

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, STARKVILLE**

**ASCENSION SUNDAY**  
**MAY 13, 2018**

**PRELUDE** *Trumpet Voluntary on Rejoice, the Lord is King* arr. Barr  
Jennifer Blackburn

**WELCOME**

**INTROIT** (11:00 – Chancel Choir)

**CALL TO WORSHIP** from Luke 24:51-52; Psalm 110:1

Pastor: While He blessed them, He parted from them, and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy.

The LORD said to my Lord:

ALL; "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."

**INVOCATION AND PRAYER OF PRAISE**

**\*HYMN 304** *Crown Him with Many Crowns* DIADEMATA

**GOOD NEWS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN** Ashleigh Murdock (11:00)

**\*AFFIRMING OUR FAITH** from the (Westminster) Larger Catechism, Q. 54

Pastor: How is Christ exalted by sitting at the right hand of God?

**ALL: Sitting at the right hand of God exalts Christ as the God-man; He is advanced to the highest favor with God the Father with all the joy, glory, and power of this position over all things in heaven and earth. There, Christ gathers and defends his church, subdues her enemies, provides his ministers and people with gifts and graces, and intercedes for them.**

**\*RESPONSIVE HYMN 670 - THE GLORIA PATRI**

**ANTHEM** (11:00 -Chancel Choir) *To God Be the Glory*

**PRAYERS OF CONFESSION, PETITION AND INTERCESSION**

**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.

**SILENT PRAYERS**

**GOOD NEWS OF GOD'S GRACE**

**\*RESPONSIVE HYMN 668** *THE DOXOLOGY*

**\*GIVING TO GOD: HIS TITHE AND OUR FURTHER OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY** *Awesome God* arr. Wolaver  
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 using one of these devices during the service.

**Deacon of the Month:** Vivian Cade

**Today's Ushers:** 8:30 –Bob Boyd; 11:00 – Sonny Stuart, Peyton Fandel

**Today's Greeters:** 8:30 – Priscilla Boyd; 11:00 – Patsy Stuart, Catherine Fandel

**The Sanctuary Flowers** are given to the Glory of God by Jeff Foster in honor of his wife and all the mothers in our church. **Happy Mothers' Day!**

**GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED**

**SERMON SERIES** *FPC Starkville – A Heart for God!*

**SCRIPTURE** 1 Samuel 1:27-28; Romans 8:31-36  
(ESV Pew Bible p. 225, 944)

**SERMON** *Heart All-In* Martin Lifer

**FOLLOWING GOD'S WORD IN FAITH AND WITNESS**

**INVITATION TO FAITH AND PRAYERS OF TRUST IN GOD'S GRACE**

**\*HYMN 458** *Near to the Heart of God* MCAFEE

**\*BENEDICTION** Martin Lifer

**CHORAL RESPONSE** (11:00 – Chancel Choir) *Amen* Traditional

**POSTLUDE** *Fantasia on "Morning Song"* Smith  
Jennifer Blackburn

*\*The congregation is invited to stand.*

**A Rose for Each Woman Today:** Mrs. Gerlene Lifer, Pastor Martin Lifer's mother, has again provided roses so that each woman in worship on this special Sunday may receive a rose – in thanksgiving to God for each woman in our church family.

**Visiting with Us?**

We warmly welcome you to our worship of God. We hope you can be back in worship with us on upcoming Sundays and also connect with other study and fellowship opportunities at FPC. To learn more about faith in Jesus Christ, church membership, and/or opportunities to learn and serve at FPC, please speak to Pastor Lifer following the service,... or you may call the church office or send a note to him via email (mwlifer3@gmail.com).

**FIRSTConnect Cards!**

**Visitors - including MSU and other students - and FPC Members: If you need to update your information or let us know of Prayer Requests:**

**Please complete a FIRSTConnect Card and place it in the Offering or in one of our FIRSTConnect Boxes inside the entranceways.**

**Join Us Today During Fellowship Gathering Time (10:30 – 10:50 a.m.) *Outside* on Our East Courtyard & Porticos *For Our***



**Ascension Sunday/ Mothers' Day Brunch**

*and*  
**Our Annual *Ascension Sunday Balloon Release***  
Celebration with Our Children

**Pianists or Other Instrumental Musicians: Use Your Gift to Play Christian Music Prior to the 11:00 a.m. Service on a Sunday this Summer.** We have several openings on summer Sundays for playing the pre-service music at the Sanctuary Piano (or on your instrument of choice which you could bring), 10:45-55 a.m. If you would like to serve the Lord and use your gift in helping with our preparation for worship, please speak with Jennifer Blackburn today, or contact her via email – jenniferblackbourn@hotmail.com.

**Sermon – Scripture Highlights and Notes:**

"For this boy I prayed, and the LORD has granted me my petition that I made to Him. So I have also dedicated him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he is dedicated to the LORD." And he [the boy/Samuel] worshiped the LORD there. 1 Samuel 1:27-28

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Romans 8:31b-32

Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? ... No one! Christ Jesus is He Who died – Who, more than that, was raised – and Who is at the right hand of God, Who indeed is interceding for us. Romans 8:33a & 8:34b



**VBS 2018 Sign-Up is Open**

For children Ages 4 years-old thru Rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders

**SHIPWRECKED! RESCUED BY JESUS**

**June 11-14, 2018; 8:30-11:30 a.m.**  
**at First Presbyterian Church**

VBS Kickoff and Summer Fellowship: June 10, 4:30 p.m. at Robinson Lake

Check us out at [fpcstarkville.org](http://fpcstarkville.org) or go to this web site for registration:  
[www.vbspro.events/p/fpc2018vbs](http://www.vbspro.events/p/fpc2018vbs)

**Kick-off Meeting – Fellowship Group for Members Age 60 and up**

Please join us on Thursday, May 24, 11:30 am, in the Fellowship Hall, for a Kick-off meeting for a new fellowship group for members age 60 and up. We will have have lunch, fellowship, hear your ideas on activities for the future, and come up with a new name for our group! Put on your thinking caps, and come ready to brainstorm!

**Bank Draft Your Monthly or Semi-Monthly Offering**

Do you sometimes forget to write your offering check or forget to bring it to church with you on Sunday? Did you know that you can have your offering drafted directly from your account on a monthly or semi-monthly basis? Contact Rita Usher in the church office 662-323-1994, [info@fpcstarkville.org](mailto:info@fpcstarkville.org), if you are interested in creating an automatic draft for your regular offering.

