



The People of First Presbyterian Church

OUR GATHERING

The Chiming of the Hour

Prelude *"Veni Emmanuel"* Helmore

Welcome and Announcements

Choral Call to Worship *"People, Look East!"* BESANÇON

Prayer of Praise and Adoration

Call to Worship from Mark 1
Jesus says: I am coming soon.
Come, Lord Jesus!
A voice cries out in the wilderness:
Prepare the way of the Lord!
Let us worship God.

The Lighting of the Advent Candle
We are preparing ourselves for the days when the nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears in to pruning hooks;
Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.
The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
The calf and the lion and the fatling will lie down together, and a little child will lead them.
Let us walk in the light of the Lord. **Amen.**

+Opening Hymn # 83 *"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"* STUTTGART

Prayer of Confession
God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world. Amen. *Moment for Silent Meditation*

Choral Prayer Response: *"Forgive our sins, as we forgive," you taught us Lord,* Detroit
to pray, but you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.

Assurance of Pardon

Choral Anthem *"Come, Thou Redeemer of the Earth"* Praetorious arr. by David Willcocks

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

The Word of God

Hebrew Scriptures: Isaiah 40:1-11 (pg. 627)

Psalter: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 (pg. 514)

Congregational Response: *"Lord, Let us see your kindness."*

New Testament: 2 Peter 3:8-15a (pg. 224)

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8 (pg. 32)

Children's Message *Nursery Ages: Birth—5 years old*

Sermon "A Weird Way" Reverend B.J. Chain

+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 # 88 *"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" vs 1-3* VENI EMMANUEL

Prayer of the People

Call for the Offering

Offertory *"Soon He Will Appear"* Schumann

+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 # 96 *"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"* WINCHESTER NEW

+Charge and Blessing

+Postlude *Fantasy on "Personent Hodie"* Parker

+ 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

Today
2nd Sunday of Advent

8:30 a.m.

Admin. & Fin. Meeting

9:00 a.m.

Choir Rehearsal

9:45 a.m.

Sunday School

11:00 a.m.

Worship

3:00 p.m.

Presbyterian Women
Gathering

Monday

5:00 p.m. AA Group

Tuesday

6:30 p.m.

Deacon's Meeting

Tom & Emma Richardson's
Home

Wednesday

12:30 p.m.

Bible Study

Thursday

5:30 p.m. AA & Al-Anon

Next Sunday

3rd 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.

Joy Gift

Fellowship Lunch
Shepherding Group 1

Helping Hands Needs

New Blankets (All sizes)

Hygiene Items: toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, soap, shampoo, feminine products, laundry detergent, or cleaning supplies.

At this time no canned goods are needed due to a large donation given by Baptist Memorial Hospital.

**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.

Prayer Concerns

Sandra Mims
Health Concerns

Jon Fortman
Health Concerns

Toni Oakes
(Ed Oakes' Sister)
Health Concerns

Ginny Oakes
(Ed Oakes' Mother)
Health Concerns

Emmagene Crunk
Health Concerns

Bonnie Boyd
Health Concerns

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

Sherri Musgrove
(Friend of Anna Jones)
Breast Cancer

Mike Longton
Heart Issues

Phil Adcock
(Hope Oakes' Uncle)
Suffered a Stroke

Genie Hutchison
Continued Recovery

Sue Weiger
Recovery from fall

Kandi Aultman
Recovery from procedure

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

Prayer requests should be communicated through the Church Office.

