

## Prayer List

Cynthia Ware  
 Margaret Collins  
 Wanda Hubbard  
 Albert Clark  
 Charlie Guest  
 Freddie Rasberry (following the death of his son, Ty)  
 The family of Dr. Jimmy Dodd  
 Hugh Shurden ( Sandy Jackson's Father)  
 Gloria Gentry  
 Lydia Abraham  
 Jack Thompson (Alex Adam's Uncle)  
 Marybeth Baker (Mara Cox's Mom)  
 The Peace of Jerusalem & Israel; all persons grieving bereaved by the killing or abduction of loved ones in the current war in Israel and Gaza; all hostages; first responders and those in military service; all ministry leaders of our mission partner, CMJ-Israel  
 Roxene Atkinson  
 Peggy Johnson  
 Andrew Whittenton  
 Don & Kathy Curto  
 Barbara Tindall (Tindall Morrison's Grandmother)  
 Earline Howell (Wallace Cade's Aunt)  
 John Clark Packer  
 Clayton Butler (son of the Lifer's friends, Gary & Kristen Butler)  
 Barbara Johnson  
 Andy Lawrence  
 Lea Pitre ( Diane King's Neighbor)  
 Thelma Purdy (Neena Howell's mother and Dylan Franklin's grandmother)  
 Macey & Byron Bell (Marshall Molen's sister & brother-in-law)  
 Janet, Gary & Jay Bardwell, Linda Necaice (Janet's sister) and Lydia Berry (Jay's friends)  
 Maxie Bruce (Brittney McAfee's father)  
 Ressie Carpenter  
 Jean Alice McDavid  
 Bob Forbus (Jack Forbus's brother); Staci Moak (Jack's daughter)  
 Rae Nell Crumpton  
 Gerlene Lifer; and Keitha Scott (Gerlene's friend)  
 Roy D. Dreher, Jr. (Jennie Beth Chance's father)  
 Delores Irvin (Diane Daniel's sister), Sarah Helen McCloskey & Craig D. Campbell (Daniels' friend)

## Additional Prayer List for Health Care/Assisted Living

Carl Ivey, Sr., & Nina Ivey – The Goldton  
 Dero Ramsey – The Goldton  
 Lou Cross – The Goldton  
 Hilda Scholtes – The Goldton  
 Cattie Taylor – The Beehive, Starkville

## FPC Officers

Rev. Dr. Martin Lifer, Moderator // Andrew Fountain, Clerk of Session  
 Bob Daniels, Corporate President // Lee Weiskopf, Treasurer

### Session of Elders

Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Richard Blackburn	Bob Daniels	Larry Anthony
Andrew Fountain	Jeff Foster	Vivian Cade
John Kelley	Charlie Guest	Michele Rackley
Kristen Skinner	John Turner	Lee Weiskopf

### Board of Deacons

Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Debbie Cooper	Bob Boyd	Haley Graves
Johnny Folsom	Boston Hampton	Wayne Huberty
Mike Jackson	Robbie Holditch	Dalton Miller
Alex Massingill	Jackie Mullen	Caitlin Rackley

Prepare to receive the Lord's Supper faithfully next Sunday!



We invite all baptized and affirming believers who are prepared to discern and partake of the Body and who are active in our congregation or any other evangelical church, professing personal faith in salvation through Jesus Christ, to a focused week of preparation for Holy Communion. God's Word instructs that our preparation should include Spirit-led self-examination, repentance, and reconciliation to God and to others (particularly fellow believers to whom we have been estranged), trusting in God's grace.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOIN FIRST PRESBYTERIAN FOR  
*Family Advent Lunch*  
 Join us December 2nd after our 10:30 service for our family advent lunch.  
 Sign up here!

**STARKVILLE CHRISTMAS PARADE**  
 November 27th at 6:00 p.m.  
 Join us on The Hill to watch! Kids are invited to ride on our float!

*Poinsettias for Palmer Home*  
 Poinsettias that will decorate our sanctuary for the Advent & Christmas season are \$25 per poinsettia gift.  
 Poinsettia gift forms are available in the vestibules. You also have the ability to order one by scanning here:

We would love your help getting the church decorated for Christmas!  
 Join us on Tuesday, November 28th at 9:30 a.m.  
 Reach out to Michele Rackley for any questions!

**Men's Morning Bible Study**  
 Introduction to Reading & Understanding the book of Revelation  
 911  
 in your fav  
 the Nicola  
 He who  
 what the S  
 To him wh  
 right to eat  
 is in the pa  
 To the Chu

**Tuesday Men's Bible Study will not meet November 21, but will resume November 28<sup>th</sup>!**



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STARKVILLE

Starkville's Church that Preaches the *Doctrines of Grace*  
 Part of the *Evangelical Presbyterian Church*

*Blessing of the Boxes Sunday*  
 November 19, 2023



## Sunday Morning Schedule

Lord's Day Service | 10:30 AM  
 Sunday School | 9:30 AM  
 Fellowship Time | 10:10 AM  
 Chapel Service of the Word | 8:30 AM

Access more information and online resources:  
**fpcstarkville.org**

307 University Drive, Starkville, MS 39759  
 662.323.1994 | info@fpcstarkville.org

November 19, 2023  
Lord's Day Service

**Prelude** *Now Thank We All Our God* Jennifer Blackburn

**Welcome & Announcements** Martin Lifer

**Call to Worship** *from 2 Corinthians 9:6b & 9:10-12* Dean Franklin

Whoever sows sparingly  
**Will also reap sparingly! But whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully!**

