

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, STARKVILLE

MARCH 1, 2020

THE FIRST SUNDAY DURING THE SEASON OF LENT

PRELUDE Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy arr. Broughton Marquita Beaty

WELCOME & MINISTRY INVITATIONS Martin Lifer

CALL TO WORSHIP & CONFESSIONS OF FAITH

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

INVOCATION Reid Roberson

OPENING READING OF GOD’S WORD: Mark 8:27-30 Reid Roberson, Faith Lifer & Confirmation Youth

*AFFIRMING OUR FAITH - from The Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q. 21 Confirmation Youth
Pastor: Who is the redeemer of God’s chosen ones?
ALL: The only redeemer of God’s chosen ones is the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, who became man. He was and continues to be God and man in two distinct natures and one person forever.

*HYMN 279 There Is a Redeemer GREEN

THANKSGIVING & PRAYERS FOR CONFIRMATION YOUTH, YOUTH LEADERS, AND OFFICER-SPONSORS

PRAYER WITH YOUNG CHILDREN Ashleigh Murdock (11:00)

PRAYERS & OFFERINGS OF GRATITUDE

ANTHEM (11:00 – Chancel Choir) Just As I Am

GOOD NEWS FROM UNIVERSITY MINISTRY – THANKSGIVING FOR JACKSONS AND FOR ROBERSONS

GOOD NEWS FROM MISSION PARTNER – THE STARKVILLE PREGNANCY CENTER (11:00) Carol Lee, Executive Director of the Starkville Pregnancy Center

*PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, CONFESSION & 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.

*GOOD NEWS OF GOD’S GRACE

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 668 - THE DOXOLOGY

GIVING - GOD’S TITHE AND FURTHER OFFERINGS

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERTORY Lead Me to Calvary arr. L. Larson Marquita Beaty

*The congregation is invited to stand.

Visiting with Us?



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 Christ, church membership and/or ways you can serve at FPC – speak to Pastor Lifer or send an email via mwlfifer3@gmail.com.

Please join us again on upcoming Sundays not only for worship but also for Sunday Bible Study (groups meet from 9:45 through 10:30 a.m.).

We provide the TLC Ministry for children Age 3 through 1st Graders during the 11 a.m. Service – following the Children’s Message at the 11 a.m. Service.

We also provide loving and safe Christian Childcare on the Main Floor of the Christian Education Building - northeast of the Sanctuary - for infants and toddlers of FPC families & guests - from 8:15 a.m. through 12:15 p.m.

GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE Mark 8:29-38; Galatians 2:20 (ESV Pew Bible pp. 844, 973)

SERMON The Savior Who Died for You Calls for Followers to Die for Him Martin Lifer

RESPONDING IN FAITH TO GOD’S WORD; THE CALL TO SERVE

*RESPONSIVE HYMN 236 Lift High the Cross CRUCIFER

*BENEDICTION Martin Lifer

*CHORAL RESPONSE (11:00) Amen TRADITIONAL

POSTLUDE To Walk in God’s Way L. Smith Marquita Beaty

Having trouble hearing the service? We have portable hearing assistance units connected directly to our sound system for optimum audio. Please see an usher about using a unit today.

March Deacon of the Month: Lee Weiskopf
Today’s Ushers: (8:30) – Amy LaFleur; (11:00) –
Today’s Greeters: (8:30) – Janice Kinard; (11:00) – Rebecca Banzhaf

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.

SERMON NOTES

Real Covenants and Real Love Get Really Personal: Giving and Living Your Life by What You Profess.

1. The Continental Divide – CROSS Divide for _____ – in Mark’s Gospel & THE Gospel, Mark 8:27-9:1.

Prelude: - The Parabolic Miracle of Jesus’ Two-Stage Healing of the Blind Man. Mark 8:22-26
“Do you see anything?”

Seeing, Believing, and Professing WHO Jesus Is.

- Caesarea Philippi

Who IS Jesus? => Who Jesus was called to be and what He was called to do.

Continental Divide = Jesus’ _____.

Professing Who Jesus Really Is.

