

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, STARKVILLE (EPC)
JANUARY 27, 2019

PRELUDE *Bell Prelude* Megargel
 Jennifer Blackburn, organ

WELCOME Martin Lifer

***INTROIT** (11:00 – Chancel Choir, Jim Beaty Directing) *O Worship the Lord*

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Martin Lifer
***INVOCATION**

***HYMN 506** *In Christ Alone (My Hope Is Found)* IN CHRIST ALONE

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11:00 a.m. Service)
William Bounds Rackley, son of Will and Caitlin Rackley

WILL AND CAITLIN'S PROFESSIONS OF FAITH & COVENANT VOWS

***CONGREGATION'S COVENANTAL VOWS** Elder Sponsor – Perry Rackley

***THE APOSTLES' CREED** (*Unison*) Ben Jackson
 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 quick 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.

***BAPTISMAL AFFIRMATION** *adapted from the Liturgy of the French Reformed Church* Ben Jackson
 Bounds – For you, Jesus Christ came into the world; for you, He went through the agony of Gethsemane and the darkness of Calvary; for you, He triumphed over death; for you, little child, even though you did not know it. But this is what we believe: "We love God, because He *first* loved us." So welcome to the family of faith!

BAPTISM AND BLESSING

***CONGREGATIONAL SONG** "*Child of Promise*"
 Child of promise, God claims you. God helps you, protects you and loves you too. We are here to say this day that we will help you on your way. Child of promise, God claims you. God helps you, protects you and loves you too.

PRAYER WITH YOUNG CHILDREN Martin Lifer (8:30); Ashleigh Murdock (11:00)

***ANTHEM** (11:00 – Chancel Choir) *Day by Day*

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION & PETITION

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 GRACE

*** RESPONSIVE HYMN 668 - THE DOXOLOGY**

***OFFERING – GIVING GOD'S TITHE AND OUR FURTHER OFFERINGS**

***PRAYER OF THANKS AND DEDICATION**

OFFERTORY *Lord, Be Glorified* arr. Hayes
 Jennifer Blackburn, piano

**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 one of these devices today!

Deacon of the Month: Johnny Fair

Today's Ushers: (8:30) – Bob Boyd; (11:00) – Wallace Cade, Loren Zimmerman

Today's Greeters: (8:30) – Priscilla Boyd; (11:00) – Gloria Cade, Janice Kinard

GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE Acts 2:39 & Acts 16:29-33; 1 Corinthians 7:14; Joshua 24:15b
 (ESV Pew Bible pp. 911, 925, 955, 198)

SERMON *The Promise Is for You and Your Children* Martin Lifer

INVITATION TO FAITH AND TO SPIRITUAL GROWTH IN CHRIST

****HYMN 339** *Standing on the Promises* PROMISES

***BENEDICTION**

CHORAL RESPONSE *Hallelujah, Amen*

POSTLUDE *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* arr. Alex-Zsolt
 Jennifer Blackburn, piano

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

+We invite you to place in one of the baskets at the front of the Chancel – *during the closing hymn or following the service* – your **FPC Benevolence Missions Support Special Offering** for this month. This offering is used to **supplement FPC's local benevolence mission support and mission ministries.**

The Sanctuary Flowers are given to the **Glory of God** by **Bill and Susan Gamel** in memory of **James McKenzie.**

Please join us in continuing to extend our condolences to – and to pray for God's comfort for – Amy, Craig, Jack and Molly Kate Aarhus, following the death last Tuesday of Amy's beloved (paternal) grandfather, John Lewis Folsom, Sr. The funeral service will be this afternoon, beginning at 2 p.m. at First Baptist, Flomaton, AL.

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.

To learn more about faith in Jesus Christ, as well as about church membership, your spiritual growth, and ways to learn & serve at FPC – 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 (mwlifer3@gmail.com).

We also **hope you will plan to be guests of Pastor and Nancy Lifer**, with other FPC members and visitors, **for our**

FIRST CONNECT Lunch & Learn Fellowship
NEXT Sunday, February 3, 2019, 12:10-1:15, p.m.



This is an excellent opportunity for all currently visiting FPC to learn more about becoming part of our church family and ministries. *We can provide childcare and lunch for younger children whose parents attending. Please simply let Pastor Lifer, Nancy, or the Church Office know the ages and needs of any young children joining us for FIRSTConnect.*

Help Needed for Sunday Worship Services!

