

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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER SEASON
MAY 26, 2019

PRELUDE *My Tribute* arr. Kartsonakis
Jennifer Blackburn, organ

WELCOME Martin Lifer

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

CALL TO WORSHIP IN CHRIST'S NAME

***Responsive Litany** from 1 Corinthians 15:1-5 Ben Jackson

Minister: Now I remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved -- if you hold fast to the Word I preached to you (unless you "believed" in vain). For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that

ALL: Christ died for sins in accordance with the Scriptures;

He was buried;

He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures; and

He appeared to Cephas [that is, Simon Peter] and then to the Twelve.

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION & PRAISE**

***HYMN 269** *He Lives* ACKLEY

**REMEMBERING THOSE WHO DIED DEFENDING OUR FREEDOM, AND
THANKSGIVING FOR THEIR FAMILIES AND FELLOW SERVICE MEMBERS**

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.

THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD'S GRACE; AND INVITATION FOR YOUNG CHILDREN TO GATHER

***HYMN 641** (vv.3-4) *America, the Beautiful* MATERNA

GOD'S WORD FOR YOUNG CHILDREN Martin Lifer (8:30) Ashleigh Murdock (11:00)

ANTHEM (11:00 – Chancel Choir) *The Grace Divine*

***AFFIRMING OUR FAITH – 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.

*** HYMN 668 - THE DOXOLOGY**

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

OFFERTORY *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee* Smith
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!

The Sanctuary Flowers are given to the Glory of God by by **Richard and Jennifer Blackburn** in celebration of their **40th Wedding Anniversary**.

Deacons of the Month: Joel Downey and Jason Ryder

Today's Ushers: (8:30) – Levette Johnson; (11:00) – Sonny Stuart, Wallace Cade

Today's Greeters: (8:30) – Peggy Johnson; (11:00) – Patsy Stuart, Gloria Cade

GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE **2 Samuel 23:8,39 Romans 14:6-9**
(ESV Pew Bible pp. 276-77; 949)

SERMON *Mighty Loyalties* Martin Lifer

INVITATION TO TRUST AND FOLLOW JESUS

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

****HYMN 268** *The Risen Christ* THE RISEN CHRIST

***COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION** Martin Lifer

***POSTLUDE** *Ode to Joy* Beethoven
Jennifer Blackburn, organ

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

+Freewill Monthly Offering as Extra Giving Support to FPC's Local Mission & Benevolence: 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 Local Missions & Benevolence Support Special Offering**. This offering is to be given only after disciples *first* bring their tithe to God and regular offering; it is used to supplement FPC's local benevolence mission support and mission ministries.

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 (mwllifer3@gmail.com).

**Prepare to Receive the Lord's Supper Faithfully Next Week:
- Ascension of the Lord Sunday, June 2 (8:30 & 11:00 a.m.)**

All baptized and affirming believers who have previously been approved and prepared to discern and partake of the Body, and active in fellowship with our church OR ANY OTHER CHURCH professing personal faith in salvation through Jesus Christ: We invite you to begin this week a focused time of spiritual renewal, in preparation for your sharing Holy Communion. God's Word instructs that our preparation includes repentance, through reconciliation to God and to others (particularly fellow believers from whom you may have become estranged), and through trusting in God's grace in all things.

Thanksgiving for God's Call of Rev. Joe Nasvytis and Family to FPC!

Last Sunday, the Assistant Pastor Nominating Committee (Bob Daniels, Chairman, and Edward Kemp, Co-Chairman) presented to the Joint Session-Diaconate Meeting the committee's recommendation that candidate Joe Nasvytis be approved as FPC's new Assistant Pastor for Family Ministries. FPC's officers received the update on Rev. Nasvytis; later last Sunday afternoon, the Session in its Stated May Meeting formally approved the call and provision for the terms of call. Joe is noted for his passion for the Lord, evangelism, and the teaching of God's Word – all of which gifts were evident in his guest-teaching of FPC's New Covenant Class during his visit to our congregation on Mother's Day, May 12.

Now – in the aftermath of Joe's visit to us earlier this month and then the Session's action last Sunday – we thank God for God's call of Rev. Nasvytis to FPC, and we pray for Joe and his wife Ann, as well as their daughters – Grace (10) and Sophie (9) – as they prepare for their move to Starkville in the second half of June. We can also look forward to an update to the congregation from the AP Nominating Committee at the upcoming Congregational Meeting in June [date TBD next week], at which meeting FPC members will also elect the At-Large members for this year's Congregational Nominating Committee. Please now prepare to extend Christian welcome AND Southern hospitality to the family!

