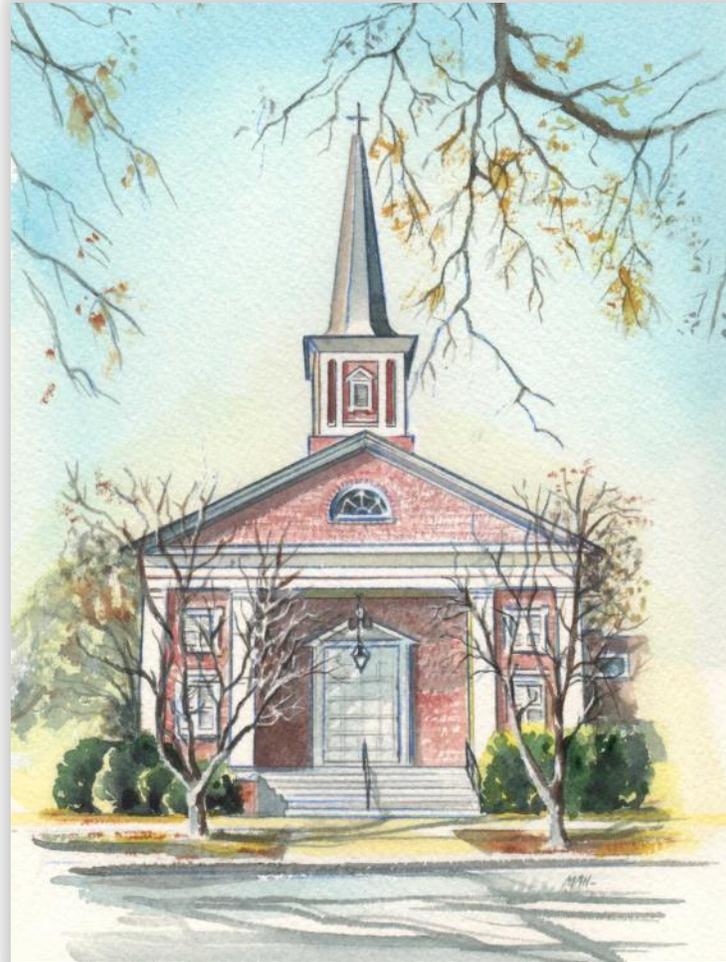


Second Sunday of Christmas

January 5, 2020



**Historic First Presbyterian Church
Decatur, Alabama
Est. 1853**

THE REV. RICHARD H. BROOKS, PASTOR

*Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ,
who love God, love one another, and serve the world.*

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Welcome to all who come to worship God

Welcome & Prelude

INTROIT

Blessed Be the Name

O for a thousand tongues to sing-Blessed be the name of the Lord! The glories of my God and King-Blessed be the name of the Lord! Blessed be the name, blessed be the name; Blessed be the name of the Lord! Blessed be the name, blessed be the name; Blessed be the name of the Lord!

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 91

Leader: Hear God Speak to YOU: Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High God... will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. You shall say of the LORD, "You are my refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust." Surely God will save you from the fowler's snare and from deadly pestilence. God will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; God's faithfulness will be your shield. You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday. A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. For God will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; His angels will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. ...*Then all God's people will say:*

Unison: Let us worship the God of our salvation!

† HYMN of PRAISE

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

#260

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Isaiah 55:6-7

Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have violated your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we should have done; and we have done the very things we should not have done. O Lord, spare those who confess their sins. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus. And grant, O merciful God, that we may live holy, just, and humble lives even as we confess our personal and private sins in silent prayer... Amen.

† ASSURANCE of PARDON

II Corinthians 5:17-19

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel!

People: In Jesus Christ we are Forgiven!

† GLORIA PATRI & SHARING the PEACE of CHRIST

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. A-men. Amen.

MUSIC of PREPARATION

† *Those who are able, please stand.*

THE LORD'S DAY:

From its beginning, the Christian Church has gathered on the first day of the week to hear the scriptures proclaimed and celebrate the Lord's Supper. This day has significance as it was "the first day of the week, following the Sabbath" when Jesus' followers discovered the empty tomb and met the risen Lord. The Lord's Day, therefore, is the very center of the church calendar and the lives of those following Jesus as "the way of truth and life."

