



The People of First Presbyterian Church

OUR GATHERING		
The Chiming of the Hour Prelude	“Where He Leads Me”	Norris arr. Berry
Welcome and Announcements Choral Call to Worship Prayer of Praise and Adoration	“O God, in a Mysterious Way”	Dundee

Call to Worship
O taste and see that the Lord is good.
Happy are those who take refuge in the Lord.
O fear the Lord, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want.
God hears when the righteous cry for help. God rescues them from all their troubles.

+Opening Hymn # 265	“Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun” (Verses 1, 3, and 5)	Duke Street
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Prayer of Confession
God of all goodness, we do not want to face all that is in our own hearts. We want to focus on the good— on the love, the compassion, the care. We want to ignore the bad—the greed, the envy, the suspicion, the cruelty. But before you, God, we must face it. Forgive all the ways we have let evil take hold in our hearts. Cleanse us. Help us face our own demons, and empower us to live a Christlike life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Moment for Silent Meditation.*

Congregational Prayer Response: **“Hear, O Lord, my plea for justice; listen to my heartfelt prayer. In your just deliberation may I find redemption there.”**
(From Hymn # 211)

Assurance of Pardon		
Choral Anthem	“In Thee, Almighty King”	Forrest

+Passing of the Peace	THE WORD	
Prayer for Illumination		

The Word of God	Psalm 67 (p. 500) Matthew 15:(10-20) 21-28 (p. 16)
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Sermon	“Changing Minds and Hearts”	Reverend Buren Blankenship
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+Affirmation of Faith (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		
Prayers of the People Call for the Offering Offertory	“Prayer of Need”	Rodriguez

+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 # 250 Invitation to the Lord’s Table	“In the Bulb There Is a Flower”	Promise
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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 # 343	“Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life” (Verses 1 and 4)	Germany
+Charge and Blessing +Postlude	“Praise the Lord! God's Glories Show”	Williams

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

Praise Reports
Hilltop Praises!
Prayer Concerns
Jon & Dorothy Fortman
Health Concerns

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

Sherean Harrington
(Hope Oakes Stepmother)
Health Concerns

Noah Russell Nagy
Continued Prayers

Simon Storer
(Friend of Lee Hackett)
Cancer Diagnosis

Toni Oakes
Prayer Requests

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

Wayne Bruchey
Health Concerns

Rowland Jennings
Health Concerns

Boyd Hardy
(Friend of the Gaskin Family)
Cancer Diagnosis

Alice Harris
(Friend of the Gaskin Family)
Cancer Diagnosis

Gaines Gaskin
Recovery from broken shoulder

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

Friend of Marthalie Porter
Prayer Concerns

Ralph Null
Health Concerns

Cecil Vaughn
(Friend of the Gaskin Family)
Health Concerns

Peggy Barksdale
(Tracie Hanson’s Mom)
Continued Recovery

Donald Barksdale, Sr.
(Tracie Hanson’s Brother)
Health Concerns

Anna Jones
Kidney Stone

THE CHURCH AT WORK

**We welcome you to
First Presbyterian Church!**

A **Nursery** is available in the Education Building for the youngest worshipers (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
12th 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.
Communion Worship
Rev. Buren Blankenship

Congregational Meeting
following worship
(Election of Officers)

Monday
PCDP Parent Orientation

Tuesday
8:30 a.m. –11:30 a.m.
PCDP Boohoo Yahoo Breakfast

Wednesday
PCDP 1st Day of School
12:30 p.m. Prayer Group

Thursday
5:30 p.m. Al-Anon

**Next Sunday
13th Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal

9:45 a.m.
Sunday School

11:00 a.m.
Worship
Rev. Chip Hatcher

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-1	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-2		Jennifer Mearkle-2

Numbers beside names indicate Shepherding Group.

Sunday, August 9, 2026 – Attendance: 46

Helping Hands Immediate Needs:

Boxed cereals, canned Chef Boyardee, and all canned vegetables.

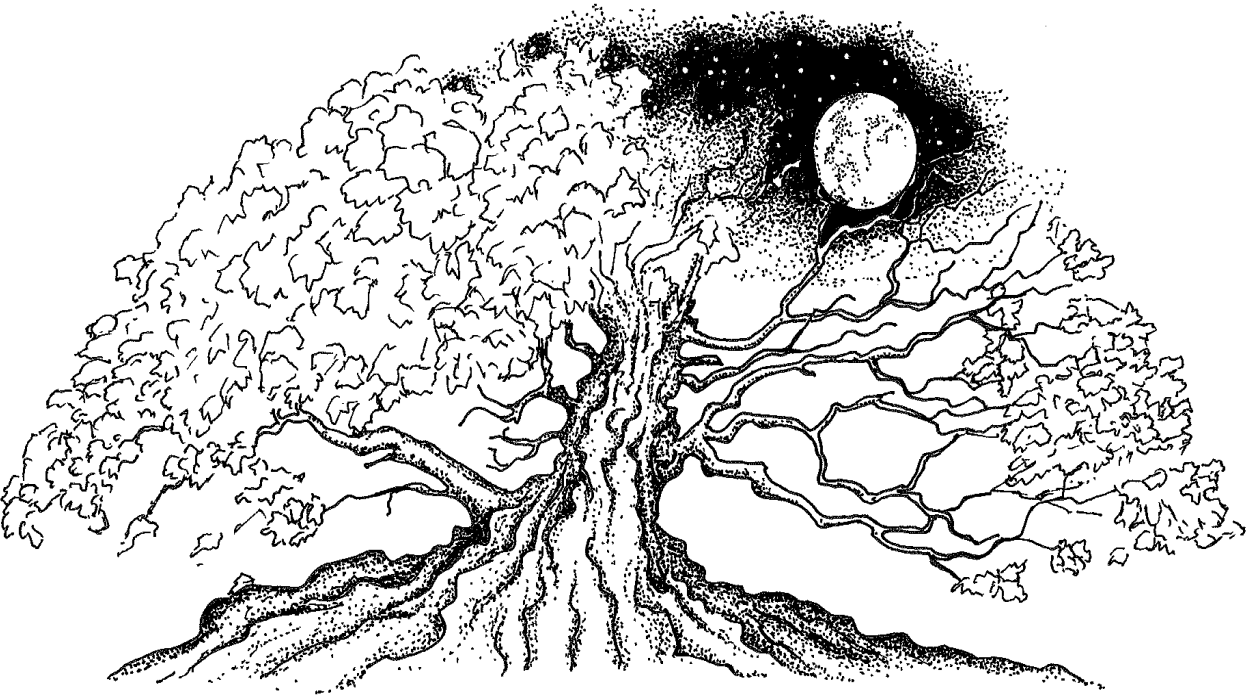
Helping Hands Fan Drive:

Helping Hands is accepting new fans through the summer months. If you would like to donate a fan, please drop it off in the Education Building. You may also make a monetary donation, please reference: Helping Hands Fan Drive and drop in the offering plate on Sunday.

First Presbyterian Church

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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

“Changing Minds and Hearts”
12th Sunday after Pentecost
Reverend Buren Blankenship
August 16, 2026

