



The People of First Presbyterian Church

OUR GATHERING

The Chiming of the Hour		
Prelude	“O Lord, What a Morning”	Berry
Welcome and Announcements		
Choral Call to Worship	“The Church of Christ in Every Age”	Wareham
Prayer of Praise and Adoration		

Call to Worship
In the best and worst of times, we hear the call of faith to join in worship.
From deep within, we sense a need to offer up praise, and also to offer up our burdens.
As we face life’s challenges, God desires to provide the best for all of earth’s children.
So let us join together in worship, where God’s provision satisfies the hungers of our hearts.

+Opening Hymn # 23 *God, You Spin the Whirling Planets*
 ¹God, you spin the whirling planets, fill the seas and spread the plain,
 mold the mountains, fashion blossoms, call forth sunshine, wind and rain.
 We, created in your image, would a true reflection be
 of your justice, grace and mercy and the truth that makes us free.
 ²You have called us to be faithful in our life and ministry.
 We respond in grateful worship, joined in one community.
 When we blur your gracious image, focus us, and make us whole.
 Healed and strengthened as your people, we move onward to your goal.

Prayer of Confession
Redeeming God, out of the flames of your creation, your Word calls, marking us as your own. Yet there are times when we choose to ignore your voice, and listen instead to our own needs and desires, and those who weaken our faith from within the world. Forgive us for those times when we have ignored the needs of others; when we have failed to place our feet upon your path; when we allow the earthly voice to distract us from your call. Loving Lord, in hearing your call and obeying your voice, help us to find our place within your creation. 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	
Anthem	“How Great Thou Art”

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination	
The Word of God	Exodus 3:1-15 (p. 48) Matthew 16:13-20 (p. 17)
Children’s Message	Reverend Chip Hatcher
Sermon	“A Bush Still Burns” Reverend Chip Hatcher

+Affirmation of Faith from A Declaration of Faith (1977), Chap. 3, Part 2
ONE: God delivered God’s chosen people.
ALL: When Abraham’s descendants were slaves in Egypt, God heard their cries and prayers. God remembered his covenant promise and sent Moses to free them from bondage. We declare God’s steadfast love and sovereign power. The Lord can be trusted to keep promises. The Lord still acts in the affairs of individuals and nations to set oppressed and persecuted people free... Since we, too, are the Lord’s covenant people in Christ, we know we must be holy as the Lord is holy. We must keep God’s commandments, not in order to earn or compel God’s favor, but to reflect the character of God and to live as God’s grateful and loving people.

+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 # 81 “Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken” Austrian Hymn

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 “Be Thou My Vision” Pethel

+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 # 722 *Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak*
 ¹“Lord, speak to me that I may speak in living echoes of your tone.
 As you have sought, so let me seek your erring children, lost and lone.
 ⁴O fill me with your fulness, Lord, until my very heart o’erflow
 In kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.
 ⁵O use me, Lord, use even me, just as you will, and when, and where
 Until your blessed face I see, your rest, your joy, your glory share.

+Blessing and Benediction
+Postlude “I Sing the Mighty Power of God” Watts

+ 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
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
13th 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
Reverend Chip Hatcher

Wednesday
12:30 p.m.
Prayer Group

Thursday
5:30 p.m. Al-Anon

Next Sunday
14th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal

9:45 a.m.
Sunday School

11:00 a.m.
Worship
2 Cents A Meal
Thomas Richardson

Following Worship...
Fellowship Meal
(Shepherding Group 2)
Rally Day/Cake Walk
(Christian Education)

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.

Helping Hands Immediate Needs:

Canned Chef Boyardee, canned vegetables, and boxed cereals.

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

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

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Church Administrator: Tracie Hanson (662) 328-5992

Email: firstprescolumbus@gmail.com

Director of Music: Alexander Nowell

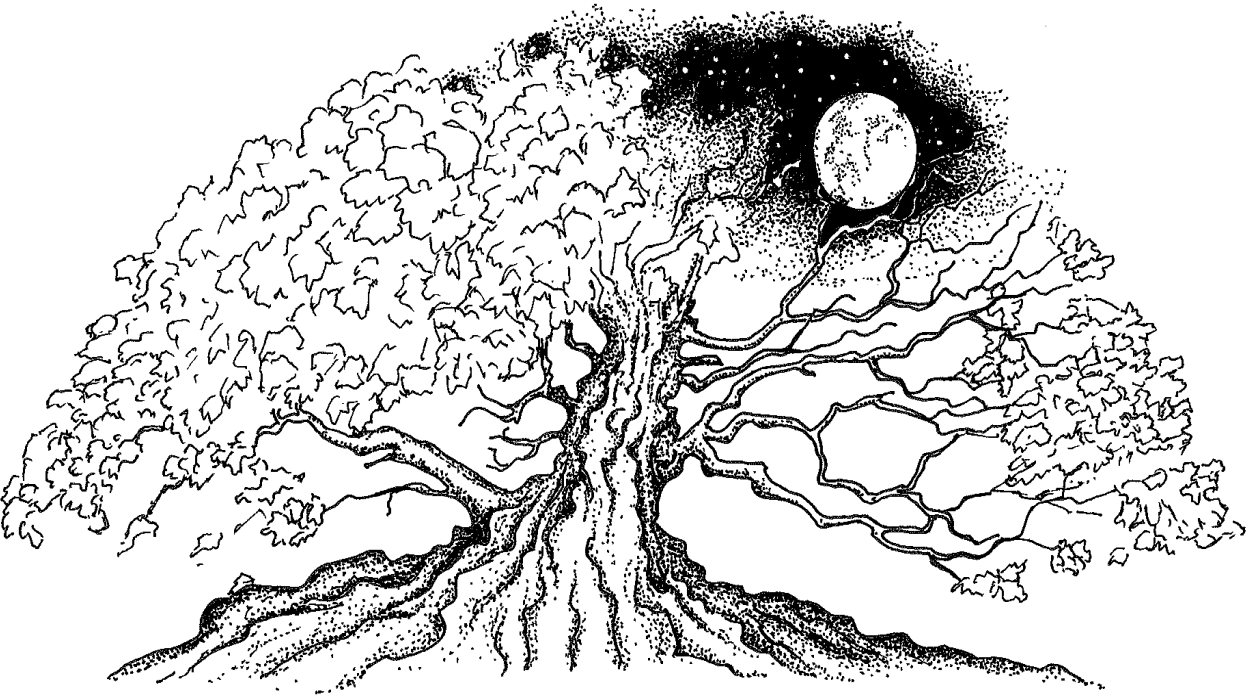
Accompanist: Shirley Ellis

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

“A Bush Still Burning”
13th Sunday after Pentecost
Reverend Chip Hatcher
August 23, 2026