Please Volunteer to Be an Usher or Greeter on One or More Sundays.

Please access our "Signup Genius" webpage to sign up,
 or call Rita at the church office 662-323-1994.

Sign up for the 8:30 a.m. Service: <https://tinyurl.com/FPC-830am-U-G-Jan-Jun-2019>
 Sign up for the 11:00 a.m. Service: <https://tinyurl.com/FPC-11am-U-G-Jan-Jun-2019>

TODAY'S KEY SERMON & SCRIPTURE NOTES

In the Bible:

- **God Makes Covenants ... with accompanying Covenant Promises.**

=> Covenant of Grace in the *OLD* Testament as well as in New Testament

- **God Gives Outward Signs and Seals of His Covenants and Promises.**

- **Circumcision = *Outward Sign* of OT Covenant Promises for Abraham, Isaac, Israel, and Jesus.**

- The Outward Sign (Circumcision) is **an assurance of the promise** but it **does NOT convey right relation** (*righteousness*)/justification/salvation!

Spiritual Conversion Under OT Covenant: "Circumcision of the Heart." (Deut. 10:16; 30:6)
Deut. 30:6 - The LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your seed, so that you will love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.

Promise of the New Covenant (Jeremiah 4:4, 24:7; cf. Rom. 2:9) "***Circumcised Heart***"/ "***New Heart***"

- Still, parents were *NOT* to withhold the outward sign of promise from their household (sons).

- Water Baptism in God's Triune Name = ***Outward Sign* of NT Covenant Promises**

The Outward Sign (Baptism) is **an assurance of the promise** but it **does NOT convey right relation** (*righteousness*)/justification/salvation!

"The Promise Is for You and Your Children"

(1) The New Covenant Promises are for Believers AND Their Children. Acts 2:39

(2) New Covenant Promises & Baptism Are Equally for Gentile Believers AND Their Households.
 Acts 16:29-33

(3) The Lord blesses children of believers, who are NOT "little strangers" in God's House.

But when Jesus saw it, He was indignant and said to them, "***Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God.***" ... And He took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them. Mark 10:14 & 10:16

(4) Believing parents follow the Lord and His Covenant of Grace by Sharing its Promises and Sign (Baptism) with their children.

- The Early Church Following the NT => Baptism

- **Joshua 24:15b** "*As for me and my household....*"

Week of January 27, 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 (Ed. Bldg)
TUESDAY:	7:00 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Parlor)
	5:15 p.m.	Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
	6:00 p.m.	Casserole Kitchen (Fellowship Hall)
WEDNESDAY:	5:15 p.m.	Dinner and visiting in the Fellowship Hall
	5:50 p.m.	Nursery, Children and Youth programs begin
	6:00 p.m.	Men's and Women's Bible studies
	6:00 p.m.	HeBrews in Fellowship Hall-coffee, dessert, visiting
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Practice
THURSDAY:	1:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
	6:00 p.m.	Casserole Kitchen (Fellowship Hall)
SATURDAY:	12:00 pm	Casserole Kitchen (Episcopal Church)
	6:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous (Christian Education Bldg.)

CASSEROLE KITCHEN MISSION MEAL HOSTS AT FPC THIS WEEK

January 29 – Rex Buffington

January 31 – Loren Zimmerman

TEJERAS MEAL SPONSORS (Mission meal for children in Tejeras, Honduras)

January 30, February 1 – By members of the congregation for the Glory of God and in honor of the Casserole Kitchen ministry.

