



3rd Sunday of Advent December 14, 2014



Dr. Banyon Allison

Organist: Dr. Susie F. Dempsey

Lay Reader
Jordan Falk

Elder Greeter
Laura Underhill

Ushers
Wayne Claeren and David Talley



Gathering

First Ringing of the Bell ☞ Music for Meditation

Second Ringing of the Bell ☞ Opening of the Bible

Welcome, Joys, Concerns, and Announcements

Moment for Mission

Barbara Franklin

Lighting of the Advent Wreath *Candle of Joy* Barbara and Glen Franklin

Prelude *Pastorale Symphony (from "Messiah")* Handel

Call to Worship

One: With these words of the psalmist we gather: Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!

All: **Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!**

One: I wait for the Lord. My soul waits, and in God's word I hope.

All: **My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning.**

One: O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and great power to redeem.

Prayer of Adoration and the Lord's Prayer

†Hymn *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* Hymnal #8

†Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed Hymnal Page 14
traditional



Prayer of Confession

Compassionate God, though we believe you care for us, we confess our struggle with the fear that grips us in the darkness, the darkness in our souls and in the world. There are pits of despair from which we cannot rescue ourselves, and needs we cannot supply. Our only hope is in your deliverance, in the coming of Christ to enlighten our darkness, to lift us up and lead us into new life. But we wait with impatience and are vulnerable to becoming discouraged and doubtful. We confess that we are in danger of settling for what is now, instead of waiting in expectancy for what is coming. Forgive our sin. **Amen.**

Moment for Personal, Silent Confession

The Kyrie Eleison *-All are invited to sing-* Hymnal # 572
Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Declaration of Forgiveness

†The Gloria Patri

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.

The Word

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11 OT Page 691

The Good News of Deliverance

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Reading 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24 OT Page

Final Exhortations, Greetings and Benediction

One: The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon **The Beginning of the End** Dr. Banyon Allison

Rejoice always; *Pray* without ceasing;
In Everything Give Thanks...
for this is the will of God IN CHRIST JESUS concerning you.
1 Thess. 5:16-18



† Please stand if you are able.

†Hymn *The Angels Gabriel from Heaven Came* Hymnal #16

Prayers of the People

Offertory *He Shall Feed His Flock* Handel-Kumler
(from "Messiah")

†Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Sending

†Hymn *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You* Hymnal #11

† Charge and Benediction

†Hymn *Song of Hope* Hymnal # 432

May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race. Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all; working, for a world that's new; faithful, when we hear Christ's call.

Postlude *Gloria* Anna Laura Page
("Angels We Have Heard on High")



Jesus is the light of the world. In his incarnation and advent among us,

his light shines and we see the whole truth about who God is and what

God is doing in the world to save us.



Welcome to our Visitors

We are happy to have you worship with us and we hope you will return to worship with us again in the near future. Please indicate your attendance by filling out a visitor's card and placing it in the offering plate. If you are interested in learning more about membership in First Presbyterian Church, please speak to our Pastor after the service.

Prayer requests - Yellow folders in the pew racks may be used to request prayer. The Pastor will receive requests before the Prayers of the People.

Announcements

Food for the Jacksonville Christian Outreach Center (JCOC) – Next Sunday we will collect food for the JCOC. Please bring instant Jello or pudding, canned vegetables, canned potatoes, and canned tomatoes to help keep the shelves stocked for those in need.

Diabetes Support Group will meet Tuesday, December 16th at 5:30pm in the Parlor.

Please join us this afternoon at 4pm for our **Christmas/Advent Organ Concert** featuring concert artist, Jamie McLemore playing our newly renovated organ.



We welcome back **Dr. Banyon Allison** as our guest pastor for today's services.

Pray WITHOUT CEASING

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Please keep the following people in your prayers.