- It’s one thing to say (as Peter did, Mark 8:29) Jesus is “The Christ”... and/or to say Jesus is the “Son of Man” of Daniel 7:13-14.

- It’s quite another to know and believe in Jesus as the Suffering, Rejected Servant of Isaiah 52-53, “cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people.”

Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man MUST suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders, chief priests & scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. Mark 8:31

Peter’s Problem = Our Problem!

Peter’s, Satan’s and Our Problem with Jesus & the Gospel.

We cannot truly witness to the Crucified Christ until we believe & follow Him.

You know which Way Jesus went.
Which way will you go?

2. The Continental Divide – the CROSS Divide for _____ – in Mark’s Gospel & THE Gospel, Mark 8:27-9:1.

Which Way Will You Go – Hell or Heaven?

- “the way is easy that leads to destruction, and many are those who enter by it.” Matt. 7:13

- “The gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and few find it.” Matt. 7:14

“Not everyone who says to me, “Lord! Lord!” will enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father Who is in Heaven.” Matt. 7:21

It’s one thing to say Jesus is The Christ and even to know & say that HE had to suffer and die in total faith on the Cross.

It’s quite another matter to believe and follow through on the Gospel that WE must suffer and die in total faith that HE is our life.

“If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.” Mark 8:34b

3. Real Faith Puts Your Money Where Your Mouth Is, Your Dreams & Self-Expression where your mouth is,...

and Puts Your WHOLE _____ & _____ Where Your Mouth Is.

- 1) Deny YOURSELF;
2) Take up YOUR cross; and
3) Follow Jesus, the Christ/King Who died on the Cross.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer – “When Christ calls a man, He bids him come and die.”

“I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ Who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God – Who lived me and gave Himself for me.” Galatians 2:20

THE BOTTOM LINE

A. “For whoever would save his life will lose it, ... but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s sake will save it.” Mark 8:36

B. “For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his SOUL?” 8:37

C. “For what can a man give in exchange for his SOUL?”

D. “For whoever is ashamed of Me AND of my Words in this adulterous & sinful generation – of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when He comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.” 8:38

Jim Elliott – “He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.”

Week of March 1, 2020

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 Scout Building)

TUESDAY: 7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast Bible Study & Prayer Fellowship (Parlor)

WEDNESDAY: 5:00 p.m. Nursery
 5:15 p.m. Friends & Family Fellowship Dinner (Fellowship Hall)
5:50 p.m. Children & Youth programs begin
Co-ed Bible Study (for Women & Men), *Apologetics at the Cross*
6:00 p.m. Women's Study, How Happiness Happens
 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Practice

THURSDAY: 1-2:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION for Friends & Family Dinner - Wednesday, March 4

Wednesday's Dinner (5:15-5:45 p.m.): Hamburger steak, mashed potatoes & gravy, lima beans, rolls, and butter cream cake. Adults may also choose a Chef Salad . . . or, as always, children may have pizza; just let us know. *Place your completed reservation in the Offering, or call or send an email to the Church Office.* All reservations for March 4th must be received by tomorrow at NOON!

LOOKING AHEAD TO SPRING BREAK WEEK: FRIENDS & FAMILY will NOT MEET on NEXT WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, but will resume on MARCH 18.

Prayer List

Janet, Gary, and Jay Bardwell
 Peggy and Levette Johnson
 Selma Gilmore (Dana Fant's mother)
 Boswell Kennard
 Cynthia Ware, together with her parents, Donna and Herman Ware
 Jimmie Brown
 Sylvia Love
 Jimmy Dodd
 John Clark Packer
 Brenda Harrington
 Bruce and Betty Latimer
 Roxene Atkinson
 Greta Bryan
 Marjorie Malone
 Scott Guest and Thomas Guest (son & grandson of Charlie & Rubye Guest)
 Bruce Leopold, Danielle Gregory (friend of Bruce Leopold)
 Sherry Siler (Bryn Taylor's sister)
 Ross Collins, Madison Collins (son of Ross and Margaret Collins)
 Aspen Reynolds (Anita Reynold's granddaughter)
 Teresa Miller (Amy Harrison's mom)
 Carl Ivey, Sr. (Kentucky), Michael Belcher, and Ashley Whitten (friends of the Iveys)
 Bob and Dot Forbus, and Staci Moak (brother, sister-in-law, and daughter of Jack Forbus)
 Gerlene Lifer
 Leslie Drane, Frances Ellis (Ellen Mauldin's brother and sister)
 Bobby Fleming (brother of Gloria Cade), and Hazel Davis (Wallace Cade's aunt)
 Diane Daniels, Delores Irvin (Diane's sister), and Bill and Tan Chapman
 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)

