

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY**  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, STARKVILLE (EPC)**  
**OCTOBER 13, 2019**

<b>PRELUDE</b>	<i>The Love of God</i> , Lehman <i>He Is Lord</i> , arr. J. Vogt	Reid Roberson (8:30) Marquita Beaty (11:00)
<b>WELCOME &amp; ANNOUNCEMENTS</b> INVITATION TO VIP FELLOWSHIP		Martin Lifer Amy Aarhus

**CALL TO WORSHIP IN CHRIST’S NAME**

**\*INTROIT** (11:00 – Chancel Choir, Craig Aarhus, Director)

**\* Responsive Reading** from **Psalm 147:1** Martin Lifer (8:30); Kirk Kinard (11:00)  
Minister: Praise the Lord!  
**ALL: For it is good to sing praises to our God:**  
Minister: For it is pleasant,  
**ALL: And a song of praise is fitting!**

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION & PRAISE**

**\*HYMN 149** *Praise Him! Praise Him!* JOYFUL SONG

**OFFERINGS OF REPENTANT FAITH AND JOY IN GOD’S GRACE**

**GOOD NEWS FOR FPC: SENDING MISSION TEAM & FURTHER SUPPORT TO THE HADDINGTON COMMUNITY CHURCH AND THE CHARLESTON CHURCH (DUNDEE), FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

**GOD’S WORD FOR YOUNG CHILDREN** Ashleigh Murdock

**PRAYERS OF CONFESSION, PETITION & INTERCESSION** 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 MERCY**

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

**\*ANTHEM** (11:00 – Chancel Choir) *My Savior and My God*

**\*AFFIRMING OUR FAITH** from the EPC’s *Essentials of Our Faith* Martin Lifer  
Minister: What does the Lord Jesus Christ command all believers to do?  
**ALL: The Lord Jesus Christ commands all believers to proclaim the gospel throughout the world and to make disciples of all nations. Obedience to the Great Commission requires a total commitment to “Him Who loved us and gave Himself for us.” He calls us to a life of self-denying love and service. “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”**

**HYMN 668 - THE DOXOLOGY**

**\*OFFERING: GOD’S TITHE AND OUR FURTHER OFFERINGS**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** Martin Lifer

<b>OFFERTORY</b>	<i>Marzurka in A minor</i> , Frederic Chopin <i>I Surrender All</i> , arr. P. Keveren	Reid Roberson (8:30) Marquita Beaty (11:00)
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*\*The congregation is invited to stand.*

**Deacon of the Month:** Peggy Branch  
**Today’s Ushers:** (8:30) – Jeff Foster (11:00) Keith Hodge, Cal Rackley  
**Today’s Greeters:** (8:30) – Barbara Foster (11:00) – Gayle Hodge, Laura Rackley

**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!

We have placed the cradle cross on the pulpit and the rose beside the chancel today in thanksgiving to God for the birth of **James Thomas Gregory** on Friday, October 4, 2019, **to Thomas and Anne Marie Gregory.**

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.

**GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED**

**SERMON SERIES ON MARK: *Who Do You Say Jesus Is?***

**TODAY’S SCRIPTURE**

**Mark 2:13-17**  
(ESV Pew Bible pp. 837)

**TODAY’S SERMON *A Meal with Jesus*** Joe Nasvytis

**CALLED, BLESSED AND SENT AS WITNESSES OF GOD’S WORD**

**\*HYMN 471** *Christ Receiveth Sinful Men* NEUMEISTER

**\*BENEDICTION** Joe Nasvytis

**CHORAL RESPONSE** *Hallelujah, Amen!*

**\*POSTLUDE** *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*, Watts/Mason Reid Roberson (8:30)  
*The Master Hath Come*, arr. J. Purifoy Marquita Beaty (11:00)

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*\*The congregation is invited to stand.*

**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.

**If you would like to learn more about growing in faith in Jesus Christ, about church membership and/or about ways you can learn and serve at FPC – then please speak to Pastor Lifer or Assistant Pastor Nasytis today, or call the church office. You may also send a message to Pastor Lifer via [email \(mwlifer3@gmail.com\)](mailto:mwlifer3@gmail.com).**

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**Welcoming The Reverend Dr. Robert Schwanebeck *next Sunday.*** Pastor Lifer is delighted that his friend, Rev. Dr. Bob Schwanebeck, will be with us to preach next Sunday, October 20. Please prepare to welcome Bob Schwanebeck and to hear him preach God’s Good News from Luke 18:1-8 (*The Parable of the Persistent Widow*).

