

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, STARKVILLE (EPC)
SEPTEMBER 8, 2019

PRELUDE *Meditation on ‘Bread of Life’* Penfield
 Jennifer Blackburn

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Martin Lifer

CALL TO WORSHIP IN CHRIST’S NAME

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

***Responsive Reading** from Psalm 145:1,10,13 Reid Roberson
 Minister: I will extol You, my God and King, and bless your Name forever and ever.
 All your works shall give thanks to You, O LORD, and all your saints shall bless You.
ALL: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION & PRAISE**

***HYMN 2** *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* LAUDA ANIMA (Andrews)

GOD’S WORD FOR YOUNG CHILDREN Ashleigh Murdock

***AFFIRMING OUR FAITH** (Westminster) Larger Catechism, Q. 42, and Shorter Catechism Q. 24
 Minister: Why was our mediator called Christ?
ALL: Our mediator was called Christ, because He was anointed with the Holy Spirit beyond all measure. Consequently, He was set apart and completely equipped with all authority and power to execute the offices of prophet, priest, and king of his church – in both his humiliation and his exaltation.
 Minister: How is Christ a prophet?
ALL: As a prophet, Christ reveals the will of God to us for our salvation by his Word and Spirit.

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

***ANTHEM** (11:00 – Chancel Choir) *O, If I Had a Thousand Voices*

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION, PETITION & INTERCESSION Martin Lifer

SILENT PRAYERS

GOOD NEWS OF GOD’S MERCY

HYMN 668 - THE DOXOLOGY

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

OFFERTORY *Be Still and Know* arr. Hayes
 Jennifer Blackburn

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Martin Lifer

**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!

Deacon of the Month: Kristen Skinner
Today’s Ushers: (8:30) – Bob Boyd (11:00) – Wesley Ferguson, Pam Metts
Today’s Greeters: (8:30) – Priscilla Boyd (11:00) – Emily Ferguson, Hayes Ferguson

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 (mwlfifer3@gmail.com).

GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED

SCRIPTURE

Mark 1:1,14-15
 (ESV Pew Bible p. 836)

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

TODAY’S SERMON *Repent and Believe in the Good News!* Martin Lifer

GOD’S WORD SEALED
THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

+INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

THE LORD’S WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND CONSECRATION

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.

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

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

***HYMN 410** *A Parting Hymn We Sing* DENNIS

CHORAL RESPONSE *Amen*

***POSTLUDE** *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* McConnell
 Jennifer Blackburn

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

The Sanctuary Flowers today are given to the **Glory of God** by Fancy and Ernie George in loving memory of Fancy’s parents, **Peggy and Wil Thomson**, who were members of FPC for 50 years.

TODAY’S KEY SERMON & SCRIPTURE NOTES

Who preached? What was his message? What did he say we need to do?

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee preaching the Good News of God and saying:
“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the Good News!”

THE CENTRAL QUESTION MARK CONTINUALLY RAISES: *Who Do You Say Jesus Is?*

“But who do you say that I am?” Mark 8:29a

Mark’s Confession & Invitation (1:1) The beginning of the Gospel about Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

The **beginning** of the Good News.... **Does it continue with you? With us?**

Christ = *Christos* = *Messhiach* = Messiah = The Anointed One.

In the OT and Kingdom of Israel, three types of people – people in three offices – were anointed:

_____ were anointed, _____ were anointed, and _____ were anointed as *mediators*.

Prophet - called & anointed to **speak for the LORD** → **to the people**.

Priest - called & anointed to **speak for the people** → **to God** [to intercede/mediate for the people to God].

King - called & anointed to **shepherd, rule, judge, and deliver** -- **the people** for God, under God’s Word & will.

The **Three Offices** [**Munus Triplex**] = The “**Triple Cure**”

Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, II. xv. 1 – “Therefore, **in order that faith may find a firm basis for salvation in Christ, and thus rest in Him**, this principle must be laid down: **the office enjoined upon Christ by the Father consists of three parts. ... prophet, king and priest.**”

... Also, the Westminster Confession of Faith, Larger Catechism, and Shorter Catechism.

The Anointed **Ministries of Mediation** *pointed to Jesus* AND *were & are fulfilled by Him*:

He is the ultimate Prophet (in Himself bringing THE Complete & Final Word), the ultimate Priest (in Himself Making THE Complete & Final sacrifice), and the ultimate King (in Himself Ushering in God’s eternal Kingdom).

Mark 1:14 - **“Now,”** not *“immediately.”* Cf. John 1:29-34 – John 4:45

But *now*, after John the Baptist is arrested, **the time has come for Jesus to begin fully and first in Galilee his ministry as the ultimate, anointed prophet, preaching God’s Gospel.**

Luke 4:16-21, 24 *“He has **anointed Me** to proclaim **Good News to the poor.**”*... And He began to say to them: **“Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”**

... Jesus came ... **Preaching THE Good News: The Heart of Jesus’ Prophetic Ministry in Galilee**

The Gospel of God (Mark 1:14) = **The Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God** (Mark 1:1)

The heart of Jesus’ preaching, the heart of the Good News:

(1) **“The _____ is fulfilled.”** / **“Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”**
 NOT *chronos* but **KAIROS**= the crucible: the appointed moment or season for decision & action.

In his *kairos*, Jesus redeemed us. In your *kairos*, how will you decide & act? *The time is now!*



Acts 17:30-31 [Paul’s message at the Areopagus about the present & coming crucible] “The times of ignorance God overlooked, but **now** He commands all people everywhere to repent, because **He has fixed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by a man Whom He has appointed**; an of this **He has given assurance by raising Him from the dead.**”

(2) **“and the kingdom of God is _____.”** [Because *the King* has come.]