Session

B.J. Chain, Moderator Cathy Young, Clerk

<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>
Fran Brown -1	Collene Albright-3	Maridith Geuder-1
Dennis Harmon -1	Hope Devenney-4	Tori Pumphrey-4
Susan Smith -2	Taylor Richardson-2	Lezli Waits-4
Cathy Young -4	Tom Richardson-3	Steve Wilkes-2

Numbers beside names indicate Shepherding Group

Diaconate

<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>
Angela Gardner -2	Dorothy Fortman-1	Hope Oakes-3
Marthalie Porter -1	Hillary Richardson-3	Eric Waits-4
Emma Richardson-3	Anna Jones -4	

Numbers beside names indicate Shepherding Group

FPC Fall 2023 Sunday School/Nursery Program

Nursery (Room 3-Education Building) : Birth to 5 years	9:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Sunday School (Room 2-Education Building) : Ages 5 - 7	9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School (Youth Room Upstairs-Education Building) : Ages 8 - 10	9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

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First Presbyterian Church

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

Pastor: B.J. Chain *Phone: (662) 816-2352 *Email: bjchainiv@gmail.com

Church Secretary: Tracie Hanson (662) 328-5992

Director of Music: Cody Parrott Accompanist: Lauren Barr

Director of Maintenance: Tracie Hanson Custodian: Rowland Jennings

PCDP Director: Lezli Waits

Connect with Us

Email- Firstprescolumbus@gmail.com

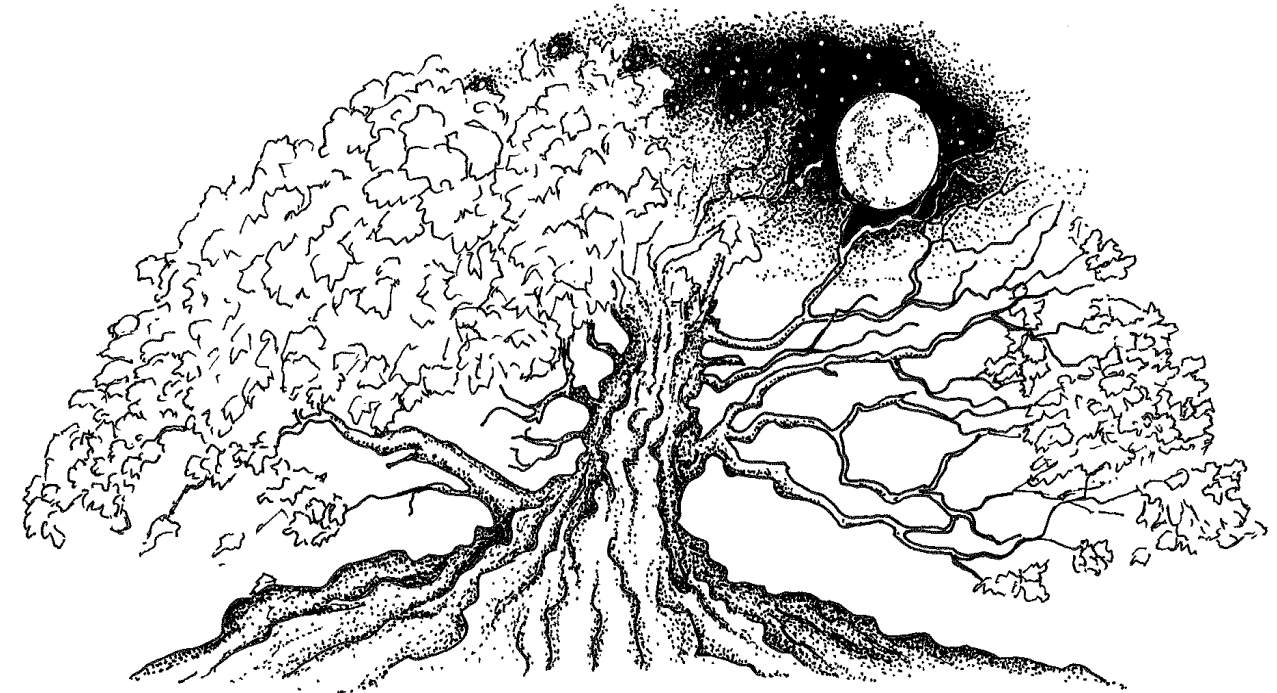
Website- Firstprescolumbus.org

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

“A Weird Way”

Reverend B.J. Chain

December 10, 2023

