

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
& ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, STARKVILLE (EPC)

MARCH 31, 2019
THE FOURTH SUNDAY DURING THE SEASON OF LENT

PRELUDE Michelle Rackley (8:30)
Thoughts of Worship (R.Loree) Marquita Beaty (11:00)

WELCOME Martin Lifer

***INTROIT** (11:00 – Chancel Choir, Dr. Craig Aarhus directing)

CALL TO WORSHIP IN CHRIST'S NAME

***Responsive Litany** from Matthew 5:6 & 6:31-33 Ben Jackson

Minister: "Blessed are those

ALL: Who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied."

Minister: "Therefore, do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' Or, 'What shall we drink?' Or, 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your Heavenly Father knows that you need them.

ALL: But seek first God's Kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will also be added unto you."

***INVOCATION**

***HYMN 32** *Come, Christians Join to Sing* MADRID

LENTEN ANTHEM (11:00 – Chancel Choir) *O Lamb of God Most Holy*

GOOD NEWS FROM MVP SUMMER CAMP Steven Ewing (11:00)

PRAYERS OF PRAISE, PENITENCE & PETITION Martin Lifer

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.

TRUSTING IN OUR GRACIOUS GOD

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

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

***AFFIRMING OUR FAITH** from The (Westminster) Larger Catechism Q. 1

Minister: What is the primary and highest purpose of man?

ALL: The primary and highest purpose of human beings is to glorify God and to enjoy Him completely forever.

* **HYMN 668 - THE DOXOLOGY**

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

***PRAYER OF THANKS AND DEDICATION**

OFFERTORY Michelle Rackley (8:30)
Near the Cross (arr. C. Addison) Marquita Beaty (11:00)

**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!

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 (mwlfifer3@gmail.com).

GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

SERMON SERIES *PRAY IN PENITENCE, PEACE, PRAISE, PASSION & POWER*

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE Matthew 6:7-10 & 9:37-38 [1 Samuel 1:9-18 & 1:24-2:10]
(ESV Pew Bible pp. 811 & 225-26)

TODAY'S SERMON **Pray Passionately:**
Pour Out Your Soul to the LORD, and May Your Heart Exult in His Messiah Martin Lifer

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING (11:00 A.M. SERVICE)
WITH GOSPEL MINISTRY NEWS & INVITATIONS**

- Opening Prayer, Agenda, and Approvals.
- The **2019 Budget and Ministry Plans**, with approval of related adjustments to staff compensation (including pastoral and other staff), as well as other ministry allocations;
- **FPC Strategic Planning**, including our **2019 Strategic Ministry Initiatives**, with pending improvements to current facilities to enhance Children, Youth & Adult Education, as well as Fellowship Space.
- **Updates on Continued Growth of FPC's Outreach Mission and other ministries.**
- **News on our New Staff Member – Ministry Intern Reid Roberson** – and update from the Search Committee for a new Assistant Pastor.
- Any other continuing or new matters, and adjournment with prayer.

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

***HYMN 382** *Serve the Lord with Gladness* LEE

***BENEDICTION**

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE Michelle Rackley (8:30)
Benediction (arr L. Pugh) Marquita Beaty (11:00)

**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** – a **FPC Benevolence Missions Support Special Offering**. This offering is used to supplement FPC's local benevolence mission support and mission ministries.

The Sanctuary Flowers for today's worship are given to the **Glory of God** by **Roy Scott** in **Memory of his wife, Jane Scott.**

Deacon of the Month: Vivian Cade

Today's Ushers: (8:30) – Bill Gamel; (11:00) – Billy Harrington, Jack Atkins

Today's Greeters: (8:30) – Susan Gamel; (11:00) – Brenda Harrington, Kirk Kinard

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TODAY! All FPC members are asked to attend – and all guest are invited to – FPC's Annual Congregational Meeting before the close of today's 11:00 a.m. Worship Service, for reports on matters noted above for the 11:00 a.m. Service.

Kirkin' o' the Tartans – Next Sunday:
Join us Next Sunday, April 7, to worship God on National Tartan Day,
and to celebrate with great food and friends at our
Annual Tartan Sunday Fellowship Brunch
10:20-10:50 a.m. on the East Breezeway & Courtyard Areas.
(Weather permitting, we'll be outside!)



