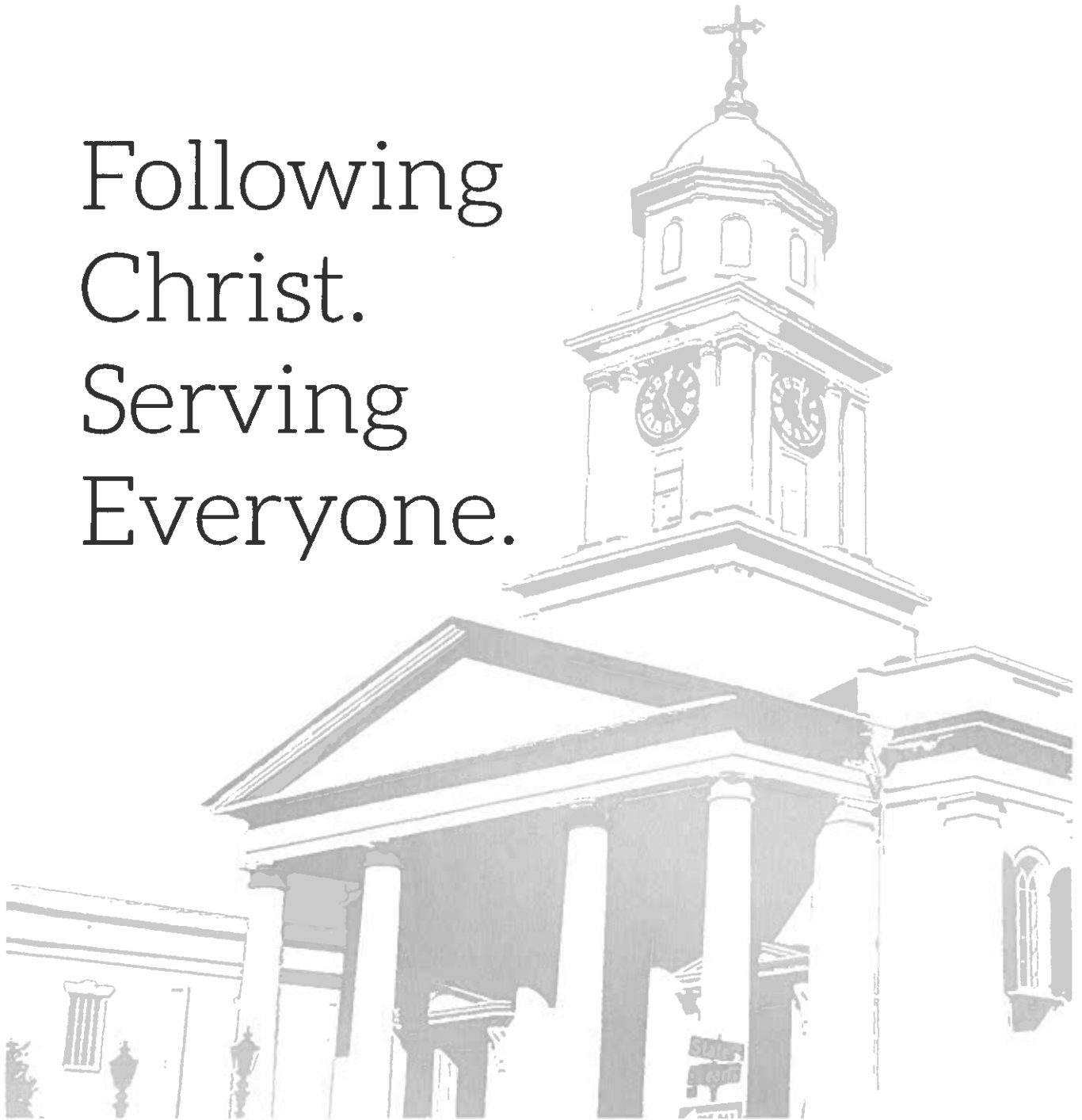




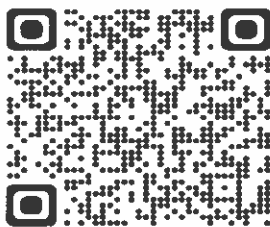
First Presbyterian Church of Natchez

Following
Christ.
Serving
Everyone.



