



The People of First Presbyterian Church

OUR GATHERING

The Chiming of the Hour
Prelude “Contemplation” Danielson
Welcome and Announcements
Congregational Care/Christian Action & Worship and Music Committee
2026 Reports to the Congregation
Choral Call to Worship “We All Are One in Mission” Es Flog Ein Kleins Waldvoegelein
Prayer of Praise and Adoration

Call to Worship
We gather with hope in our hearts,
for something happens here that teaches us God is present.
We know this place is sacred,
for something happens here that teaches us God is our center.
We gather with joyful praise,
for something happens here that teaches us God is forever faithful.

+Opening Hymn # 53 “O God, Who Gives Us Life” Noel

Prayer of Confession
God of the law and the prophets, we do not want to admit all the commandments we have broken. We worship idols of money, success, and power. We use your name to justify whatever we do. We do not honor each other. We covet, we lie, we wish evil upon others. Our sins are too many to name. Forgive us, God. Speak to us, and we will listen, remembering that you are our freedom and deliverer, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Moment for Silent Meditation.*

Congregational Prayer Response: **Hymn #355 O hear our cry, O Lord; now hear us as we pray. You guide us a shepherd leads, so keep us in your way. O Come; Lord, come; restore and save us now.**

Assurance of Pardon
+Passing of the Peace
Choral Anthem “Can You Drink the Cup?” Courtney

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination
The Word of God
Philippians 3:4b-14 (p. 187)
Matthew 21:33–46 (pp. 22-23)

Sermon “The God Who Never Gives Up” Reverend Buren Blankenship

+Affirmation of Faith (the Confession of 1967, 9.32-33)
The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church’s mission. His human life involves the church in the common life of all people. His service to men and women commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all human suffering so

that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of persons in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God’s judgment on the inhumanity that marks human relations, and the awful consequences of the church’s own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God’s renewal of human life in society and of God’s victory over all wrong. The church follows this pattern in the form of its life and in the method of its action. So to live and serve is to confess Christ as Lord. 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.

Officer Ordination and Installation

OUR RESPONSE

Prayers of the People
Call for the Offering
Offertory “Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior” Doane arr. Loree

+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
+Communion Hymn # 515 “I Come With Joy” Dove of Peace
(Verses 1, 3, 4, and 5)

Invitation to the Lord’s Table
Great 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.

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.

Breaking of the Bread
Communion of the People
Prayer after Communion

SENDING

+Sending Hymn #681 “This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made”
Nun Danket All’ Und Bringet Ehr’
+Charge and Blessing
+Postlude “Come, Christians, Join to Sing” Carr

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

Praise Reports
Welcome New Officers

Prayer Concerns

Jon & Dorothy Fortman
Health Concerns

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

Sherean Harrington
(Hope Oakes Stepmother)
Health Concerns

Simon Storer
(Friend of Lee Hackett)
Cancer Diagnosis

Toni Oakes
Prayer Requests

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

Rowland Jennings
Health Concerns

Boyd Hardy
(Friend of the Gaskin Family)
Cancer Diagnosis

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

Cecil Vaughn
(Friend of the Gaskin Family)
Health Concerns

Peggy Barksdale
(Tracie Hanson’s Mom)
Continued Recovery

Scott Starkweather
Recovery from Fall

The Dollar Family
On the loss of Kathie Dollar

Peter Ryan
(Friend of Pam Sullivan)
Undergoing Cancer Treatment

Frances Graham
(Xander Nowell’s Grandmother)
Recovery from Surgery

Willie & Jeanette Walker & Chloe
On the loss of Shenedia (PCDP Daughter & Mom)

Roger Swartz
Larry Swartz’s Brother
Health Concerns

Maggie Mistilis
Larry Swartz’s Sister
Health Concerns

THE CHURCH AT WORK

We welcome you to
First Presbyterian Church!

