



The People of First Presbyterian Church

OUR GATHERING

Striking the Hour		
Prelude	“How Great Our Joy”	arr. Berry
Welcome and Announcements		
Responsive Litany		
During Advent, we wait for the one promised in scripture. And he will be called the Prince of Peace. We wait for the one who can turn discord into perfect harmony. And he will be called the Prince of Peace. We wait for the one who can replace hate with love, and anger with understanding. And he will be called the Prince of Peace. We wait for the one who can replace division with unity, and war with peace. And he will be called the Prince of Peace.		
The Lighting of the Advent Candles		
Today we light three candles. The first candle reminds us of our hope in knowing Jesus as our Wonderful Counselor. The second candle reminds of our joy in knowing a God who is powerful and almighty. We light the third candle to remind us that Jesus came to earth as the Prince of Peace. In a world filled with conflict and discord, we pray for harmony and unity as we work towards claiming the promise of peace on earth.		
<i>First Lesson: Jo Shumake</i> <i>God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head. Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19</i>		
<i>Second Lesson: Jo Shumake</i> <i>God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed. Genesis 22:15-18</i>		
+Congregational Hymn # 140	“Once in Royal David’s City” (Verses 1, 2, and 4)	Irby
<i>Third Lesson: Emma Richardson</i> <i>The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior. Isaiah 9:2-7</i>		
<i>Fourth Lesson: Emma Richardson</i> <i>The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown. Isaiah 11:1-9</i>		

+Congregational Hymn # 133 “O Come, All Ye Faithful” Adeste Fideles

Fifth Lesson: Laurie Hatcher
The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary. Luke 1:26-38

“Breath of Heaven” Anna Jones/Allison Jones Eaton-Grant
(Mary’s Song)

Sixth Lesson: Thomas Richardson
St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus. Luke 2:1-14

Seventh Lesson: Thomas Richardson
The shepherds go to the manger. Luke 2:15-20

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” Women’s Chorus arr. Rutter

Call for the Offering

Offertory “Jesus Christ the Apple Tree” arr. Schalk
The Choir

+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

Eighth Lesson: Tori Pumphrey
The wise men are led by the star to Jesus. Matthew 2:1-12

“The Christmas Gift” The Choir Choplin
Tom Hatcher, Soloist

Ninth Lesson: Tori Pumphrey
St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation. John 1:1-14

Choral Anthem “Jesus, the Light of the World” We’ll Walk in the Light

Closing Prayer

+Postlude “How Great Our Joy” arr. Berry

+ 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

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
3rd Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal
9:45 a.m.
Sunday School
11:00 a.m.
Lessons and Carols
Fellowship Lunch
following worship

Wednesday
12:30 p.m. Prayer Group
1:30 p.m.
Advent Book Study
Led by Pam Rhea
Committee Meeting Minutes
due to the church office.

Thursday
5:30 p.m. Al-Anon

Friday
11:00 a.m.
PCDP Christmas Program
“Santa’s Lost Elves”

Next Sunday
4th Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m.
Session Meeting
9:00 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal
9:45 a.m.
Sunday School
11:00 a.m.
Communion Worship
Rev. Buren Blankenship

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.

Last Sunday’s Attendance: 60

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.

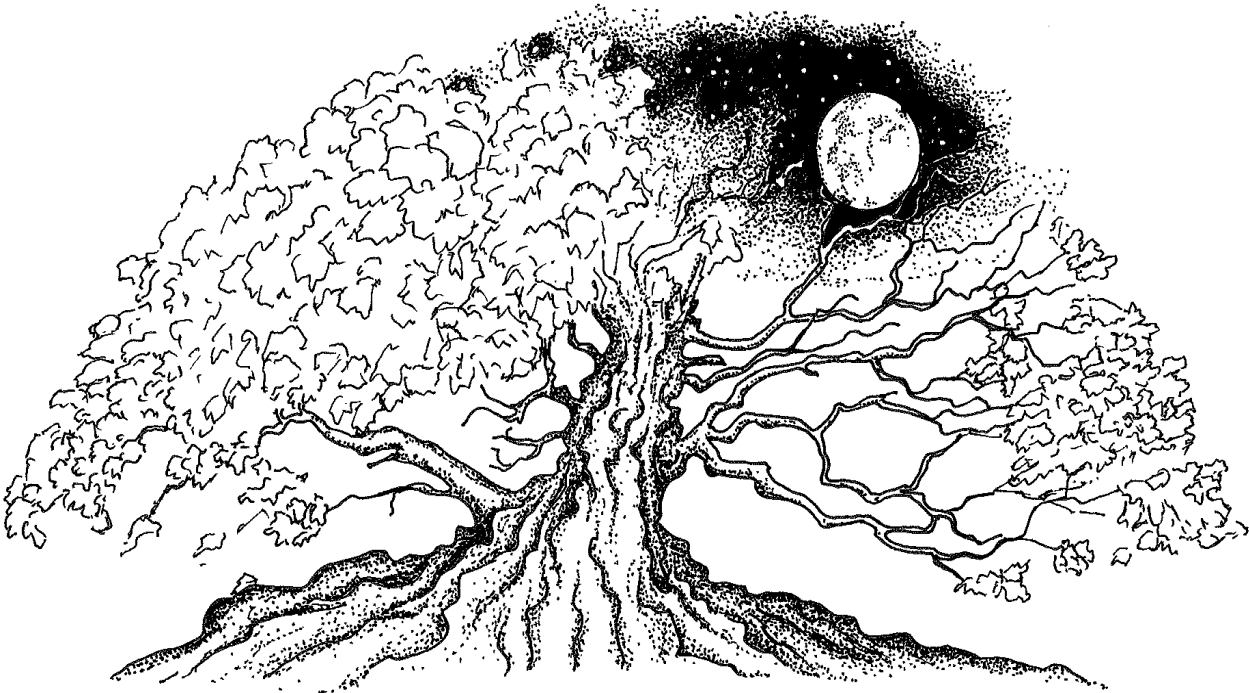
First Presbyterian Church

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

Lessons and Carols
December 14, 2025