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

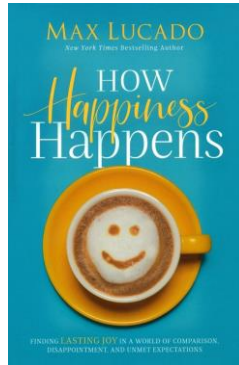
Remember to Spring Forward an hour on your clocks this coming Saturday night & next Sunday morning (March 8).

The 1st weekend of Spring Break also begins Daylight Saving Time. Spring Forward Weekend:



New Women's Study - for Wednesday Nights

Ladies, Join us in the Parlor starting this week!



How Happiness Happens:

Finding Lasting Joy in a World of Comparison, Disappointment, and Unmet Expectations

Join us beginning Wednesday March 4 at 6 p.m. for our next women's bible study during our Friends & Family program. In this study, Max Lucado explores passages of Scripture - explaining how practical acts of generosity can produce a life of satisfaction and moments of true joy. In a world searching for happiness, Lucado provides a personal plan for a life filled with lasting and fulfilling joy, supported by Jesus' teaching and modern research. In this six-session study, he explores several "one another" passages in the Bible that reveal how the happiest people aren't those who have the most but who are willing to give the most away.

Study guides will be available for purchase.

Please see Orly Hardin or call the church office if you have any questions.

FPC Starkville (EPC) Women's Ministry

Janice Kinard, Moderator
 WMCT, Tuesday March 3rd

Mission for WM - Missionary Support for child of the church

Bible Lesson - Lesson 5, Overwhelmed, Ephesians 2:1-10

Circle Meetings:

Sunday, March 8th, Sunday Morning at 8 am, Location: Parlor, Leader: Brenda Koenig
 Monday, March 9th, Monday Afternoon at 1:30 pm, Location: Parlor, Leader Sara Wilson
 Monday, March 16th, Monday Evening at 7 pm, Location: Kristen Skinner's home, 1103 Yorkshire Rd, Leader: Amy Weiskopf
 Tuesday, March 17th, (After spring break week), 6 pm, Location: Rebecca Banzhaf's home - 201 Turnberry Lane, Leader: Vivian Cade

FPC Officers

Dr. Martin Lifer, Moderator / Will Martin, Clerk of Session & Corporate Secretary
 Jeff Foster, Corporation President/ Jim Beaty, Treasurer
 Elders Emeriti: James (Jim) Long and Dero Ramsey

Elders Serving on Our Session and Board of Directors

Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022
Carl Ivey	Wallace Cade	Harry Bell
Jim Beaty	Jack Forbus	Scotty Crawford
Peggy Johnson	Will Martin	Wesley Ferguson
Jeff Foster	Cal Rackley	Susan Gamel
		Brien Henry

Deacons Serving on Our Diaconate

Class of 2020	Class of 2021	Class of 2022
Johnny Fair	Glenda Clark	Jack Atkins
Tabor Mullen	Jack Cook	Rebecca Banzhaf
Jeremy Murdock	Peyton Fandel	Janet Bardwell
Kristen Skinner	Robby Holditch	Lee Weiskopf



Starkville's Church
 That Preaches the *Doctrines of Grace*
 and
 That is Part of the EPC -

A Global Movement of Evangelical Presbyterian Churches

"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it."
Mark 8:34-35

MARCH 1, 2020

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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

Office Admin. Email | info@fpcstarkville.org.

Office Hours

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