In addition to the family's move from San Diego to Starkville later in June, Joe will also be looking ahead to preparing for a transition to the EPC from the Christian Reformed Church ("CRC"). In 2015, Joe was ordained in the CRC denomination. Joe has served two CRC congregations: Bethel CRC in Wisconsin as Youth and Family Ministry Leader, and more recently, Living Faith CRC in San Diego, through November 2018. In his new call with us at FPC, Joe will help lead our Family Ministries & Discipleship, as well as assisting Pastor Lifer in a full range of pastoral ministries, worship leadership, and teaching.

TODAY'S KEY SERMON & SCRIPTURE NOTES

Remembering Those Who Died for Us in Mighty Loyalties,... including:
Riley Howell (together with Kendrick Castillo, Lori Gilbert-Kaye),



Mighty Loyalties

2 Samuel 23:8 - **These are the names of the mighty men whom David had:** Josheb-basshebeth a Tahchemonite; he was chief of the three. He wielded his spear against eight hundred whom he killed at one time.

2 Samuel 23:39 – [and] **Uriah the Hittite:** thirty-seven in all.

Rom. 14:7-8 – For **none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself.**

- For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord.

From Presidents to Privates, such as Pvt. First Class Leslie Allen Bellrichard



- **So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's** For to this end Christ died and lived again, that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Mighty Loyalties

- **For to this end Christ died and lived again, that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.**



Week of May 26, 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:	Office Closed in Observance of Memorial Day
	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)
	5:30 p.m. Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
	6:00 p.m. Casserole Kitchen (Fellowship Hall)
WEDNESDAY:	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:	6:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous (Christian Education Bldg.)

**Members and Other Regular Attenders:
We Need Your Help for Upcoming 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-Aug-Dec-2019-UG-830AM>
Sign up for the 11:00 a.m. Service: <https://tinyurl.com/FPC-Jul-Dec-2019-UG-11AM>

CASSEROLE KITCHEN MISSION MEAL HOSTS AT FPC THIS WEEK
May 28 – Paula Ivey May 30 – Loren Zimmerman

TEJERAS MEAL SPONSORS (Mission meal for children in Tejeras, Honduras)
May 29 & 31 – By members of the congregation for the Glory of God.

Prayer List

Sean and Morgan Clark Schnurr & Family
Boswell Kennard
Marjorie Malone
Cynthia Ware, together with her parents, Donna and Herman Ware
Philip and Darinda Gruchy
Charlie Guest
Bruce Leopold; Danielle Gregory (friend of Bruce Leopold)
Paula Elliott
Sylvia Love
Charles Atkinson
Allison Jackson
Ross Collins
Billy and Brenda Harrington
Janet, Gary, and Jay Bardwell
Carl Ivey, Sr. (Dukedom, Kentucky); Michael Belcher (Friend of the Iveys)
Betty Randle Freeman (Russ Randle's sister)
Bob and Dot Forbus, and Raleigh Wood (brother, sister-in-law, and friend of Jack Forbus)
Thomas Guest (grandson of Charlie & Ruby Guest).
Gerlene Lifer
Leslie Drane, Frances Ellis (Ellen's brother and sister)
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)
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 – Sunnysbrook 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 Flowoo

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

FPC Starkville (EPC) Women's Ministry

Janice Kinard, Moderator

Mission for the month – Starkville Pregnancy Center

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*

Children's & Youth Ministry News:

Join Us Next Sunday and Celebrate with Our Children
our Annual **Ascension Sunday Balloon Release**



**Vacation Bible School for Children will be June 10-13
VBS Registration is Open on FPC Website now!**

FPC's VBS this year will be June 10-13, Monday-Thursday, from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Children ages 4 years old to rising 6th grade are welcome! Come join us as we learn about how life is wild, but God is good!



MVP Presbyterian Summer Camp for FPC's Children & Youth July 22-27



*Children and Youth from EPC and ARP congregations will be at the Rising Son
Camp Facilities at French Camp, MS.*

This is **THE** summer camp FPC now sponsors and recommends to members. With leadership that includes pastors from our Central South Presbytery, the MVP Camp clearly conveys God's Word to our children AND is lots of fun!!! Parents & Families: If you have not yet registered, but are interested in your child attending, then please contact Pastor Lifer, Ashleigh Murdock, or the church office as soon as possible.

*For the Safety and Security of our Members and Guests,
these premises are monitored by
24-hour video surveillance.*



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

For by grace you have been saved through faith –
and this is not your own doing.
It is a gift of God, not the result of works, so that no one may boast.
Ephesians 2:8-9



**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 26, 2019**

Worship Service | 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School | 9:45 – 10:20 a.m.

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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Phone | 662-323-1994

Fax | 662-323-1999

Office Hours

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