

  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**  
**March 10, 2013**

Rev. Tom Winter

Organist: Dr. Susie F. Dempsey

Lay Reader  
David Talley

Elder Greeter  
Jetta Manners

Ushers  
Hannah and Steve Underhill

### Gathering

**First Ringing of the Bell** ☞ Music for Meditation

**Second Ringing of the Bell** ☞ Opening of the Bible

**Welcome, Joys, Concerns, and Announcements**

**Prelude**      *O Lord, Most Holy (Panis Angelicus)*      Franck-Paxton

### Call to Worship

*Lyrics to "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" not included in our hymnbook –  
Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863*

One: There is welcome of the sinner, and more graces for the good; there is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.

**All: There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this; there is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss.**

One: If our love were but more simple, we should take God at his word; and our lives would be all sunshine in the sweetness of the Lord.

**All: Was there ever kinder shepherd half so gentle, half so sweet, as the Savior who would have us come and gather at his feet?**

### Prayer of Adoration and The Lord's Prayer

†Hymn      *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*      Hymnal #356

†Affirmation of Faith      *from A Brief Statement of Faith*

In life and in death we belong to God.

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba Father.

In sovereign love God created the world good

and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female,

of every race and people, to live as one community.

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

Ignoring God's commandments,

we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,

accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature,

and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.

We deserve God's condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

In everlasting love,  
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people  
to bless all families of the earth.

Hearing their cry,  
God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,  
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,  
God is faithful still.

With believers in every time and place,  
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death  
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

### Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have strayed from your ways. Like the prodigal son, we have wasted our inheritance. You gave us the earth for our own home, but we squander earth's resources and squander its bounty. You gave neighbors to love, but we pick and choose which neighbor to love or not love. You gave us commandments that lead to human flourishing, but we forsake you. Lord, forgive us and bring us back home. In Jesus's name. 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

**The First Reading**      Psalm 32      OT Page 506

*The poetry is an invitation to live a grace-filled  
life in response to divine forgiveness.*

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

**The Epistle Reading**      2 Corinthians 5:16-21      NT Page 181

*As "new creations in Christ," we have been given  
the ministry of reconciliation.*

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

### Time with the Young People

**The Gospel Reading**      Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32      NT Page 78

*This is the last in a series of three parables that portray  
God as seeking out that which is lost.*

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

**Sermon**      **The Party**      **Rev. Tom Winter**

†Hymn      *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*      Hymnal #298

### Prayers of the People

**Offertory**      *Ah, Holy Jesus*      Cherwien

#### †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      *Kum ba Yah*      Hymnal #338

#### †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**      *Wondrous Love*      Charles Callahan



## 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 one of our pastors or the Elder Greeter after the service.

**Nursery will be provided** for all children 6 years and under.

**Prayer requests** - Yellow folders in the pew racks may be used to request prayer. Please place your request in the offering plate when the offering is received.

## Announcements

**Food for the Jacksonville Christian Outreach Center (JCOC)** – Next Sunday we will collect food for the JCOC. Please bring small pkgs. of rice, 1 or 2 lb. bags of sugar, and breakfast cereal (hot or cold) to help keep the shelves stocked for those in need.

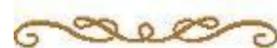
**Session Meeting** - The Session will meet today at 12:30 for the Stated meeting; please bring your lunch.

**Third Sunday Dinner** – Our monthly Church Dinner will be next Sunday immediately after the Service. Please join us for this time of wonderful food and fellowship.



**Please keep the following people in your prayers.**

Frank Bowie  
Daniel Davis (friend of Hannah Underhill)  
Mary Lois Dempsey  
Bobby Haynes  
Joy Kelly and Family  
Tom Kittleman (son-in-law of Dorothy Jane Nisbet)  
Stacy Boozer Mariani  
Ken Mount  
Dr. Doug Peters (retired JSU Psychology Professor)  
Martha Rogers (friend of Margaret Pope)  
Janet Underhill (Steve Underhill's mother)



Scan this code with the QR reader application on your smart phone to see our new church website or go to [www.firstpresbyterianjacksonville.org](http://www.firstpresbyterianjacksonville.org)



Also, look for us on Facebook and Twitter.

