

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

SEPTEMBER 1, 2019

PRELUDE

Invention in C Minor

Joel
Jennifer Blackburn

WELCOME

Invitation to Our Fall Wednesday Night Adult Discipleship Study

Martin Lifer
Joe Nasvytis

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

CALL TO WORSHIP IN CHRIST'S NAME

OPENING OF SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

Ben Jackson

Minister: Acts 10:34-38 reports that Peter said to Cornelius and his gentile household: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but,..."

ALL: In every nation, anyone who fears Him and does what is right is acceptable to Him. As for the Word He sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (He is Lord of all!), ..."

Minister: "You yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed."

ALL: "How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Jesus."

***INVOCATION**

***HYMN 219**

Tell Me the Stories of Jesus

HYMN TO JOY

GOD'S WORD FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

Amy Aarhus (11:00)

***AFFIRMING OUR FAITH – The Apostles' Creed (Unison)**

Reid Roberson

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 670**

Glory Be to the Father

Althouse

ANTHEM (11:00 – Chancel Choir)

Lord, Be With Us On This Day

Deacon of the Month: Robby Holditch

Today's Ushers: (8:30) – Bob Boyd (11:00) – Wesley Ferguson, Derick Metts

Today's Greeters: (8:30) – Priscilla Boyd (11:00) – Emily Ferguson, Pam Metts

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.



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 following the service today, or call Pastor Lifer this week at the church office. You may also send a message to him via email (mwlifer3@gmail.com).

Join us for the Emotionally Healthy Spirituality course

Wednesday Nights this Fall, Joe Nasvytis will be teaching Peter Scazzero's *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality* course. Learn how to slow down your life to develop your own personal relationship with Jesus because you can't be spiritually mature if you are not emotionally healthy.

Please see the bulletin insert for more details and to register for the class.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING (Martin Lifer)

Mark 1:1-13

(ESV Pew Bible pp.1008)

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 668 - THE DOXOLOGY**

OFFERING: GOD'S TITHE AND OUR FURTHER OFFERINGS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***OFFERTORY**

How Deep the Father's Love For Us

arr. Ham
Jennifer Blackburn

GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

SERMON

Good News of the Coming King

Joe Nasvytis

INVITATION TO TRUST AND FOLLOW JESUS

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

***HYMN 302**

Rejoice, The Lord Is King

DARWALL

***BENEDICTION**

Joe Nasvytis

CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen

Traditional

***POSTLUDE**

O Worship the King

arr. Lopez
Jennifer Blackburn

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

Members, Visitors, and Guests, YOU'RE INVITED:
THIS Wednesday Night, beginning at 5:45 p.m., to

Our Kickoff Celebration for
Fall Wednesday Night
Friends & Family
Ministries, with a
COOKOUT DINNER &
Fellowship



Join us this Wednesday night in the Fellowship Hall
for a cookout, music & fellowship.

Eat! Fellowship! Meet the teachers!

Kids - Throw water balloons on the front yard Hill!

FPC Men's Cooking Team members are cooking hot dogs, and the
Wednesday Fellowship Team is also providing sides and desserts.

Please RSVP using the form on the bulletin insert
or call Peggy Branch by Tuesday at 3:00 pm.

TODAY'S KEY SERMON & SCRIPTURE NOTES

1. We need to _____ Jesus as the Almighty, Divine King Who came to establish God's rule on earth through the _____ .

The beginning of the gospel about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. (Mark 1:1)

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" (Is. 52:7)

And [Jesus] asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ." (Mk. 8:29)

And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him." (Mk. 9:7)

Men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken. (Matt. 12:36)

I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way"--"a voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.' " And so John came, baptizing in the desert region and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. (Mark 1:2-4)

A voice of one calling: "In the desert prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God. And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken." (Is. 40:3, 5)

All peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed. (Dan. 7:14)

a. We recognize Jesus as the coming King by giving Him _____ and _____ .

b. We recognize Jesus as King by daily _____ on Him to _____ our sins.

And so John came, baptizing in the desert region and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. (Mark 1:4-6)

We have already made the charge that Jews and Gentiles alike are all under sin. As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one." (Rom. 3:9-12)

c. We recognize Jesus as King by fully _____ to Him.

And this was [John's] message: "After me will come one more powerful than I, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I baptize you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." (Mark 1:7-8)

Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say? (Lk. 6:46)

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

2. The King makes us _____ as God's children through His Spirit.

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. As Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." (Mark 1:9-11)

For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children. (Rom. 8:15-16)

3. Since God's our Father through Christ, God's committed to our growth as His children.

At once the Spirit sent him out into the desert, and he was in the desert forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him. (Mark 1:12-13)

"Therefore I am now going to allure her; I will lead her into the desert and speak tenderly to her. From there I will give back her vineyards to her, and turn the "Valley of Trouble" into an "Opportunity for Hope." There she will sing as she did when she was young, when she came up from the land of Egypt. (Hos. 2:14–15) I will make rivers flow on barren heights, and springs within the valleys. I will turn the desert into pools of water, and the parched ground into springs. I will put in the desert the cedar and the acacia, the myrtle and the olive. I will set pines in the wasteland, the fir and the cypress together...See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland...I provide water in the desert and streams in the wasteland, to give drink to my people, my chosen, the people I formed for myself that they may proclaim my praise. (Is. 41:18–19; Is 43:19–21)

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! (1John 3:1)

I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead. (Phil. 3:10-11)

Week of September 1, 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 (120 Jackson St.)
TUESDAY:	7:00 a.m.	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Parlor)
WEDNESDAY:	5:45 p.m.	Cookout Dinner (Fellowship Hall) and Kickoff Fellowship for Fall Season Friends & Family Ministries
THURSDAY:	1:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
SATURDAY:	6:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous (120 Jackson St.)

