

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, STARKVILLE (EPC)
AUGUST 11, 2019

PRELUDE *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* Pachelbel
 Jennifer Blackburn

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Martin Lifer
 Invitation to Women's Ministry Retreat, August 23-24 Kristen Skinner

INTROIT (11:00 – Chancel Choir, J. Folsom Directing) *Enter Here to Praise the Lord*

CALL TO WORSHIP IN CHRIST'S NAME

***Responsive Reading** from **Matthew 6:31-33** Reid Roberson
 Minister: [Jesus said] **"Do not be anxious, saying, ALL: 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'"**
 Minister: **"For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your Heavenly Father knows that you need them all."**
ALL: "But seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you."

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION & PRAISE**

***HYMN 46** *This is My Father's World* TERRA PATRIS

PRAYER WITH YOUNG CHILDREN:
BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS Ashleigh Murdock and Pastor Martin Lifer

***AFFIRMING OUR FAITH** – from The (Westminster) Shorter Catechism, Q. 86 Martin Lifer
 Minister: What is faith in Jesus Christ?
ALL: Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace, by which we receive and rest on Him alone for salvation, as He is offered to us in the gospel.

***HYMN 670** *Glory Be to the Father*

ANTHEM (11:00 – Chancel Choir, J. Folsom, Dir.) *The Solid Rock*

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION, PETITION & INTERCESSION Joe Nasvytis

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison) 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.

GOOD NEWS OF GOD'S MERCY

***HYMN 668 - THE DOXOLOGY**

***OFFERING: GOD'S TITHE AND OUR FURTHER OFFERINGS**

OFFERTORY *He's Got the Whole World In His Hands* arr. Keveren
 Jennifer Blackburn

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Martin Lifer

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

Visiting with Us?

We warmly welcome you to our worship of God this Lord's Day. Please complete a FIRSTConnect Card and place it in the Offering ... or in a FIRSTConnect Box in the entranceways.



If you would like to learn more about growing in faith in Jesus Christ, about church membership and/or about ways you can learn and serve at FPC – then please speak to Pastor Lifer following the service, or call him this week at the church office. You may also send a message to him via email (mwlfifer3@gmail.com).

GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE **Isaiah 42:9-10 & 43:1-2,18-19; Revelation 1:17**
 (ESV Pew Bible pp.602-604;1028)

SUMMER SERMON SERIES *Be Free Indeed: Free in Deed!*

TODAY'S SERMON *Fear Not in God's New Day* Martin Lifer

INVITATION TO TRUST AND FOLLOW JESUS

CALLED, BLESSED AND SENT AS WITNESSES OF GOD'S WORD

***HYMN 83** *Be Thou My Vision* SLANE

***COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION** Martin Lifer

CHORAL RESPONSE *God Be With You 'Til We Meet Again*

***POSTLUDE** *Trumpet Jubilee* Harris
 Jennifer Blackburn

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

Having trouble hearing the service? We have portable units that are connected directly to our sound system for optimum audio. Please see an usher about these devices!

Deacon of the Month: Jeremy Murdock
Today's Ushers: (8:30) – Bill Crumpton (11:00) – Billy Harrington, Loren Zimmerman
Today's Greeters: (8:30) – Janice Kinard (11:00) – Brenda Harrington, Janice Kinard

Members of our FPC congregation have given today's **Sanctuary Flowers** to the Glory of God and to enhance our worship of God this Lord's Day.

Women's Retreat

Friday Evening & Saturday, August 23-24

Women – Members, Visitors and Friends:

Our First Presbyterian Church (EPC) invites you a fun and spiritually renewing weekend of good food, fellowship, and a special speaker.



Our inspiring speaker for the retreat will be **Rachel Reynolds**.

Rachel and her husband, Rev. Steve Reynolds, are the founding ministry team for RENEW, an Associate Reformed Presbyterian New Church Development in Fort Myers, Florida. Rachel is the **Worship Leader** of RENEW. She also has years of experience as a superb **Children's Ministry Director** and **Women's Ministry Director** at First Presbyterian Church, Corinth.

Join us Friday night at Harvey's for dinner, fellowship, and an overview of Saturday's events in the Fellowship Hall, where our speaker, Rachel Reynolds, draws from John 15:4, "Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me."

In addition to being the wonderful mother of our own Kristen Skinner (and grandmother of Jon Kyle and James Breter Skinner!), she is a longtime, beloved friend of Pastor and Nancy Lifer – going back to their seminary years.

Questions about the Women's Retreat? Speak to Kristen or to Ashleigh Murdock today, or contact Ashleigh this week.

Follow Up in FPC's Mentoring Ministry Opportunities:

Grow in Your Faith and Service to God.