Welcome!

We are delighted you have joined us in worship at First Presbyterian Church Natchez. So that we might get to know you a little better, please take a moment to fill out a connect card by scanning the QR code below.



You may also send your contact information to fpcnatchez@bellsouth.net.

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 10, 2024 ~ 10:30 a.m.

The Rev. Dr. Joan W. Gandy, Minister

The Rev. Chase Caldwell, Associate Minister

Mr. Vincent Bache III, Director of Music and Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Offering our lives in the life of Christ's church

Join in the ministries of your church as God calls you!

THE GATHERING

Westminster Chimes

The chiming of the hour signals to us that it is time to worship.

Now let us direct our hearts to the One who calls us here!

Prelude

Intrada No. 2

Herbert Howells

Call to Worship

Matthew 5:3-4, 8-9

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Praise the Lord!

The Lord's name be praised. Amen.

*Processional Hymn 2: *Come, Thou Almighty King*

ITALIAN HYMN

2 Come, Thou Almighty King

1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy
 2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, mer - ci - ful,
 3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred
 4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal

name to sing; help us to praise:
 might - y Lord, our prayer at - tend.
 wit - ness bear in this glad hour.
 prais - es be, hence ev - er - more!

Fa - ther, all glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - to - ri - ous,
 Come, and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy word suc - cess;
 Thou who al - might - y art, now rule in ev - ery heart,
 Thy sov - ereign maj - es - ty may we in glo - ry see,

come, and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
 Spir - it of ho - li - ness, on us de - scend.
 and ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of power.
 and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

The author of this Trinitarian text is unknown, but this hymn has proved popular since the middle of the 18th century, partly because of its effective use of biblical metaphors, but also because of the strength of this tune, which was composed especially for these words.

Confession of Sin

The congregation joins in Call to Confession and Unison Prayer of Confession. After silent prayer, all sing the *Kyrie (Lord, Have Mercy)*.

Call to Confession

Psalm 32:2, 4, 5

Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me.

My strength was dried up by the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity.

You forgave the guilt of my sin.

In faith and penitence, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

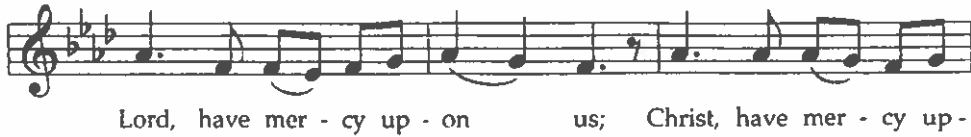
Unison Confession of Sin

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name.

Time for Silent Confession

Lord, Have Mercy upon Us
(Choir and congregation sing.)

Kyrie



Declaration of Forgiveness

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

*Response Hymn 581

Gloria Patri

GREATOREX

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
And to the Holy Ghost.**

As it was in the beginning,

Is now and ever shall be,

World without end. Amen. Amen.

* Greeting and the Peace

Leader: The peace of Christ be with all of you today.

All: **And also with you.**

THE WORD

Story and Prayers for Young Disciples

Afterwards, children may return to their seats or go to children's class.

Prayer for Illumination

Danna Mooney, reader

Old Testament Reading: 1 Kings 17:8-16

Pew Bible Page 401

Reading from the Epistles: Hebrews 9:11-14

Pew Bible Page 271

*Gospel Hymn 175: *Seek Ye First*

LAFFERTY

Seek Ye First

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia,

1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God
 2 Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you;
 3 You shall not live by bread a - lone,

al - le - lu - ia,

and its righ - teous - ness,
 seek, and you shall find;
 but by ev - ery word

The author and composer wrote the first stanza and folk-style tune after attending a Bible study on Matthew 6:33. The later stanzas, based respectively on Matthew 7:7 and Matthew 4:4, emerged anonymously. Such meditative singing of scripture is an important form of sung prayer.

