



# The People of First Presbyterian Church

## OUR GATHERING

The Chiming of the Hour  
 Prelude "As the Deer/Holy, Holy, Holy" Fettke  
 Welcome and Announcements  
 Choral Call to Worship "Down Galilee's Slow Roadways" West Main

Prayer of Praise and Adoration

Call to Worship from Isaiah 43  
 But thus says the Lord, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
**I have called you by name, you are mine.**  
 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
**when you walk through the fire you shall not be burned,**  
 Because you are precious in my sight and honored, and I love you."  
**Let us worship this great God of love.**

+Opening Hymn # 463 "How Firm a Foundation" Foundation  
 (vs. 1, 2, 3, 5)

Prayer of Confession  
**God, we hear your voice calling us to certain actions, but ignore it because we are scared, unsure, or lack the courage. Jesus, we see the ways in which you taught us to live, but make excuses about being too busy or not good enough. Holy Spirit, we know that you are at work among us, but fail to look for you that we might join in the service. Forgive us, God. Fill us with your Spirit that we might find the courage to act in the ways that point others to you. For it is in your name we pray, Amen.** *Moment for Silent Meditation.*

Congregational Prayer Response: ***Come to me, O weary traveler; come to me with your distress; come to me, you heavy burdened; come to me and find your rest. From Hymn # 183 (vs. 1)***

Assurance of Forgiveness

Anthem "I Love You, Lord" Klein/Schrader

## THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

The Word of God **Old Testament:** Isaiah 43:1-7 (pp. 631-632)  
**Gospel:** Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 (p. 56)

*Children's Message*

Sermon "Letting the Chaff Fly Away" Melissa McDuffie

+Affirmation of Faith from the Apostle's 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 Spirit, 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 sits 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 Spirit; 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 # 634 "To God Be the Glory" To God Be The Glory

Prayer of the People

Call for the Offering

Offertory "He Is Lord" Vogt

+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

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

+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.**

## SENDING

+Sending Hymn # 408 "There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit" Sweet, Sweet Spirit

+Charge and Blessing

+Postlude "God of Grace and God of Glory" Butler

## Prayer Concerns

**Sandra Mims**  
*Health Concerns*

**Jon & Dorothy Fortman**  
*Health Concerns*

**Toni Oakes**  
*(Ed Oakes' Sister)*  
*Health Concerns*

**Ginny Oakes**  
*(Ed Oakes' Mother)*  
*Health Concerns*

**Bonnie Boyd**  
*Health Concerns*

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

**Amy Sullivan**  
*(Pam Sullivan's Daughter-In-Law)*  
*Health Concerns*

**Lyla Fulton (2 Years Old)**  
*(Holly Longton's Great Niece)*  
*Cancer Diagnosis*

**Ronnie Richardson**  
*(Taylor Richardson's Father)*  
*Health Concerns*

**Desiree Krieger**  
*Recovery from back surgery*

**Patty Jones Family**  
*Prayer Concerns for Family*

**Jim Loveland**  
*Holly Longton's Father*  
*Recovery from Stroke*

**Egan Monroe**  
*Recovery from surgery*

**Julian Gardner**  
*Recovery from surgery*

*Prayer requests should be communicated through the Church Office.*

+ Indicates a time to stand as you are comfortable in doing so.

**Please join in unison reading of the bold print.**

## 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 five years old).

**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

#### Baptism of the Lord

9:00 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal

9:45 a.m.

Sunday School

11:00 a.m.

Worship

3:00 p.m.

Presbyterian Women  
Gathering

### Wednesday

12:30 p.m.

Bible Study

### Thursday

5:00 p.m.

Building & Grounds  
Meeting

5:30 p.m. Al-Anon

### Friday

Loaves & Fishes

Volunteers Needed

### Next Sunday

#### 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

9:00 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal

9:45 a.m.

Sunday School

11:00 a.m.