Jesus through the Great Commission commands the church and every believer to be active in **making disciples** in the ongoing process of growth and service. Further – as God's Word has reminded us through our current series, **Be Free in DEED** – Jesus sets us free to know the joy of (a) being mentored through stages of our own growth, and (b) serving to mentor other disciples, as they grow in faith.

If you are interested in being faithful to Jesus through (a) being mentored and/or (b) mentoring others who might be blessed by you, then please speak with or contact Dr. Lifer, Rev. Nasvytis, Ben Jackson, Kirk Kinard, Reid Roberson, or Ashleigh Murdock.

Among your opportunities to Mentor: We are seeking several volunteers to be mentor MSU students who are becoming involved in our CCO/FPC University Ministry; some of the students are already Christians, while some are not yet believers but are open to Christian faith. If you are willing to serve as a mentor to students, please contact Ben Jackson.

TODAY'S KEY SERMON & SCRIPTURE NOTES

Welcome to a New Season!

We are tempted to F_____ new things and new seasons we didn't want or expect, ... and then tempted to react with one of three fearful, animal responses:

F_____, F_____ or F_____

Christians & churches can easily fall into fear & fearful, animal responses, and self-destruct spiritually.

The Bible says *"fear" only God*, and that "fear of God" means an empowering reverence, not a negative phobia. Jesus taught that fearing God means being set free from fear of men. Luke 12:4-6

The Lord's & his angel's **most common 1st command** to people in a direct encounter? **Fear _____!**

LORD's 1st command when He came to Abram, justified him by faith, and cut covenant with him? Gen. 15:1

The 1st command on the 1st page of the New Testament? (*from the angel to Joseph*) – Matthew 1:20

Jesus' 1st combined command to the disciples in the storm when they saw Him walking on water? Matt. 14:27

The Risen Jesus' 1st group command to his disciples? Matt. 28:10

Jesus' 1st command to John in the heavenly encounter opening Revelation? (Revelation 1:17)

This command is **an essential starter, because FEAR is the enemy of _____ and _____.**

The Book of Isaiah is sometimes called "The Fifth Gospel" (especially "2d Isaiah", Chapters 40-66).

God's Word in Isaiah teaches us how to trust & follow God into a new season faithfully:

(1) **"Fear not, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you...."** Is. 43:1-2

(2) **"Remember not the former things."**

(3) **Look for the new thing God is doing, and sing a new song of praise.**

- **"Behold, I am doing a new thing. Now it springs up before you; do you not perceive it?"** Is. 43:19
 Look for the new things God is doing in my life and world:

- **Sing to the LORD a new song. Is. 42:10**
 Sing a new song of praise to God for his new things.

Fear is the enemy of Faith and Love, but **Good News: Faith and Love defeat Fear.**

1 John 4:18 – **There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear.**
 For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.

1 John 4:8a – God is love.

Prayer: O God, You ARE perfect love, and You love me perfectly in Jesus. Please cast out my fear and fill me with love and faith, through your Spirit. Inspire me to rejoice in the new things You are doing in my life and in the world.

What may the Lord Jesus 1st say to you, when you see Him face to face?

Week of August 11, 2019

SUNDAY:	8:30 a.m.	Worship Service
	9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship Gathering (Fellowship Hall)
	11:00 a.m.	Worship Service
MONDAY:	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts (Boy Scouts Building)
	8:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous, also on T, W, & F (120 Jackson St.)
TUESDAY:	7:00 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Parlor)
	5:30 p.m.	Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
	6:00 p.m.	Casserole Kitchen (Fellowship Hall)
THURSDAY:	6:00 p.m.	Casserole Kitchen (Fellowship Hall)
SATURDAY:	6:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous (120 Jackson St.)

CASSEROLE KITCHEN MISSION MEAL HOSTS AT FPC THIS WEEK
 August 13 – Loren Zimmerman August 15 – Bob Boyd

Prayer List

Emily and James Wellington Beaty
 Emily, Lane, and Harrison Simmons
 Charles and Roxene Atkinson
 Joe and Carol Mobley
 Marjorie Malone
 Cynthia Ware, together with her parents, Donna and Herman Ware
 Sean and Morgan Clark Schnurr & Family
 Charlie Guest
 Bruce Leopold; Danielle Gregory (friend of Bruce Leopold)
 Paula Elliott
 Sylvia Love
 Ross Collins
 Billy and Brenda Harrington
 Janet, Gary, and Jay Bardwell
 Scott Guest (Charlie and Rubye's son)
 Teresa Miller (Amy Harrison's mom)
 Emily Chancellor (Natalie Morgan's Niece)
 Carl Ivey, Sr. (Dukedom, Kentucky); Michael Belcher (Friend of the Iveys)
 Bob and Dot Forbus, and Raleigh Wood (brother, sister-in-law, and friend of Jack Forbus)
 Thomas Guest (grandson of Charlie & Rubye Guest).
 Gerlene Lifer
 Leslie Drane, Frances Ellis (Ellen Mauldin's brother and sister)
 Bobby Fleming (brother of Gloria Cade)
 Diane Daniels, her sister, Delores Irvin, Sarah Helen McCloskey and Craig D. Campbell (family friends of Bob & Diane Daniels)
 John Gassaway and Michael Tubb (Anna Ray Gassaway's brother-in-law and nephew)
 David Henderson, Cheryl Kay Linder (Beth Ann Dunlap's stepbrother & sister)
 Frances Knoll Waltman and Cissy Knoll Thomas (Libby Gill's sister and mother)
 Dylan Walker (Jean Alice McDavid's great-nephew)

