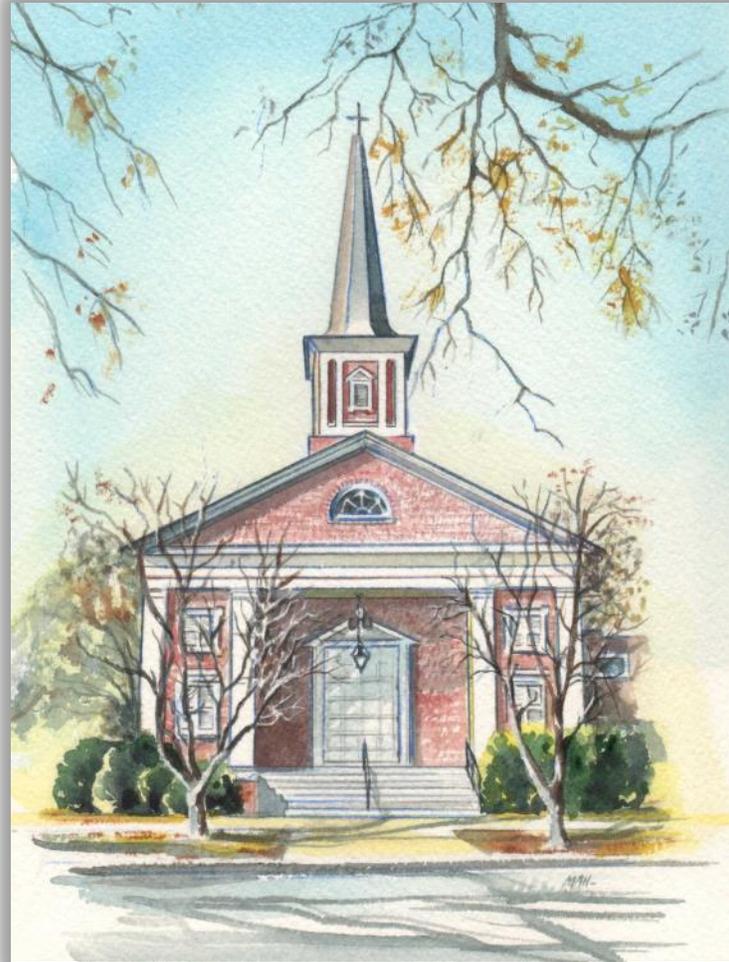


# *Transfiguration of the Lord*

**February 23, 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

**Romans 12:1-2**

Leader: *I appeal to you therefore, by the mercies of God...* to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God, which is good, acceptable, and perfect for you. *And all God's people said:*

**People: Let us worship the God of our salvation!**

### † HYMN of PRAISE

*Now Thank We All Our God*

**#555**

### † PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Psalm 32:1-2**

We seek you on the mountaintop, O God, for we fear to face the city. We would rather be dazzled by your splendor on Mt. Sinai, than obey your commands in the urban wilderness. We find it easier to worship the wonder-working Jesus, than to follow the servant Christ who was obedient unto death. Merciful God, forgive our shallow ways. Help us to find you wherever you choose to dwell, and to serve you wherever you choose to send us. We seek your mercy and direction through Jesus Christ, in whose name we offer our silent petitions... Amen.

### † ASSURANCE of PARDON

**Psalm 130**

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

**Voices of Triumph**

### PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

† *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:

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## PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

I Corinthians

ANTHEM

Voices of Triumph

HOMILY

"The Love of God is Action"

Rev. Richard Brooks

## SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

Voices of Triumph

† 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

*Holy Spirit, Truth Divine*

#321

† BENEDICTION

Philippians 4:7-9

*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**

Bob Sparks,  
*Clerk of Session*

**Class of 2020**

John Edington  
Charles Howard

**Class of 2021**

Parker Moore  
Debbie Gibson

**Class of 2022**

Donna Huffman  
Bob Sparks

**LITURGIST**

D. Ann Norris

**USHERS**

Mike Curl  
Nancy Curl



**Ash Wednesday  
Evening Service  
February 26  
5:30 p.m.**

Welcome  
*Voices of Triumph*  
from Oakwood University



<https://votministries94.wixsite.com/website>

**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 . . .**

**March**

05 - Bob Sparks  
08 - Parker Moore  
09 - Charlie Guyton  
20 - Donna Huffman  
20 - Nancy Moss

**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 6:00 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.

# Footsteps to Follow

“The Body of Christ is Inclusive”

*1 Corinthians 1 & 12*

by Richard Brooks FPC-D

## BIBLICAL EXPOSITION & ANNOTATION:

**1 Corinthians 1:** <sup>1</sup> Paul, called to be an apostle (*ἀπόστολος [ap-os'-tol-os] envoy, delegate, commissioned by another*) of Christ Jesus by the will of God... <sup>2</sup> To the church of God in Corinth... <sup>10</sup> I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions (*σχίσμα [skhis'-mah] split, schism*) among you, so that you be perfectly united (*καταρτίζω [kat-ar-tid'-zo] fit together*) in mind and thought.

**1 Corinthians 12:** <sup>4</sup> There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. <sup>5</sup> There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. <sup>6</sup> There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work

<sup>12</sup> Just as a body, though one, has many parts...

<sup>18</sup> But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. <sup>19</sup> If they were all one part, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup> As it is, there are many parts, but one body. <sup>27</sup> Now you are the body (*σῶμα [so'-mah] flesh; embodiment*) of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

The word of the Lord; Thanks be to God!

## HOMILY:

**Paul: You are the Body of Christ !**

**The Family of Faith should not be divided**

*“It is not our differences that create division. Our division is how we handle our differences.”*

**1. Do not limit God’s eternal truth to human understanding**

*Mark Twain: “it is not what you don’t know that gets you in trouble. What gets you in trouble is what you know, that just ain’t so.”*

**2. Find ways to works together**