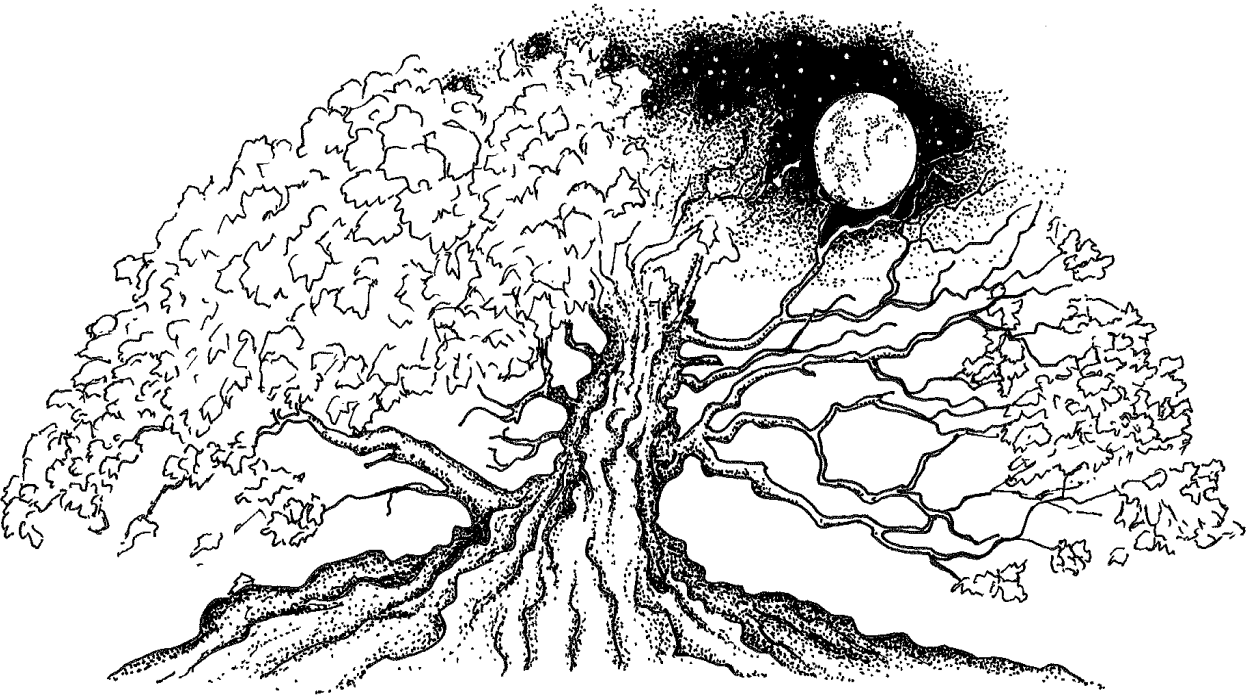
Helping Hands Fan Drive:

Helping Hands is accepting new fans through the summer months. If you would like to donate a fan, please drop it off in the Education Building. You may also make a monetary donation, please reference: Helping Hands Fan Drive and drop in the offering plate on Sunday.

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
Church Administrator: Tracie Hanson (662) 328-5992
Email: firstprescolumbus@gmail.com
Director of Music: Alexander Nowell
Accompanist: Shirley Ellis
PCDP Director: Lezli Waits
Custodian: Rowland Jennings

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

“The Kingdom of Heaven IS”
9th Sunday after Pentecost
Rev. Deacon Pam Rhea
July 26, 2026

