



The People of First Presbyterian Church

OUR GATHERING

The Chiming of the Hour
Prelude

“Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”

Waller
arr. Cindy Berry

Welcome and Announcements
Choral Call to Worship
Prayer of Praise and Adoration

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

Aberystwyth

Call to worship (from Psalm 121)

I lift up my eyes to the hills — from where will my help come?

My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

The LORD is our keeper; the LORD is your shade at our right hand.

The LORD will keep us from all evil; he will keep our life.

The LORD will keep our going out and our coming in from this time on and forevermore.

+Opening Hymn # 190

“Swiftly Pass the Clouds of Glory”

Geneva

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we have fallen short of the ways in which you call us to live.

We have loved what is evil and hated what is good. We allow ourselves to be distracted by things that harm us and do not bring you glory. Gracious God, hear our confession.

Forgive us for the ways that we separate ourselves from you. Restore to us the joy of forgiveness and may we live as forgiven people ready and eager to forgive others.

These things we ask in the name of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, Amen.

Moment for Silent Meditation.

Congregational Prayer Response: **My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine! Now hear me while I pray; take all my guilt away; O let me from this day be wholly thine!** (From Hymn # 829, Verse 1)

Assurance of Pardon

Anthem

“Hope of the World”

Davis

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

The Word of God

Numbers 21:4-9 (p. 134)
John 3:1-17 (p. 88)

Children’s Message

Melissa McDuffie

Sermon

“Eyes Up!”

Melissa McDuffie

+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 # 37

“Let All Things Now Living”

Ash Grove

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

“There’s a Land That Is Fairer Than Day”

Webster
arr. Birchwood

+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 # 50

“Deep in the Shadows of the Past”
(Verses 1 and 4)

Shepherds’ Pipes

+Closing Prayer

+Postlude

“How Firm a Foundation”

American Folk Melody

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

Please join in unison reading of the bold print.

Praise Reports

Mary Anne Hamblen,
Hillary Richardson’s Mother,
is recovering well from
her knee surgery.

Prayer Concerns

Jon Fortman

Health Concerns

Dorothy Fortman

Recovery from a 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

Toni Oakes

Prayer Requests

Hope Oakes

Health Concerns

Hilda Nance

Hillary Richardson’s Aunt

Recovery from stroke

Rev. Dr. Greg Goodwiller

Broken Ankle

Anita Marie Turner

(Friend of Eric Krieger)

Final Stages of Cancer

Harolyn Jones

Recovery from fall (broken knee)

Hines Bostwick

(Jennifer Mearkle’s Step-Father)

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
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 2nd Sunday in Lent

9:00 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal

9:45 a.m.
Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship
Melissa McDuffie

Wednesday

12:30 p.m. Prayer Group

Thursday

5:30 p.m. Al-Anon

Next Sunday

3rd Sunday in Lent

**Daylight Savings
Time Begins**

8:30 a.m.
Admin./Finance Meeting

9:00 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal

9:45 a.m.
Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship
David Mills

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.

Sunday, February 22, 2026 – Attendance: 54

Helping Hands Immediate Needs:

Canned spaghetti sauces and boxed cereals.

PCDP/HELPING HANDS BLANKET DRIVE UPDATE

Thank you to all who donated to the blanket drive.
A total of **113** blankets were collected and donated!

DEACONS/PCDP BLESSING BAGS UPDATE

Thank you to all who donated to the blessing bag drive.
A total of **75** blessing bags were assembled for distribution!

First Presbyterian Church

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Moderator, pro-tem: Dr. Tom Richardson (662) 574-9636

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Clerk of Session: Hope DeVenney (662) 549-5479

Email: Hope.DeVenney@outlook.com

Church Administrator: Tracie Hanson (662) 328-5992

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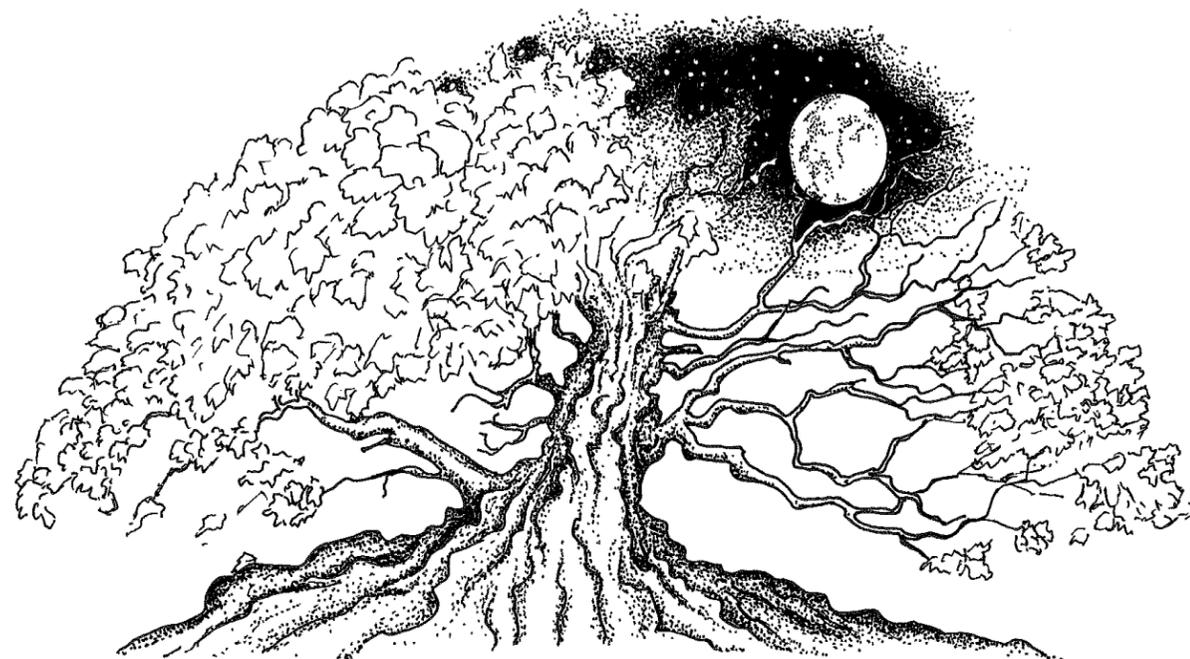
Director of Music: Alexander Nowell

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

“Eyes Up!”

2nd Sunday in Lent

Melissa McDuffie

March 1, 2026