al - le - lu - ia,

and all these things shall be add - ed un - to you.
 knock, and the door shall be o - pened un - to you.
 that pro - ceeds from the mouth of God.

al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

SPANISH

1 *Busca primero el reino de Dios
 y su perfecta justicia,
 que lo demás lo añadirá el Señor.
 Alelu, aleluya.*

KOREAN

1 너희는 먼저- 주의 나라와
 그의를 구하-면
 이모든것 내게 더하시리라
 알렐-루 알렐루야

Gospel Reading: Mark 12:28-34

Pew Bible Page 60

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"From Spark to Flame"

Rev. Gandy

Affirmation of Our Faith

*Apostles' Creed

Traditional

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.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

(debts/debtors)

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 THANKSGIVING

Call for the Offering

*The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world and those who live in it.*

Psalm 24:1



Scan FPC QR code here to give online

Offertory

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

Text: John Greenleaf Whittier, 1872

Music: CHH Parry

Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways;
Reclothe us in our rightful mind; in purer lives, Thy service find,
In deeper reverence praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard, beside the Syrian sea,
The gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like them, without a word,
Rise up and follow thee.

Drop Thy still dews of quietness, till all our striving cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desire Thy coolness and Thy balm;
Let sense be dumb, let flesh retire; speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still small voice of calm!

*Prayer of Dedication

THE SENDING

*Hymn 360, verses 1 & 2: *Christ Is Coming!*

UNSER HERRSCHER

*Benediction

*Postlude

Prelude and Fugue in A Minor

Johann Caspar Simon

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory
of Joess and Adrian Trimble by Tanna and Vidal Davis.*

360

Christ Is Coming!

1 Christ is com - ing! Let cre - a - tion from its groans and
 2 Earth can now but tell the sto - ry of your bit - ter
 3 With that bless - ed hope be - fore us, flutes are tuned and
 4 Long your ex - iles have been pin - ing for your prom - ised

la - bor cease; let the glo - rious proc - la - ma - tion
 cross and pain; we shall yet be - hold your glo - ry,
 harps are strung; let the might - y ad - vent cho - rus
 rest and home, but in heaven - ly glo - ry shin - ing,

hope re - store and faith in - crease: Christ is com - ing!
 Lord, when you re - turn to reign: Christ is com - ing!
 on - ward roll from tongue to tongue: Christ is com - ing!
 soon the ris - en Christ shall come. Christ is com - ing!

Christ is com - ing! Come, O bless - ed Prince of peace.
 Christ is com - ing! Let each heart re - peat the strain.
 Christ is com - ing! Let each heart re - peat the song.
 Christ is com - ing! Joy - ful, shout the vic - tory psalm.

This hymn by a 19th-century Scottish pastor is specifically based on Revelation 1:7 and 22:20, with allusions to several other New Testament passages. Unlike medieval hymns that focused on judgment, this text understands the Second Coming as an occasion of triumph and joy.

Music Notes: The Prelude this morning is *Intrada No. 2* by British composer, organist, and teacher Herbert Howells (1892-1983). The Anthem at the Offertory is *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind* set here as an anthem of the original hymn tune by Sir Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918). Parry is best known for his rousing Coronation Anthem *I was Glad*, sung at every English coronation since being composed. Sir Parry was not only a prolific choral composer, but also a teacher and historian of music, as well as being a 1st Baronet. The Postlude is *Prelude and Fugue in A Minor* by German baroque composer Johann Caspar Simon (1701-1776).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Youth Group Partners and Parents Meeting Today: Are you the parent of a student ages 10-18? Or are you interested in learning more about how you can support and participate in our church's ministry to young people? Today, November 10, after worship all youth parents and those interested in helping out with the FPC youth group are invited to join Rev. Caldwell in Fellowship Hall for a pizza lunch and informational meeting about our church's growing youth ministry and plans for the upcoming year.

Refugee Response Ministry: Recently, our church has begun ministering to refugees and asylum seekers held in two local detention centers. A team is being organized to respond to this urgent need and fruitful mission opportunity to extend the love of Christ to people from all over the world, whom God has brought into our community. There are a variety of ways you can participate in this ministry, from making visits, to providing transportation, and of course, through prayer. If you are interested in being a part of the Refugee Response Ministry, please reach out to Rev. Caldwell, and plan to attend an interest meeting on Thursday, November 14 at 5 p.m. in the church library.