Worship Service

Session Meeting following  
Worship

### Helping Hands

Blankets

Instant Oatmeal & Grits

Canned Chili

Canned Beef Stew

## Session

Hope DeVenney, Clerk of Session

### Class of 2025

Collene Albright-3

Hope Devenney-4

Taylor Richardson-2

Tom Richardson-3

### Class of 2026

Maridith Geuder-1

Tori Pumphrey-4

Lezli Waits-4

Steve Wilkes-2

### Class of 2027

Fran Brown-1

Marthalie Porter-1

Steve Porter-2

Susan Smith-2

Numbers beside names indicate Shepherding Group

## Diaconate

### Class of 2025

Dorothy Fortman-1

Hillary Richardson-3

Anna Jones -4

### Class of 2026

Hope Oakes-3

Eric Waits-4

Sue Hatcher-3

### Class of 2027

Lee Hackett-1

Mary Nelson-1

Numbers beside names indicate Shepherding Group

Last Sunday's Attendance: 57

### Helping Hands Blanket Drive

As the cold weather sets in Helping Hands is accepting NEW blankets to be donated to families and individuals in need. Blankets are a way to provide warmth for families and individuals during the very cold temperatures of winter. 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.

### Helping Hands Immediate Needs:

If you are at the grocery store this week, please consider picking up a few items to help those in need. Immediate needs are:  
instant oatmeal, instant grits, canned chili, and canned beef stew.

### First Presbyterian Church

3200 Bluecutt Road P. O. Box 9681 Columbus, MS 39705 (662) 328-5992

Clerk of Session: Hope DeVenney (662) 549-5479 Email: Hope.DeVenney@outlook.com

Church Secretary: Tracie Hanson (662) 328-5992

Director of Music: Andrew Miller

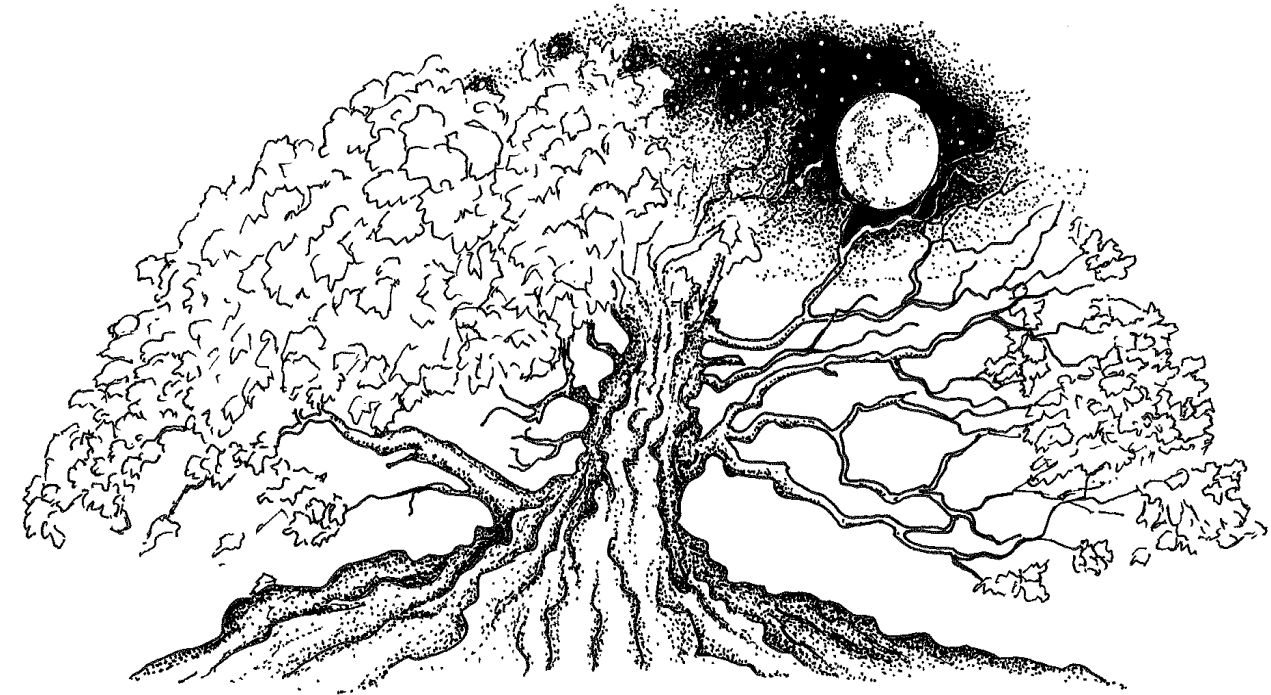
Accompanist: Shirley Ellis

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

## “Letting the Chaff Fly Away”

Melissa McDuffie

January 12, 2025