Daniel 2:44 - And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall the kingdom be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever,...

(3) **_____ and _____ in the Good News!”** Two Sides of Same Coin

REPENT From the NT Greek *metanoéo*, “repent” has four elements to what it means:

- a change of **mind**;
- a change of **heart**;
- a change of **behavior**; and
- a change of **direction**.

True gospel repentance is NOT _____ sorrow, guilt or shame but is _____ - _____grief that by the Spirit produces a true change of mind (focus), heart, behavior, and direction in relation to God, ourselves, sin, the world and God’s Kingdom vs. the kingdoms of this world.

2 Corinthians 7:10 - For **godly grief** produces a **repentance that leads to salvation without regret**, whereas **worldly grief produces death**.

Regarding Esau – “For you know that even afterwards, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place [topos] for repentance, though he sought for it [the blessing] with tears.” [Hebrews 12:17]

Yet, neither is Jesus’ message, “Repent, and just try harder next time... or work on becoming more religious.”

“Repent and believe in the Good News!”

BELIEVE IN THE GOOD NEWS: Gospel of God = Gospel of _____ the _____ of God.

[Paul in Colossians 1:13-14] - [God] has delivered us *from* the domain of darkness and *transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son*, in Whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Week of September 8, 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:	5:15 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
THURSDAY:	1:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
SATURDAY:	6:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous (120 Jackson St.)

Thank You from the Casserole Kitchen Ministry

The Casserole Kitchen ministry began in First Presbyterian Church 10 ½ years ago under the leadership of Gery Cummings and with the help of other members of our church and other churches throughout Starkville and Oktibbeha County. This is truly an ecumenical effort to provide good, wholesome meals in a clean, safe environment to those in need. Over this period of time, we have literally served tens of thousands of meals through our Fellowship Hall, we have involved dozens of churches of many denominations and hundreds of volunteers from across the Starkville community and MSU campus.

I want to thank all of our members who have faithfully supported Casserole Kitchen as a host or hostess, prepared and served meals, helped clean up the Fellowship Hall after a meal, or provided assistance in other ways.

This Ministry will now begin a new chapter through the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection.

I thank each of you with much gratitude and appreciation for all you have done.

Sincerely,
Loren Zimmerman
Co-Chair, Casserole Kitchen

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 – 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 Flowood
Carolyn Wofford—Heritage At Irene Wood, Memphis, Tennessee

CORRECTED & UPDATED NOTICE FOR CALLED MEETING ON OFFICER ELECTION ON SEPTEMBER 22.

Active Members of FPC: We will have a Called Congregational Meeting and Election on September 22. The stated primary purpose of the meeting will be for receiving the report of the Nominating Committee and then opening the voting process for the election of members to the Session Class of 2022 and the Diaconate Class of 2022. The meeting will open in the Sanctuary at 8:30 a.m. with prayer, confirmation of the day's agenda, and report of the Nominating Committee. Active FPC members will then be able to vote individually any time from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the election table that will be set up in the northeast corner of the Fellowship Hall.

The Nominating Committee will nominate the following five candidates for the office of elder in the Session Class of 2022 on a unified recommendation that the congregation elect by omnibus approval vote (all five) of the following nominees to serve as members of the Session and to constitute, together, the Session Class of 2022: Harry Bell; Scotty Crawford; Wesley Ferguson; Susan Gamel; and Brien Henry. *A ballot will be provided for each adult, active member arriving during the voting period to vote at the voting table. Pertaining to the Session Election, a member will either vote "yes" or "no" to the recommendation for omnibus approval of the five nominated candidates for elder; if a member votes "no," then that member may also [but need not also] write in the name or names of up to four active members willing to serve on the Session Class of 2022.*

The Nominating Committee will also nominate the following four candidates for the office of deacon to be members of the Diaconate Class of 2022, on a unified recommendation that the congregation elect by omnibus approval vote (all four) of the following nominees to serve as members of the Diaconate and to constitute, together, the Diaconate Class of 2022: Jack Atkins; Rebecca Wade Banzhaf; Janet Bardwell; and Lee Weiskopf. *On the ballot provided for each adult, active member arriving during the voting period to vote at the voting table – pertaining to the Diaconate Election – a member will either vote "yes" or "no" to the recommendation for omnibus approval of the four nominated candidates for deacon; if a member votes "no," then that member may also [but need not also] write in the name or names of up to four active members willing to serve on the Diaconate Class of 2022.*

There will not at this time be a meeting of the church corporation.

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

<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	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

Mission for the month – FPC University Ministry – Ben Jackson

Sip N See – September 15th

Gospel Sing/Catfish Supper at Robinson Lake Sept 22

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

Session for September – Introduction to Bible Study : "STUCK" by Jennie Allen

Sunday, 9/08 – Parlor, 8 am, Leader Brenda Koenig

Monday, 9/09 – Parlor, 1:30 pm, Leader Sara Wilson

Tuesday, 9/10 – 6 pm, Vivian Cade's home, Leader Vivian Cade

Monday, 9/23 – 7 pm, Amy Weiskopf's home, Leader Amy Weiskopf

Position Announcement

Church Administrative Assistant

As you may have heard, our beloved Church Pastoral Secretary, Rita Usher, along with her husband John are moving to Mobile so he can take on a new role as the Engineering Dean at the University of South Alabama. She has been a wonderful asset to our Church and we appreciate all that she has done for the past 2 years. The Personnel Committee is conducting a search to find her replacement. If you or someone you know may be interested in learning more about the position, please visit our website at www.fpcstarkville.org or pick up an announcement in the Church office.



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



SEPTEMBER 8, 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

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.