Prayer List

Sylvia Love
Scottie Knight
Chares Atkinson
Allison Jackson
Marjorie Malone
Paula Elliott
Paula and Carl Ivey
Ross Collins
Billy and Brenda Harrington
Janet, Gary, and Jay Bardwell
Gerlene Lifer
Ashleigh Murdock and Hawkins Murdock
Beverly Smitherman (Ellen Mauldin's cousin)
Bob and Dot Forbus (brother and sister-in-law of Jack Forbus)
Bobby Fleming (brother of Gloria Cade)
Cindy Stewart (friend of Jane Vemer)
Thomas Guest (grandson of Charlie & Rubye Guest).
Frances Knoll Waltman and Cissy Knoll Thomas (Libby Gill's sister and mother)
Cynthia Ware, together with her parents, Donna and Herman Ware
Michael Tubb – Anna Ray Gassaway's nephew
Dan Ryder (Jason Ryder's father)
David Skinner (Kyle Skinner's father)
Frances Ellis and Brett Horton (Ellen Mauldin's sister and her brother Leslie's grandson)
Diane Daniels, her sister, Delores Irvin, and Sarah Helen McCloskey and Craig D. Campbell (family friends of Bob & Diane Daniels)
Marie Tubb and John Gassaway (Anna Ray Gassaway's sister-in-law & brother-in-law)
Brenda Pratt, Cheryl Kay Linder (Beth Ann Dunlap's stepmother & sister)
Carl Ivey, Sr. (Dukedom, Kentucky); Anderson Ivey (Carl and Paula Ivey's grandson in Birmingham); and Traci Hardin (wife of a manager of the Iveys' Village Center Cycle)
David Sanders (Friend of Loren Zimmerman)

Additional Prayer List for Health Care / Assisted Living

Bessie Montgomery – Montgomery Gardens
Louise Haddigan – The Claiborne
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

FPC Officers

The Session and Diaconate meet monthly.
Dr. Martin Lifer, Moderator / Bob Daniels, Clerk of Session
Elders Emeriti: James (Jim) Long and Dero Ramsey

Elders Serving on Our Session

Class of 2019

Dolph Bryan
Harold Clark
Cecelia Cook
Bob Daniels
Orly Hardin
Edward Kemp

Class of 2020

Carl Ivey
Jim Beaty
Peggy Johnson
Jeff Foster

Class of 2021

Wallace Cade
Jack Forbus
Will Martin
Cal Rackley

Deacons Serving on Our Diaconate

Class of 2019

Peggy Branch
Vivian Cade
Joel Downey
Jason Ryder
Tabor Mullen
Kristen Skinner
Johnny Fair
Jeremy Murdock

Class of 2021

Glenda Clark
Jack Cook
Peyton Fandel
Robby Holditch

Officer-Leaders of Ministry Teams

Please speak to these leaders today to learn more about the following ministry teams:

Bob Daniels	Administrative Team
Peggy Johnson	Education Team
Jack Forbus	Outreach and Missions Team
Orly Hardin	Shepherding Team
Cecelia Cook	Worship Team

FPC Starkville (EPC) Women's Ministry

Janice Kinard, Moderator

Circle Meetings - 2nd week of each month (7:00 pm Circle meets 3rd Mon.)

FPC Starkville (EPC) Men's Ministry

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

Men's Ministry Personal Enrichment Conference, Feb. 1-2. Please **RSVP** by TODAY.

Make Your Reservations for Friends & Family Fellowship Dinner

Wednesday, 5:15-5:45 p.m.

Please see bulletin insert for more news on Wednesday Night Children's and Youth Ministries, Men's Fraternity Study, and Women's Study.

THIS Wednesday's Dinner: Hamburger Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Sweet Peas, Rolls, Dessert. Adults may also choose a Chef Salad, ... or as always, children may have pizza – just let us know. Please complete your reservation card and place it in the Offering today, or call or send an email to the Church Office by Monday, at NOON!

Youth and Children's Ministry

The Youth and Children (3rd grade and up) will be attending Winter Jam in Tupelo, on Thursday, February 21.

If you are interested in more information, please contact Ashleigh Murdock or Kirk Kinard.

For more details about the concerts, see this link <http://2019.jamtour.com/>

University Ministry

On Mondays, Ben and Allison Jackson host a CCO/FPC meal to students in their home. Church members are invited not only to help with food but to eat and mingle with everyone. If you would like to join in some way, please speak to or email Allison or Ben.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STARKVILLE

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



JANUARY 27, 2019

Worship Service | 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School | 9:45 a.m.

Fellowship Gathering | 10:30 a.m.

Worship Service | 11:00 a.m.

Visit Our Website for Sermon Podcasts & Ministry News

www.fpcstarkville.org

Church Office

307 University Drive, Starkville, Mississippi 39759

Phone | 662-323-1994

Fax | 662-323-1999

Office Hours

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