Prayer List

Cynthia Ware, together with her parents, Donna and Herman Ware
 Charles and Roxene Atkinson
 Randell Foxworth
 Marjorie Malone
 Billy and Brenda Harrington
 Paula Elliott
 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)
 Sylvia Love
 Ross Collins
 Janet, Gary, and Jay Bardwell
 Richard Barge (friend of Jack Forbus)
 Aspen Reynolds (Anita Reynolds granddaughter)
 Teresa Miller (Amy Harrison's mom)
 Emily Chancellor (Natalie Morgan's Niece)
 Carl Ivey, Sr. (Dukedom, Kentucky); Michael Belcher (Friend of the Iveys)
 Bob and Dot Forbus, and Raleigh Wood (brother, sister-in-law, and friend 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, 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

Thank you from the Massingill family

Dear Church Family, Thank you so much for the Bible for Sadie Grace. We look forward to reading it to her for years to come. We are grateful to be able to raise our daughters in a church that care so deeply about Shepherding the hearts of children. Thanks again for helping us celebrate Sadie Grace's arrival.

Sincerely, Allen and Alex Massingill

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT FPC'S CCO UNIVERSITY MINISTRY

+Making a Gift for Scholarship Assistance

If you would like to make an extra offering today to help with Scholarship Support for participants in this year's Fall Break University Ministry Educational Equipping – the CCEF Biblical Counseling Conference in Birmingham (Oct. 11-13) – please make your gift to FPC Starkville (via check or cash today, or other means with the office) with the Memo note: *University Ministry Scholarship Support*. You may certainly make a gift of any amount; a "full" scholarship amount is \$275.

University/CCO Meals – Help Needed!!

Part of the regular rhythm of CCO/FPC is Monday Night Hospitality. It was the most well attended regular event we did last year and many students look forward to each Monday as a time to get off campus and fellowship with each other. If you would like to help this school year, please let Allison Jackson know. Allison sends out a SignUp Genius for each week via email and would love to add you to the list.

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

Class of 2019	Class of 2020	Class of 2021
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

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

FPC Starkville (EPC) Men's Ministry

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

FPC Starkville (EPC) Women's Ministry

Janice Kinard, *Moderator*

Fall Thursday Afternoon Women's Bible Study -

One in a Million: Journey to Your Promised Land by Priscilla Shirer
Priscilla's words summarize the focus of the study : "... Promised land living does not mean a life with no problems. It means experiencing God's power and presence in spite of difficulty."

This seven-session study continues for Session Two this Thursday, September 5, and will meet each of the next six Thursdays 1:00-2:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. To register and order a workbook (\$15), please contact Peggy Johnson.

ENJOY A RICHER LORD'S DAY AT FPC.

Adult Bible Study & *Friendship-Building* Fellowship Groups during our **Sunday School Time (9:45-10:30 a.m.)**

Take the Next Step for Growing in God's Word & Family. Guests and members – *If you are not in a Sunday Group*, join us for one of the following (9:45-10:30 a.m.):

Crusaders' Class (Fellowship Hall) - **Crusaders' Class** meets in The **Fellowship Hall**. The leadership team includes Jack Forbus (Lead Teacher), **Ernie George, Allen Johnson, and Charlie Guest**. Jack Forbus is leading a study of the Acts this fall.



Faith for Life Bible Study & Fellowship (with Dr. Lifer in the Chapel) - The **Faith for Life** Group meets in the **Chapel - behind the Sanctuary Chancel-Front** - and is *led by Pastor Lifer and other teachers such as Dr. Garth Gilmour (pictured above left), Rev. Nasvytis, Rev. Latimer, and Bob Daniels*. The group this fall will continue to learn & to apply God's Message from Genesis about his call & grace for Jacob (Israel) and his twelve sons, including Joseph.



The Joy Class (Parlor) - **The Joy Class** meets in The **Parlor – South End of Fellowship Hall Floor** - and is *led by Phil Gruchy*. The class is continuing this semester with **Les Feldick's** video series, **Through the Bible**.



New Covenant Class (Classroom behind the Sanctuary Balcony) - **Jim Beaty** is Lead Teacher of New Covenant Class. The class is continuing this fall a study of 1Timothy.



Women in the Word – Bible Study & Fellowship (Sanctuary Bld'g Main Floor Room 6) *led by Nancy Lifer*. Our Sunday Morning Women's Bible Study meets in **Room S-6 on the Sanctuary Bldg. Floor Main Floor, around the corner from the Chapel and Chancel-Front of the Sanctuary**. Nancy is currently leading the group through a study of the Letter of **James**.



College Group Sunday Bible Study (Johnson Room, Office Bld'g) - **Ben & Allison Jackson** lead the class in the Johnson Room (*inside the Church Office Building – behind the main building*). This class is continuing the study of the good news in the book of Luke.



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



Participants at FPC's SOS and Youth Lock-in on Friday evening, August 16.

SEPTEMBER 1, 2019

Worship Service | 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School | 9:45 – 10:30 a.m.

Morning 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

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