

5th Sunday in Lent
March 17, 2013

Rev. Bill Wills

Guest Organist: Edna Carr

Lay Reader
Austin Falk

Elder Greeter
Jetta Manners

Ushers
Carlton and Sharon Ward

Gathering

First Ringing of the Bell ☞ Music for Meditation
Second Ringing of the Bell ☞ Opening of the Bible
Welcome, Joys, Concerns, and Announcements

Prelude

Elegy

Lloyd

Call to Worship

One: God's spirit is moving among us; give thanks! Our God is about to do a new thing in our midst.

All: **How good it is to be chosen by God; we gather to sing our praises and give our thanks.**

One: Into the wilderness of our lives comes living water. In the sorrow of our days comes reason for our joys.

All: **Forgetting what lies behind us, we greet our future, responding to the upward call of Christ.**

Prayer of Adoration and The Lord's Prayer

†Hymn *All Glory, Laud and Honor* Hymnal #88

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

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, whose upward call in Christ Jesus we have often chosen to ignore, we confess that we settle for lesser goals while you summon us to embrace the realm of heaven. We don't often look beyond our own interests to the well-being of our sisters and brothers. We can see the wasteful acts of other people, but not our own selfish habits. We need forgiveness, O God. We pray that you will do a new thing within and among us. 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

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 67:1-7

The Nations Called to Praise God.

One: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us.

All: **That God's way may be known upon earth and God's saving power among all nations.**

One: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

All: **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.**

One: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

All: **The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.**

One: May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

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

Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 40: 28-31* OT Page 668

God's people are comforted.

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

Minute for Mission

Presbyterian Children's Home

Gospel Reading

Luke 18: 1-8

NT Page 81

The parable of the persistent widow.

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

Sermon

Growing Faith

Rev. Bill Wills

†Hymn

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Hymnal #383

Prayers of the People

Offertory

Melodia

Baronchelli

†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 Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

Hymnal #357

†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

Adagio

Konkel

†

Lord, sometimes we lose heart. We go through peaks and valleys in our relationship with you. The valleys tend to defeat us. In church on Sunday, you seem close to us, your word is vivid and real. Yet we leave, go back to live on Monday, and matters of the Spirit can seem far away, the flame that once burned brightly in our hearts grows cold.

We find it difficult to keep at it, to persist in the faith. Lord, give us a spirit of tenacity. Make us determined in our desire to serve you, to seek your way and, having seen your way, to walk in your way. Make us tenacious, persistent, and determined to run the race of discipleship with perseverance. Amen.



† Please stand if you are able.

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) – Today we will collect food for the JCOC. Please bring small pkgs. rice, 1 or 2 lb. bags of sugar, breakfast cereal (hot or cold) to help keep the shelves stocked for those in need.

We Especially Invite You to our monthly Church Dinner immediately following the service today. Please join us for this time of wonderful food and fellowship.

Today we welcome Bill Wills, President of the Presbyterian Home for Children as our guest preacher. Rev. Wills was selected as President of the Presbyterian Home for Children in August 2002. He is a graduate of Tarkio College in Tarkio, Mo. and Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and was ordained as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament in 1968. He and his wife Julie have two married sons who live near St. Louis, MO who have presented them with four grandchildren. He currently serves on the Human Rights Commission of the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind, is board vice-moderator of Presbyterian Oakes in Talladega, (retirement housing community), and is the past President of the Alabama Association of Child Care Agencies.



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
 Stacy Boozer Mariani
 Ken Mount
 Dr. Doug Peters (retired JSU Psychology Professor)
 Martha Rogers (friend of Margaret Pope)
 Mike Underhill (Steve Underhill's uncle)



Dorothy Jane Nisbet's son-in-law, Tom Kittleman passed away last Sunday from ALS. Please keep her and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

Next Sunday – March 24

Passion/Palm Sunday
Rev. Monty Clendenin

Scripture

Palms: Luke 19:28-40; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Passion: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 22:14—23:56 or Luke 23:1-49

Lay Reader

Virginia MacRae

Ushers

Trish and Nathan Ballard



Worship Opportunities for this Week

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

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

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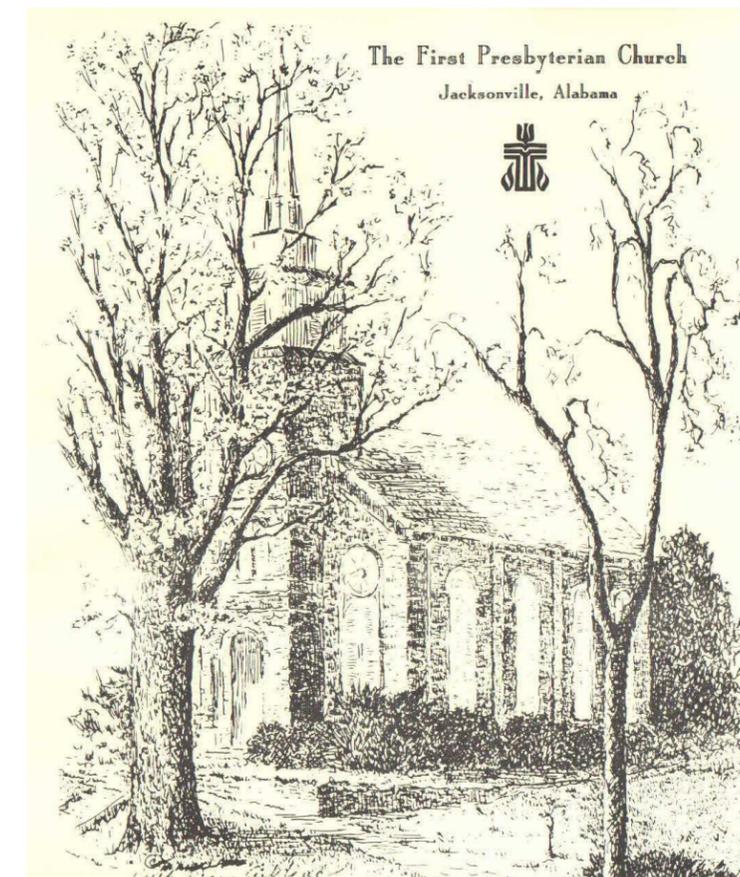
Church Office Hours

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

www.firstpresbyterianjacksonville.org



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.