The Kirkin' o' The Tartans



Sunday School classes will conclude early, at 10:20, so that all members and guests can begin the Fellowship Brunch.

In both morning **Worship Services (8:30 & 11 a.m.)**, we will have a **traditional Scot-Presbyterian Kirkin' o' th' Tartan**. In Scot-Gaelic, "**Kirk**" means "Church," and **kirkin'** means "to present in church (for blessing)."

We invite **ALL** worshipers to participate. **If you are not from a Scot family or otherwise do not have tartans**, simply **bring to FPC to present during the blessing time (the kirkin')** any appropriate representation of your own or your family's heritage & faith, e.g.:

- A Family Bible and/or your family or personal devotional Bible
- Clothing or other Items bearing family seals; or
- Household Crosses.

TODAY'S KEY SERMON & SCRIPTURE NOTES

What are your best requests? What are your passionate pleas?



(1) **"Do not pile up empty phrases;"** Pour out your soul before the LORD.

- Pray-ers who please God turn to Him and trust Him with full heart, soul, mind & strength.

The Way to Pray, According to Jesus: - Not pretty piety,

- NOT piling up *OUR* words, and

- NOT even piling up *OUR* emotions.

Pursue the King and what only He can give.

Pour out your soul before the LORD – like Hannah!

1 Sam. 1: 11-18 - Hannah's Prayers: Pouring out her soul, seeking the LORD's covenant grace and a child.

Prayers in Faithful Passion are Persistent Jesus' Parable of the Persistent Widow Seeking Justice. Luke 18:1--8

(2) **May your heart Exult in the LORD, may our mouth rejoice in His Salvation, and may you trust in and pray for His Messiah.**

1 Sam. 2:1-10 Hannah's **Passionate, Prophetic Prayer or Thanks AND Trust** –
as she gives Samuel to Eli (and to the LORD)!

"The LORD will judge the ends of the earth. He will give strength to the king and exalt the horn of his Anointed ('Messiah')." 1 Sam. 2:10b

(3) Pray passionately (a) for God's Kingdom Mission, His Church, ... and (b) that everyone for whom you pray will be faithful, fruitful servants his Church and his Harvest Mission.

"Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

"Pray earnestly to the Lord of the Harvest to send out laborers into His Harvest."

What is our highest & best purpose goal: "man's chief end": To glorify God, and fully to Him forever.

Fill in the blanks with those for whom you pray:

Gracious Father, may _____ glorify You ... and fully enjoy You forever.

Lord, please send & empower _____ to serve your Church & Kingdom in Your Mission Harvest.

Now to Him Who Him Who is able to keep _____ from stumbling and to present _____ blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy – to the only God, our Savior – through Jesus Christ our Lord be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time, now and forever. Amen. Jude 24-25

Week of March 31, 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.	Dr. Lifer's In Jesus' Footsteps Bible Study for Men & Women
	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
 March 26 – Loren Zimmerman March 28 – Billy Harrington

University Ministry Meals 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 also to eat and mingle with everyone. If you would like to help some way – whether (a) bringing or sponsoring a meal or (b) helping serve the meal and spending fellowship time with the students, then please speak to or email Allison or Ben (allidjackson@gmail.com, bjackson@ccojubilee.org).

Prayer List

Philip Gruchy
 Bruce Leopold; Danielle Gregory (friend of Bruce Leopold)
 Cynthia Ware, together with her parents, Donna and Herman Ware
 Paula Elliott
 Sylvia Love
 Charles Atkinson
 Allison Jackson
 Marjorie Malone
 Paula and Carl Ivey
 Ross Collins
 Billy and Brenda Harrington
 Janet, Gary, and Jay Bardwell
 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
 Beverly Smitherman, Frances Ellis and Brett Horton (Ellen Mauldin's cousin, Ellen's sister, and her brother Leslie's grandson)
 Bobby Fleming (brother of Gloria Cade)
 David Skinner (Kyle Skinner's father)
 Diane Daniels, her sister, Delores Irvin, and Kevin McCauley, 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)
 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)
 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
 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
 Mary Jo Wallace – The Blake at Flowood

Church Grounds Adopt A Bed Opportunity

It's Spring again! Want to get outside and enjoy the beautiful weather? Looking for an opportunity to fellowship and share among your church family? Want to serve your church and make the grounds beautiful? Here is your chance - **Adopt a Landscape Bed!** For a good example, see the bed near the covered canopy that was adopted last year. **Interested? Contact Peggy Branch.** Men and women are needed!!