Session: The Session will meet Monday, November 11, at 5 p.m. in the church library.

Men's Prayer Breakfast: Men's Prayer Breakfast will meet Tuesday, November 12, at 7 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Tuesday Bible Study: The Pastor's Bible Study meets on Tuesday, November 12, at 11 a.m. in the parlor of Stratton Chapel. Scriptures for study are 1 Samuel 1:4-20; 1 Samuel 2:1-10 (in place of a psalm); Hebrews 10:11-25; and Mark 13:1-8.

Third Thursday Book Club: Please join this group of avid readers who are meeting once a month for book discussion –Third Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. in the Stratton Chapel parlor. The selected book for November is *The Rose Code* by Kate Quinn. The date is November 21.

Toys for Tots: Though it may seem early to think about Christmas, it is time to begin thinking about how to help ensure some Christmas gifts for children who otherwise might not have any during the traditional season of giving. Please be generous in your giving. There are hundreds of families in our community who will be served by Toys for Tots. Boxes are in the hallway by the church office and in Stratton Chapel. The deadline is Friday, December 6.

Thank you!: The FPC Mission Committee continues to ship the hundreds of plastic pill bottles you are helping to collect. This is such a simple but effective and transformative mission! Thank you for helping medical missionaries! Keep it up!

Sunday School: Adult classes on Sunday morning meet with Sammy Gore in the Westminster Room 9:15-10; with Chuck Borum in the parlor at 9:15-10; or with Rev. Chase Caldwell upstairs in Stratton Chapel 9-9:45.

Acolyte Formation: Acolytes meet with Rev. Gandy on Sunday at 9:45 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Monday Prayer: Community prayer in the Prayer Room, located adjacent to the sanctuary, is held Mondays at 11:30 a.m. This prayer time is informal and offers opportunity to pray with others for people and things that are on each heart.

Pickleball at FPC: The FPC Fellowship Hall Pickleball Court is available to use Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The court may be reserved at least 24 hours in advance for 1 hour. To make a reservation, visit or call the church office at 601-442-2581. All users must check-in with the church office prior to play.

Grief Support Group at FPC: First Presbyterian Grief Support Group meets Wednesdays at 4 p.m. in the church library.

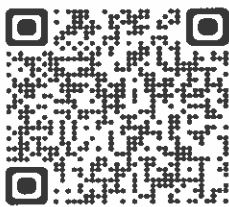
Wonderful Wednesday: The Wednesday gathering will begin with a meal at 5:15 with Bible study afterwards. Scripture: Mark 8:11-38.

Children's Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Schedule: Wednesday, November 13, at 4 p.m.; Wednesday, November 20, at 4 p.m.; and Tuesday, December 3, at 5 p.m. Dress Rehearsal will be on Wednesday, December 11, at 4:30 p.m. If your child would like to participate in the pageant, please reach out to Rev. Caldwell soon.

Sanctuary Choir: The Sanctuary Choir rehearses Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m.

Organ Update Fund: We are more than halfway there! Please help to get the organ update scheduled soon! The new programs will include rich new tones and instruments to give new ways for our gifted organist to give glory to God through music. Gifts may be made in honor of the organist and choir or in honor or memory of others. Every gift is important!

Give by check or cash or scan the code below to give to the Organ Fund:



New Members Welcomed: If you are interested in becoming a member of First Presbyterian, you will be warmly welcomed. The first step is to let the minister know of your interest. You may see her before or after worship; or call the church at 601-442-2581 to speak with her.

Photo Gallery Docents: Visits by tourists will begin to increase now that fall has arrived. Natchez in Historic Photographs is a favorite destination! Are you available to serve as a docent, welcoming and giving a few words of explanation about the church and photographs? Please consider donating a couple of hours to the museum as a docent. The exhibit is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call Rosemary Hall or the church office to sign up.