A **Nursery** is available in the
Education Building for the youngest
worshippers (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
19th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal

9:45 a.m.
Sunday School

11:00 a.m.
Communion Worship
Rev. Buren Blankenship

12:15 p.m.
Deacons' Meeting

3:00 p.m.
PW Gathering

Wednesday
12:30 p.m.
Prayer Group

1:30 p.m.
"Falling Upward"
by Richard Rohr
Book Study led by Pam Rhea

5:00 p.m.
Worship & Music Meeting

Thursday
5:30 p.m. Al-Anon

Next Sunday
20th Sunday after Pentecost
8:30 a.m.
Session Meeting

9:00 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal

9:45 a.m.
Sunday School

11:00 a.m.
Worship
David Mills

PCDP Fall Break
October 5th - 9th

Session

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

<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>	<u>Class of 2029</u>
Fran Brown-1	Hope DeVenney-4	
Marthalie Porter-1	Tom Hatcher-2	Ed Oakes- 3
Steve Porter-2	Anna Jones-4	Lezli Waits- 4
Susan Smith-2	Tom Richardson-3	Steve Wilkes -1

Numbers beside names indicate Shepherding Group.

Diaconate

<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>	<u>Class of 2029</u>
Lee Hackett-1	Roger Burlingame-2	Amanda Bowen- 2
Mary Nelson-1	Holly Longton-3	Robert Hill- 3
	Jennifer Mearkle-4	Taylor Richardson- 4

Numbers beside names indicate Shepherding Group.

Sunday, September 27, 2026 - Attendance: 50

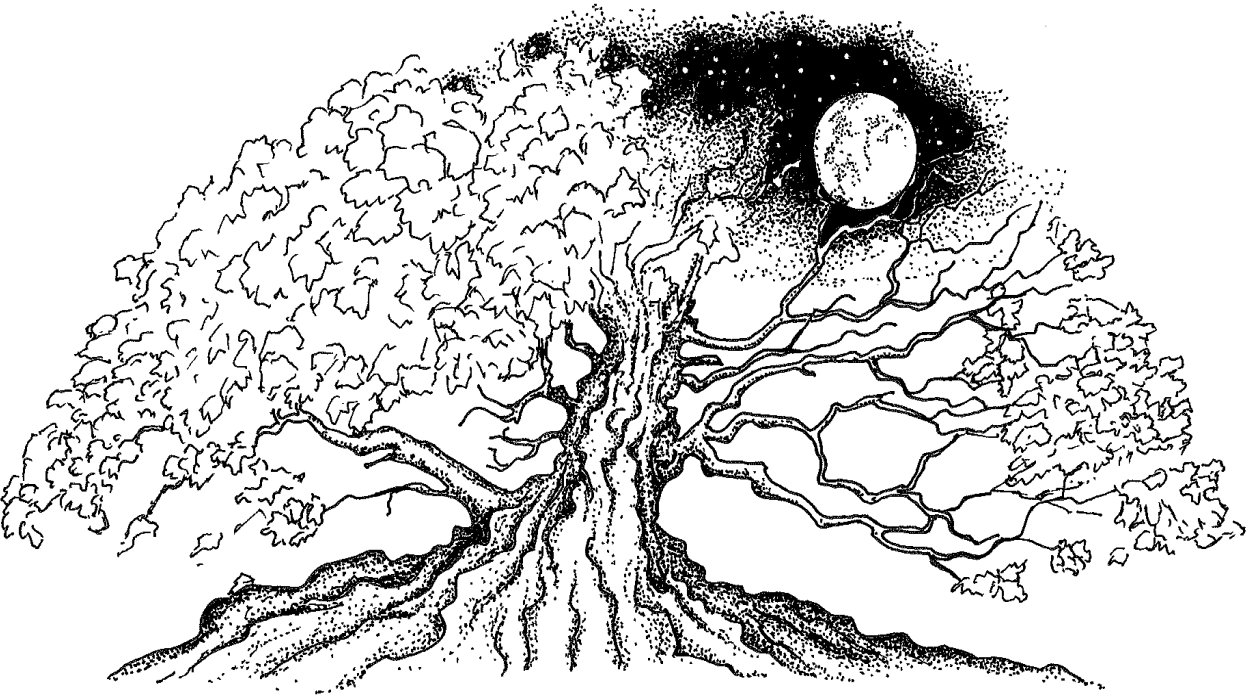
Helping Hands Immediate Needs:

Breakfast cereals, ramen noodles, and 1 lb. bags of rice.

First Presbyterian Church

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Church Administrator: Tracie Hanson (662) 328-5992
Email: firstprescolumbus@gmail.com
Director of Music: Alexander Nowell
Accompanist: Shirley Ellis
Tech Coordinator: Halli Powers
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 God Who Never Gives Up”
19th Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday
Reverend Buren Blankenship
October 4, 2026