Scott Ballard
 Daniel Davis (friend of Hannah Underhill)
 Dorothy DiBartolo
 Susie Duncan (friend of David and Cecelia Talley)
 Gene Fair
 Larry Fair
 Elaine Gauldin (friend of Glen and Barbara Franklin)
 Lynsey Gillam
 Bobby Haynes
 Tom Hester (Glenn and Mary Agnes Hester's son)
 Pat Kochan
 Lee Manners
 Margo Miller (3 year old with Leukemia-requested by Laura Underhill)
 Ken Mount
 Diane Mount Nisbet
 Peggy Parrish (friend of David and Cecelia Talley)
 Ivan Ratzlaff
 Darlene Shults
 Ellen Simpson
 Rodney Sprayberry
 Thompson Nash Wagoner
 Gary Wilborn (friend of the Boozers)



Next Sunday – December 21

Rev. Dr. Bob Ford

Scripture

2 Samuel 7:1-11; 16; Luke 1:46b-55 or
 Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26; Romans 16:25-27;
 Luke 1:26-38

Elder Greeter

Laura Underhill

Lay Reader

Carolyn Padgett

Ushers

Glen and Barbara Franklin



Worship Opportunities for this Week

Today	9:45am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Between the hours fellowship
	11:00am	Worship Service
	5:00pm	Bible Study
Wednesday	10:00am	Bible Study
Next Sunday	9:45am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Between the hours fellowship
	11:00am	Worship Service
	5:00pm	Bible Study

**Dr. Susie F. Dempsey, Church Organist; Carlton Ward, Treasurer
 Mary Furlow, Secretary**

Class of 2014	The Session	Class of 2016
Wayne Claeren	Class of 2015	Ethelyn Brown
Barbara Franklin	Aleta Bell	Margaret Pope
Laura Underhill	Carolyn Padgett	Donald Seymour
	Sharon Ward	

Trustees		
Lana Boozer	Carlton Ward	Cosper Bell



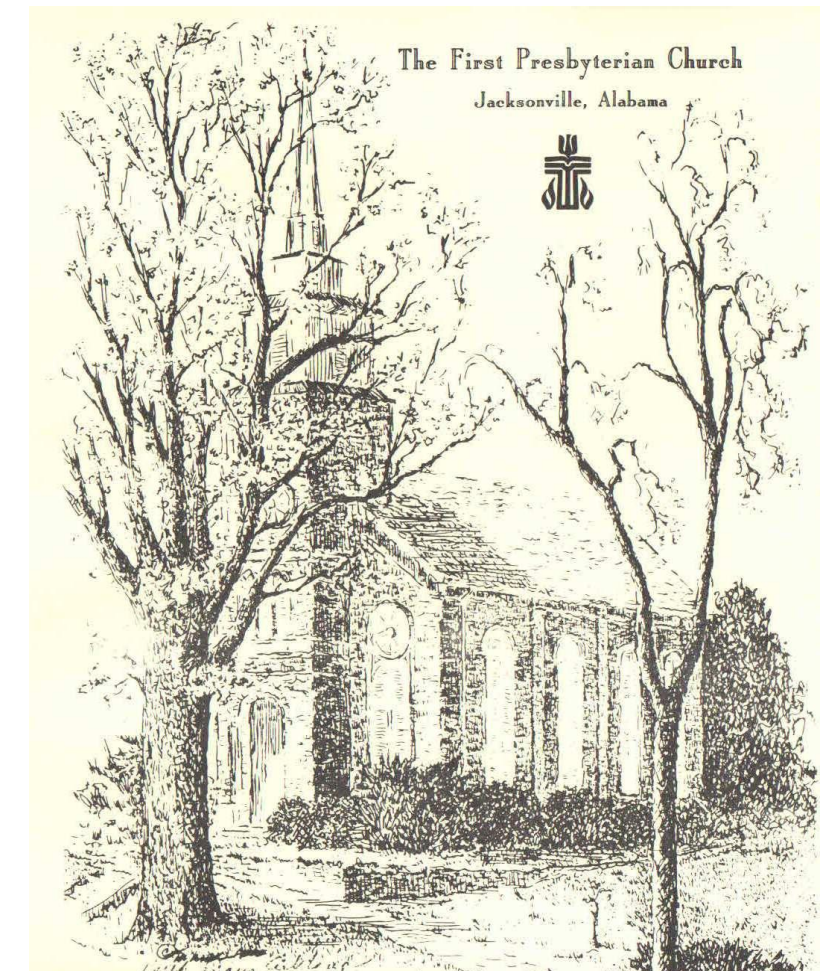
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Church Office Hours
 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday

www.firstpresbyterianjacksonville.org

Look for us on Facebook and Twitter

First Presbyterian Church Jacksonville, Alabama



We are a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA).
 Members are received into our fellowship by baptism and profession of faith, by letter of transfer from another Christian congregation, and by reaffirmation of faith. We invite you to become a member of this congregation of God's people.