CONFESSION & PARDON:

Scripture calls people to confess the reality of sin in personal and corporate life. Confession is an acknowledgment of unworthiness, except by God's grace and love. Reclaiming God's forgiveness in scripture, people can let go of past failures and claim renewal in Christ Jesus. Having been reconciled in relationship to God, people are invited to share renewal in expressing forgiveness, acceptance, love, and unity to others in "the peace of Christ."

NOTES:

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 24:36-44

ANTHEM

Choir

HOMILY

“New Life Begins Today” Rev. Richard Brooks

COMMUNION HYMN

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

#383

HOLY COMMUNION with the Great Thanksgiving

See Insert

SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

Galatians 6:7-9

† DOXOLOGY

† AFFIRMATION of FAITH

The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

† HYMN of COMMITMENT *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* #379

† BENEDICTION

Jeremiah 17:7-8

Wherever we are, God has placed us there. Wherever we go, God will lead us there. God has a purpose for our lives, from our going out and our coming in, now and forever. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

† CHORAL RESPONSE

Choir and Congregation

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace. The mountains and the hills will break forth before you. There'll be shouts of joy and all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands. And all the trees of the field will clap their hands, the trees of the field will clap their hands. The trees of the field will clap their hands, while you go out with joy. While you go out with joy!

Postlude

SCRIPTURE & SERMON:

The Bible is a collection of books written over 1,000 of years and preserved as Holy Scripture. Scripture is proclaimed as the community of faith seeks to hear God's Word speak to the daily life and current world events. The God who acted in biblical history acts today. Through the Holy Spirit, God speaks to those who open to hearing and seeing. The proclamation of God's Word invites a response of faith through prayer, song, an affirmation of faith, prayer, and offering.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

The people respond to the proclamation of the Word by affirming their faith. Creeds seasoned by the historical church since 325 A.D. express the faith of the church. The Apostles' Creed is a statement of core Christian beliefs developed initially as a baptismal rite in the early church. Its term "catholic" refers to the wholeness of the universal church.

CHARGE & BENEDICTION:

A formal dismissal concludes the service with **God's blessing** for life, **Christ's call** to obedient, and the **Holy Spirit's power** to be strong in a broken world. Our confidence in God's providence is spoken in unison, reminding us that God will guide us through the storms of life together.

† *Those who are able, please stand.*



First Presbyterian Church

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**LEADERSHIP AT
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Rev. Richard H. Brooks, Minister
RichardHBrooks@gmail.com

Karen Thatcher Moore, *Music Director*
Kevin Long, *Music Outreach Coordinator*
Rob Corn, *Social Media Outreach Coordinator*
Amber Stewart, *Office Administrator*

RULING ELDERS

D. Ann Norris,
Clerk of Session

Class of 2019

Tom Caddell
Aylett Dickman
Ramsey Huffman

Class of 2020

John Edington
Charles Howard

Class of 2021

Parker Moore
Debbie Gibson

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Moderator: Nancy Moss
Secretary: Sandy Sansing
Treasurer: Betty Pickell
Circle 1: D. Ann Norris
Circle 2: Patt White

LITURGIST

D. Ann Norris

USHERS

Shirley Malone
Parker Moore

In Our Thoughts and Prayers . . .

Our Homebound:

Shirley Coleman
Juanita Dukes
Lynn & Ann Fowler
Jerry Garth
Dicky Maynor
Sue & Charles Murphree
Liz Pilgrim
Jane Rowe
Caroline Taylor
Anne Thornhill
Jean Vernon

Our Family Members in Military Service:

Peyton Davis - Army, Fort Bragg, NC
(nephew of Luke Pryor)

Happy Birthday . . .

January

01 - Charles Howard
03 - Juanita Dukes
06 - Will Compton
07 - Shirley Malone

CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE
MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE**

For the purpose of electing elders and the presentation of the 2020 budget. All FPC members are urged to attend.

Agility, Balance, and Strength*



ABS program for individuals in our congregation and the community.
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
10:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
(follows the school system weather policy)

*A ministry of Senior Connection

**Session will meet on
January 19**



For Your Calendar . . .

Monday

ABS 10:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Mat Weaving 12:15 p.m.

Wednesday

ABS 10:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal 6:15 p.m.

Friday

ABS 10:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Sunday

Coffee Fellowship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.