**TODAY’S KEY SERMON & SCRIPTURE NOTES**

**1. Since Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ and disciplined the unacceptable, God calls us to \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus’ mission the same way.**

**a. Jesus’ mission focused on accepting and forgiving \_\_\_\_\_ .**

For the Son of Man came **to seek and to save what was lost.** (*Lk. 19:10*)

**b. Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_ befriends people far from God.**

While Jesus was having dinner at Levi’s house, **many tax collectors and “sinners” were eating with him** and his disciples, **for there were many who followed him.** (*Mark. 2:15*)

When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. **I must stay at your house today.**” (*Lk. 19:5*)

The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Here is a glutton and a drunkard, **a friend of tax collectors and “sinners.”**’ But wisdom is proved right by her actions.” (*Matt. 11:19*)

But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “**This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.**” (*Lk. 15:2*)

Where sin increased, grace increased all the more. (*Rom. 5:20b*)

Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ. (*1Cor. 11:1*)

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, **let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.** (*Matt. 5:14-16*)

**2. Since Jesus’ mission often centered around \_\_\_\_\_ , we can be intentional about \_\_\_\_\_ with people far from God.**

And **as he reclined at table** in his house, **many tax collectors and sinners were reclining with Jesus** and his disciples, for there were many who followed him. And the scribes of the Pharisees, when they saw that **he was eating with sinners and tax collectors**, said to his disciples, “Why does **he eat with tax collectors and sinners?**” (*Mk. 2:15-16*)

**a. Eating was a \_\_\_\_\_ part of Jesus’ mission of reaching and restoring the world.**

The LORD who commands armies **will hold a banquet for all the nations on this mountain. At this banquet there will be plenty of meat and aged wine– tender meat and choicest wine...**he will swallow up death permanently. The sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from every face, and remove his people’s disgrace from all the earth. Indeed, the LORD has announced it! At that time they will say, “Look, here is our God! We waited for him and he delivered us. Here is the LORD! We waited for him. Let’s rejoice and celebrate his deliverance!” (*Isa 25:6, 8, 9*)

**b. We can make \_\_\_\_\_ by intentionally \_\_\_\_\_ with spiritually lost people.**

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it. (*Heb. 13:2*)

“Sharing meals together on a regular basis is one of the most sacred practices we can engage in as believers. Missional hospitality is a tremendous opportunity to extend the kingdom of God. We can literally eat our way into the kingdom of God! If every Christian household regularly invited a stranger or a poor person into their home for a meal once a week, we would literally change the world by eating!” — *Right Here Right Now*

On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.” (*John 7:37-38*)

**3. Since Jesus meets our need for our souls to be \_\_\_\_\_ , we need to continually recognize our need for Jesus.**

On hearing this, Jesus said to them, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.” (*Mark 2:15-17*)

**a. Jesus only helps those who know we’re moral and spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ .**

To some **who were confident of their own righteousness** and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable:” Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men—robbers, evildoers, adulterers--or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’ ”But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘**God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**’ ”**I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God.** For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” (*Luke 18:9-14*)

**b. Jesus heals us over time through the power of His \_\_\_\_\_ , His words, and healing \_\_\_\_\_ with His people.**

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb down the middle of the great street of the city. **On each side of the river stood the tree of life**, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And **the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.** (*Rev. 22:1-2*)

**Week of October 13, 2019**

<b>SUNDAY:</b>	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
<b>MONDAY:</b>	7:00 p.m.	Boy Scouts (Boy Scouts Building)
	8:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous, also on T, W, & F (120 Jackson St.)
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	7:00 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Parlor)
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	5:15 p.m.	Friends & Family Fellowship Dinner (Fellowship Hall)
	5:50 p.m.	Nursery, Children and Youth programs begin
	6:00 p.m.	Adult Study, <i>Emotionally Healthy Spirituality</i> (Fellowship Hall)
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Practice
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	1:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)