AA Meetings: Open Gates AA Meeting meets Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 12 noon in the downstairs meeting room in Stratton Chapel. These are open discussion meetings.

Pastoral Visits: If you have special needs and wish to share them with the minister, please plan a visit so that you can talk about what's going on in your life. Contact the minister at 601-442-2581.

NOVEMBER

2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						01
						02
Don't forget to set your clocks back an hour on November 3.						Noon AA
Communion	03	04	05	06	07	08
9:15 Sunday School Coffee Time 9:45 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship 11:30 Partners in Parents	8:30 Exercise Class 10 Staff meeting 11:30 Prayer Group Noon AA 5 Deacons meeting 7 Boy Scouts #157	VIKING TOUR 11 Bible Study	8:30 Exercise Noon AA 4 Grief Support Group 4:15 Youth 5:15 Supper 6 Bible Study 6 Choir	4 Officer training		Noon AA
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:15 Sunday School Coffee Time 9:45 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship	8:30 Exercise Class 10 Staff meeting 11:30 Prayer Group Noon AA 4:15 Finance 5 Session 7 Boy Scouts	7 Men's Prayer Breakfast 10:30 Pack Food Boxes 11 Bible Study	VIKING TOUR 10 Rebekah Circle 10 Food Boxes Noon AA 4 Grief Support Group 4 Pageant Rehearsal 5:15 Supper 6 Bible Study; Choir		Noon AA	5-7 Wild Faith Youth Bon Fire at the home of Chris and Chuck Borum
Installation of Officers	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:15 Sunday School Coffee Time 9:45 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship	8:30 Exercise Class 10 Staff meeting 11:30 Prayer Group Noon AA 7 Boy Scouts Troop 157	VIKING TOUR 11 Bible Study	8:30 Exercise 10 Food Boxes Noon AA 4 Grief Support Group 4 Pageant Rehearsal 5:15 Supper 6 Bible Study 6 Choir	5 Book Club		Noon AA
24	25	26	27	Thanksgiving	28	29
Stewpot Sunday						30
9:15 Sunday School Coffee Time 9:45 Choir Rehearsal 10:30 Worship	8:30 Exercise Class 10 Staff meeting 11:30 Prayer Group Noon AA 7 Boy Scouts Troop 157	11 Bible Study	VIKING TOUR 8:30 Exercise Noon AA 4 Grief Support Group 4:15 Youth 5:15 Supper 6 Bible Study 6 Choir	Church Offices Closed Playschool Closed	Church Offices Closed Playschool Closed Noon AA	

Church Staff

The Rev. Dr. Joan W. Gandy, Pastor
The Rev. Chase Caldwell, Associate Pastor
Mr. Vincent Bache III, Director of Music and Organist
Aretha Davis, Playschool Director
Pam McNeil, Office Administrator
Mary Ann Peoples, Financial Secretary
Deon Buford, Sexton

Officers of the Church

ELDERS

Class of 2024: George Bates, Stratton Bull, Bobby Meason, Cara Moody
Class of 2025: Chuck Borum, Sandra Burkes, Marc Doyle, Jay Fitch, Sammy Gore
Class of 2026: Mary Lessley, Helen Smith, Anne Vidal Suen

Officers Elect

Class of 2027: Bobby Meason, George Bates, Danna Mooney, and Ralph Loe

Clerk of Session: Rosemary Hall

Assistant Clerk of Session: Danna Mooney

DEACONS

Class of 2024: Kristen Abney (Moderator), Everette Ratcliffe, Hubert Smith

Class of 2025: Edie Christian, Rusty Jenkins, and Randy Smith

Class of 2026: Leigh Anderson, Ken Price

Officers Elect

Class of 2027: Kristen Abney, Hubert Smith, and Sharon Williams

Thank you to Charles Hall (Director), Lance Harris, Ryan Sharp, Slade Gagnard, Robert Seyfarth, and Jon Borum for livestreaming and video services.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

117 South Pearl Street

(Mailing Address: 400 State Street)

Natchez, Mississippi 39120

601-442-2581

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fpcnatchez@bellsouth.net

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