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

<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	Tabor Mullen	Glenda Clark
Vivian Cade	Kristen Skinner	Jack Cook
Joel Downey	Johnny Fair	Peyton Fandel
Jason Ryder	Jeremy Murdock	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
Will Martin	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

Women's Ministry Coordinating Team meeting – Tuesday, April 2, noon, Johnson Room

Women's Scholarship Application is available in the church office. Applications are due in the office by 4/15/2019. Please call the church office or email Rita Usher at info@fpcstarkville.org to request the application.

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

Lesson: Week 6: The Letters : We need to understand the chapters that follow the life and death of Jesus Christ, because They bring to light the struggles and stories of fellow believers with their newfound faith.
 Sunday, 4/7, FPC Parlor, Leader: Lynda Forbus, 8 am
 Monday, 4/8, FPC Parlor, Leader: Sara Wilson, 1:30 pm
 Tuesday, 4/9, Home of Sandy Jackson 212 Turnberry Lane, @ 6 pm, Leader: Vivian Cade
 Monday, 4/22, Home of Amy Weiskopf, 1305 Nottingham Rd @ 6:30 pm

FPC Starkville (EPC) Men's Ministry

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

Men- Please join us for our 1st Men's Ministry Quarterly Lunch

Friday, April 5, noon to 1 pm, Fellowship Hall, Lunch provided - \$10 per person
 Short devotion, committee presentation,
 and further discussion on electing a Vice President for this group.
 Please **RSVP** to Will Rackley or the Church Office.

Make Your Reservations for Friends & Family Fellowship Dinner

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

THIS Wednesday's Dinner: Ham, Field Peas, Macaroni and Cheese, Rolls, Red Velvet Cake. 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!*

We welcome to our Sunday School Classes and our 11:00 a.m. Service today **Steven Ewing**, Youth Director at New Albany Presbyterian Church *and* **Director of the**

MVP Presbyterian Summer Camp Week for Children and Youth

- July 22-27 - for **Children and Youth from EPC and ARP congregations** at the *Rising Son* Camp Facilities at French Camp, MS.

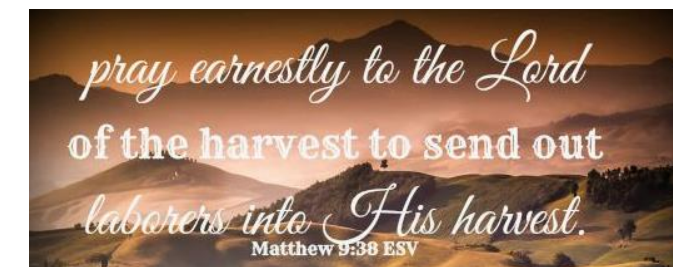
This is a Presbyterian Children's and Youth Camp at (French Camp's) *Camp of the Rising Son* facility that **includes leaders from our own EPC South Central Presbytery.**



If you are interested in joining our 2019 Mission Trip to Scotland (departing October 11) to visit, worship and serve with the Free Church of Scotland congregations we are helping God to plant in Haddington and Dundee, and if you have not yet spoken to Jack Forbus or to Dr. Lifer as we begin to make our arrangements – please speak to one of them,.... or leave a message this week with Rita Usher, Pastoral Secretary.



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



MARCH 31, 2019

THE FOURTH SUNDAY DURING THE SEASON OF LENT
 AND
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY

Worship Service | 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School | 9:45 a.m.

Fellowship Gathering | 10:30 a.m.

Worship Service & Congregational Meeting | 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 a.m. & 1:00-4:30 p.m.