**Prayer List**

Paula Elliott  
 Cynthia Ware, together with her parents, Donna and Herman Ware  
 Mae Glass (Vivien Miller's mother)  
 Jimmie Brown  
 Betty Latimer  
 Roxene Atkinson  
 Randell Foxworth  
 Marjorie Malone  
 Billy and Brenda Harrington  
 Aspen Reynolds (Anita Reynolds granddaughter)  
 Scott Guest and Thomas Guest (son & grandson of Charlie & Rubye Guest)  
 Joe and Carol Mobley  
 Sean and Morgan Clark Schnurr & Family  
 Bruce Leopold; Danielle Gregory (friend of Bruce Leopold)  
 Ross Collins, Madison Collins (son of Ross and Margaret Collins)  
 Janet, Gary, and Jay Bardwell  
 Cindy Stewart (Friend of George and Jane Vemer)  
 Teresa Miller (Amy Harrison's mom)  
 Gerlene Lifer  
 Carl Ivey, Sr. (Dukedom, Kentucky); Michael Belcher (Friend of the Iveys)  
 Bob and Dot Forbus, and Staci Moak (brother, sister-in-law, and daughter of Jack Forbus)  
 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, her sister, Delores Irvin, 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

**Make Your Reservations for Wednesday's Friends & Family Fellowship Dinner 5:15-5:45 p.m.**

THIS Wednesday's Dinner: Beef Tips and Gravy, Rice, Green Beans, Rolls, Strawberry 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!

**VIP Trip to Lake Tiak O'Khata**  
 Join us on Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>.

Meet at the church at 10:30 am to ride in the church van and caravan to **Lake Tiak O'Khata** in Louisville for lunch at 11am. The lunch buffet is \$13.50, and that's including tax, gratuity and a drink. **RSVP** – Please call the church office or Amy Aarhus to let us know you are coming, and so we will know to expect you!

**Current FPC Officers**

Dr. Martin Lifer, Moderator / Will Martin, Clerk of Session  
 Elders Emeriti: James (Jim) Long and Dero Ramsey

Elders Serving on Our Session

<b>Class of 2019</b>	<b>Class of 2020</b>	<b>Class of 2021</b>
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

<b>Class of 2019</b>	<b>Class of 2020</b>	<b>Class of 2021</b>
Peggy Branch	Johnny Fair	Glenda Clark
Vivian Cade	Tabor Mullen	Jack Cook
Joel Downey	Jeremy Murdock	Peyton Fandel
Jason Ryder	Kristen Skinner	Robby Holditch

**Officers-Elect**

<u>Session Class of 2022:</u>	<u>Diaconate Class of 2022:</u>
Harry Bell	Jack Atkins
Scotty Crawford	Rebecca Banzhaf
Wesley Ferguson	Janet Bardwell
Susan Gamel	Lee Weiskopf
Brien Henry	

**FPC Starkville (EPC) Men's Ministry**

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

**FPC Starkville (EPC) Women's Ministry**

Janice Kinard, *Moderator*

**Mission for the month – Pregnancy Center & beginning plans for Operation Shoebox**

**Circle Meetings** - 2nd week of each month (7:00 pm Circle meets 3rd Mon.)  
 Session for October –Bible Study: Lesson 1 "STUCK" by Jennie Allen  
 SUNDAY Morning Circle will meet on 10/13, FPC 8 am, Parlor  
 Monday Night Circle – 10/21 - @ 7 pm – Kristin Skinner's home

**Scotland Mission Trip**

Our Mission Team of Pastor Lifer, Elder and Outreach Team Chairman Jack Forbus, and our Co-Youth Directors Kirk Kinard and Reid Roberson, will travel tonight to Scotland to work this week and next Sunday at the new churches FPC has supported for the past year in Haddington and Dundee. Please continue to pray for our Mission Team, for the new churches FPC is helping reach new people for the Lord, and for God's work of revival and redemption in the UK and throughout the world

**Fellowship in the Haddington Community Church**



**Mission Pastors and their Families**

Photo at left:  
 Rev. Ali Sewell and his wife, Julie, with their elder daughter, Emily – at home in Haddington



Photo at right: Rev. Andy Robertson with his wife, Caireen, and their sons, Finlay and Lewis – at the Charleston Church outreach center



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



*Free Church of Scotland Pastor Ali Sewell brings the Good News of God to the one-year-old Haddington Community Church. For the past year, FPC Starkville has helped support this new church that is bringing revival of the Christian faith in John Knox's hometown (Haddington, in East Lothian). Through FPC members' faithful giving and an allocation of a small part of our overall regular ministry budget and Outreach Mission gifts, we have been able to help support the birth of the Haddington mission church through the UK Partnership – a mission partnership of which FPC is a member. The UK Partnership is seeking to re-evangelize the United Kingdom.*

**OCTOBER 13, 2019**

**Worship Service | 8:30 a.m.**

**Sunday School | 9:45 – 10:30 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**  
 307 University Drive, Starkville, Mississippi 39759  
**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.**