**Next Sunday – March 17**

*Rev. Tom Winter*

### Scripture

Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126;  
Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8

### Lay Reader

Austin Falk

### Ushers

Carlton and Sharon Ward



### Worship Opportunities for this Week

<b>Today</b>	9:45am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Between the hours fellowship
	11:00am	Worship Service
	5:00pm	Bible Study – Early Church Series
<b>Wednesday</b>	10:00am	Bible Study
<b>Next Sunday</b>	9:45am	Sunday School
	10:30am	Between the hours fellowship
	11:00am	Worship Service
	5:00pm	No Bible Study

**Rev. Thomas S. Winter, Stated Supply Pastor**  
**Dr. Susie F. Dempsey, Church Organist; Carlton Ward, Treasurer**  
**Mary Furlow, Secretary**

**The Session** Rev. Tom Winter, Moderator

#### Class of 2013

Gary Brown  
Jetta Manners  
Ivan Ratzlaff

#### Class of 2014

Wayne Claeren  
Barbara Franklin  
Laura Underhill

#### Class of 2015

Aleta Bell  
Carolyn Padgett  
Sharon Ward

#### Trustees

Wayne Claeren

Lana Boozer

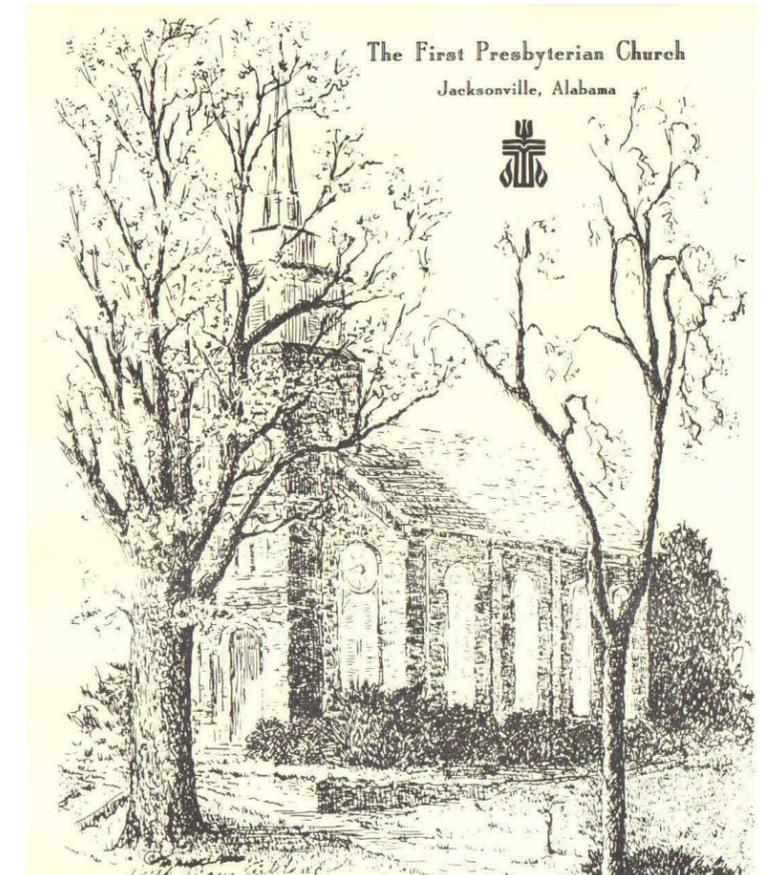
Carlton Ward

PO Box 355  
Jacksonville, AL 36265  
256-435-6340  
256-435-1039 (Fax)  
fpcsecy@bellsouth.net

Church Office Hours

9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday

## 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.