Additional Prayer List for Health Care / Assisted Living

Bessie Montgomery – Montgomery Gardens
 Cattie Taylor – Beehive, Starkville
 Jane Lusk – The Claiborne
 Jetta Kuykendall – The Grove, Columbia
 Frances Oakley – Sunnybrook Estates, Madison
 Marie Tramel – Plain View, Richland
 Maxine Eastland – Franklin, TN
 Elizabeth Duffey – Presbyterian Village, GA
 Jewel Jacobs (Cindy Walker's mother) – Montgomery Garden
 Lu Graham (Jane Zitta's sister) – The Hermitage, Richmond, Virginia
 Mary Jo Wallace – The Blake at Flowood
 Carolyn Wofford—Heritage At Irene Wood, Memphis, Tennessee

Back-to-School Fellowship for VIP's (Senior Adults) and Children on Wednesday Evening, August 28 (5:30-7:00 p.m.)



Game Night for ALL children and youth of the church and the VIP's
Wednesday Night, August 28th, 5:30-7 p.m. in FPC's Fellowship Hall.
 We will have pizza and games, a fun time for inter-generational fellowship!!
 Please call Amy Aarhus if you have questions.

FPC Officers

Dr. Martin Lifer, Moderator / Will Martin, Clerk of Session
 Elders Emeriti: James (Jim) Long and Dero Ramsey

Elders Serving on Our Session

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
Dolph Bryan	Carl Ivey	Wallace Cade
Harold Clark	Jim Beaty	Jack Forbus
Cecelia Cook	Peggy Johnson	Will Martin
Bob Daniels	Jeff Foster	Cal Rackley
Orly Hardin		
Edward Kemp		

Deacons Serving on Our Diaconate

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
Peggy Branch	Johnny Fair	Glenda Clark
Vivian Cade	Tabor Mullen	Jack Cook
Joel Downey	Jeremy Murdock	Peyton Fandel
Jason Ryder	Kristen Skinner	Robby Holditch

FPC Starkville (EPC) Women's Ministry

Janice Kinard, Moderator

Women's Retreat

Friday Evening & Saturday, August 23-24

Our inspiring speaker for the retreat will be **Rachel Reynolds**.
 (See details inside bulletin.)

Fall Thursday Afternoon Women's Bible Study -

One in a Million: Journey to Your Promised Land by Priscilla Shirer

Priscilla's words summarize the focus of the study : "... Promised land living does not mean a life with no problems. It means experiencing God's power and presence in spite of difficulty."

This seven-session study will begin on August 29,
meeting each Thursday 1:00-2:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
To register and order a workbook (\$15), please contact Peggy Johnson.

FPC Starkville (EPC) Men's Ministry

Will Rackley, *President*, Charlie Weatherly, *Treasurer*

Have you discovered all the wonderful content on RightNow Media?

It's like the "Netflix of Video Bible Studies" for adults and children, with a HUGE library of faith-based videos you can access whenever and wherever you want—on your phone, iPad, computer, or at home on your TV.

We recently re-sent invitations to our church family and friends giving you free access to RightNow Media. Please call the church office 662-323-1994 if you did not receive an invitation and we can get you started right away! Once you find the email, simply click the link, sign up for an account, and you're all set to explore more than 20,000 videos.

We pray that RightNow Media will be a blessing for you and your family!

University/CCO Meals – Help Needed!!

Part of the regular rhythm of CCO/FPC is Monday Night Hospitality. It was the most well attended regular event we did last year and many students look forward to each Monday as a time to get off campus and fellowship with each other. If you would like to help this school year, please let Allison Jackson know. Allison sends out a SignUp Genius for each week via email and would love to add you to the list.



Starkville's Church
That Preaches the *Doctrines of Grace*
and
That is Part of the EPC –
A Global Movement of Evangelical Christians.



"So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." John 8:36

AUGUST 11, 2019

Worship Service | 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School | 9:45 – 10:20 a.m.

Morning Fellowship Gathering (Fellowship Hall) | 10:30 a.m.

Worship Service | 11:00 a.m.

Visit Our Website for Sermon Podcasts & Ministry News

www.fpcstarkville.org

Church Office

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Office Hours

Mon. - Friday: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. & 1:00-4:30 p.m.