He Who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food  
**Will supply and multiply our seed for sowing and increase the harvest of our righteousness.**

You will be enriched in every way  
**In order to be generous in every way,**  
Which, through us,  
**Will produce thanksgiving to God!**

**\*Invocation**  
**\*Hymn #639** *Now Thank We All Our God* NUN DANKET

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**  
**The Lord's Prayer**  
**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.**

**Anthem** *We Gather Together* Chancel Choir  
**Prayer of Confession of Sin** Dean Franklin

Lord, your giving is without end.  
**Forgive us for selfish hoarding instead of giving our best service and the first and best of our resources to your Household. Please deliver us from this sinful idolatry and foolishness, and empower us to commit to serve, give, and worship – loving You with all our hearts.**

**\*Assurance of God's Grace** *from 2 Corinthians 9:8-9*  
God is able to make all grace abound to you,  
**So that, having all sufficiency in all things at all times, we may abound in every good work.**  
As it is written,  
**"He has distributed freely; He has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."**

**\*Hymn #99** (vv. 1 & 2) *Forever* FOREVER

**Good News for Children: Blessing the Operation Christmas Child Boxes**  
**\*Confession of Faith** *from The (Westminster) Shorter Catechism, Q. & A. 80* Martin Lifer

What does the tenth commandment require?  
**The tenth commandment requires us to be completely satisfied with our own status in life and to have a proper, loving attitude toward others and their possessions.**

**\*Hymn # 576** *Give Thanks* GIVE THANKS  
**\*Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture** *Luke 8:26-39* Pew Bible pp. 865-866  
**Sermon** *Demon Democracy or God's Kingdom?* Martin Lifer

**\*Hymn #636** (vv.1 & 2) *Come, Ye Thankful People Come* ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

**Call to Give God His Tithe, Our Offerings, and Stewardship Pledges**

**Offertory** *All Things Bright and Beautiful* Jennifer Blackburn

**\*Hymn #575** (vv. 1 & 3) *My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness* THANKFULNESS

**\*Response to the Good News of Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior**

All our sins,  
**We send to the Cross of Christ!**  
All our troubles,  
**We send to the Cross of Christ!**  
All the devil's works,  
**We send to the Cross of Christ!**  
All our hopes,  
**We set on the Risen Christ!**

**\*Benediction**  
**\*Sung Response** *Threefold Amen* DANISH



**Postlude** *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* Jennifer Blackburn



*\*The congregation is invited to stand.*



Today's Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God.  
*If you are interested in providing flowers for Sunday, please reach out to Olivia at 662-323-1994*

**Visiting with Us? We'd Love to Stay Connected!**

Please fill out one of our FirstConnect Cards and drop it in the offering plate! Alternatively, you may scan our QR code or visit [fpcstarkville.org/connect](http://fpcstarkville.org/connect).



*Want to find out more about faith in Christ, church membership, or ways to serve at FPC? Speak to Dean Franklin, Pastor Martin Lifer, or send an email to Pastor Martin at [mwlifer3@gmail.com](mailto:mwlifer3@gmail.com).*

**Demon Democracy or God's Kingdom?**

Martin Lifer/ FPC Starkville/ November 19, 2023/ Luke 8:26-39

The Bible holds up which government type? NOT a democracy but a \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus teaches us to pray NOT for the coming of our democracy but God's \_\_\_\_\_

In the Bible, *majority vote* almost always leads to \_\_\_\_\_

In Lk. 8:26-39, two unanimous "democratic" votes: 1) All demons in the "Legion" ask to enter the herd of pigs; 2) All in the region's multitude fearfully ask Jesus to leave them.

I can have my "vote" in a demon democracy, or be saved by the King & be his subject.

**Lk. 8:22-56 In New Series of Miracles, Jesus Calls His Church to Bold MISSIONARY Faith in HIM as LORD with Authority over Danger, Demons, Disease & Death.**

"Let us go across over to the other side." Lk. 8:22b 1<sup>st</sup> Storm (8:23-25); 2<sup>nd</sup> The Decapolis 8:26-39

**Jesus takes disciples on Foreign Mission to Decapolis/ SEC (Region of Gerasenes or Gergasenes)**

Greeting Party: Demonic! 8:27/ Jesus' Mission: "proclaim liberty to the captives." Lk. 4:18

A) "Who then is this?" 8:25 "Jesus, Son of the Most High God." 8:28

B) "What is your name?" 8:30 "Legion!" Am I one of the demon democracy crowd, or...?

**Demon Democracy 1.0 The Mighty Majority = fearful beggars before \_\_\_\_\_**  
*"I beg You!" Begged Him not to order them into the abyss. Begged to let them enter these.*

**Deliverance of the Demonic! Salvation through Judgment**

→ the one saved [esōthē 8:36] **sitting at Jesus' feet, clothed and in his right mind** 8:35

**Demon Democracy 2.0** All the multitude of the region asked Him to leave: No Jesus!

**Gospel Ironies: 1) Those who oppose & reject Jesus will be granted their vote/beg: democratic death;...**

**2) Those saved & belonging to the King don't always get their "begg" but are sent by Him into his mission –**

**3) Even gospel grace to rebels in the democracy of death – for the King's glory.**

**Be Delivered from Demon Democracy to God's Kingdom, and Give Thanks!**