



First Presbyterian Church

Tupelo, Mississippi

Morning Worship Service

First Sunday after Epiphany

January 10, 2021 - 10:00 A.M.

When God gives us our assignment, are we doing everything we can to fulfill it, as Jesus did?

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS, AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

We Three Kings of Orient Are

John Henry Hopkins

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Inspired by Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:4-11; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22)

Leader: The heavens open. The Spirit descends.

People: Jesus emerges from the water.

Leader: And a voice echoes through the blue expanse.

People: "This is my child, the Beloved, with whom I am well-pleased."

Leader: Jesus is named. Claimed.

People: We come to the water. We remember we are named. Claimed.

Leader: Can it be so? What a thing to be named. Claimed.

People: Let us worship the one who names and claims us still.

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Almighty God, your Spirit swept over the waters of creation;
You are sweeping over us now, creating something new.

Call us away from the distractions of the world
to experience what you are doing now, in us,
and through us, and in our world.

Open us to a new awakening, a new beginning,
where we look through the lens of the goodness of your creation,
experiencing all possibilities in you.

Turn us away from the negative lens,
and lead us to the light. In the name of Jesus, who leads us into life, we pray.
Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 376

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sky-shattering God, we confess that we have not always paid much attention to the baptism of Jesus, but viewed it as a nice story which begins Jesus' ministry. We don't always see ourselves as standing in that long line of those marked for service; and therefore, it is easy for us to dismiss this as a nice story and nothing more. Yet you have called us by name, knowing each of us, and loving us. We are astonished by this. We know that we have behaved in very unloving ways and in some behaviors which do not promote your love and peace. Forgive us for our blindness. Turn us around. Help us to be people who not only recognize the light, but who are willing to live in that light, bringing help to others in your name. For we pray this in the name of Jesus Christ. *(Pause for reflection and meditation)* Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

People of God, you are known and loved by the Creator. You are marked as God's chosen ones to bring hope and peace to others. Be at peace and live in hope. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

ANTHEM

The Call

Craig Courtney

THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 42:1-9
Matthew 3:13-17

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Are We Doing Everything We Can?

Rev. Dr. Olin McBride

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

Paul Manz

The Flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Robert and Catherine Sadler, Ke and Elsie Francis, and Jack and Frances McGill.

Welcome to worship! Our service, which is streamed online, can be viewed on [YouTube](#) today at 10:00 A.M. TV Broadcast of the service is the following week on Christian Network Television at 9:00 A.M. Sunday; and at 8:00 P.M. Monday on Channel 4 Comcast, Channel 49 Dish and antennae, and Channel 20 MaxSouth. Visit our website at www.firstprestupelo.org.

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Cancer Treatments: Aimee McDonald Burrow, Julie Seiler

Homebound: Bernice Baker, Jerry Burkett, Bobbye Carsten

College Students: Ben Gibens, Walker Gibens, Abbey Hastings

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Weekly Budget: \$16,960

Amount Received 1/3/21: \$29,460

YTD Budgeted Income: \$881,942

YTD Income Received: \$966,490

FUN FACT: Did you know that in 2020 we had 48 YouTube services with a total of 14,321 views? Amazing how God used us to reach out in this new way.

THIS WEEK AT FPC

Please Note: The T'ai Chi Chih class that meets on Tuesdays has been temporarily suspended.

Sunday, January 10

10:00 A.M. Worship Service streaming on [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

Monday, January 11

5:00 P.M. Administrative Committee, Choir Room

5:30 P.M. Committee Meetings

7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts

Tuesday, January 12

7:00 P.M. A.A. Meeting

Friday, January 15

12:00 P.M. A.A. Meeting

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7 D

Charles Wesley, 1747

Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1831

1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
 2. Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to ev - ery
 3. Come, Al - might - y to de - liv - er, Let us all Thy
 4. Fin - ish, then, Thy new cre - a - tion; Pure and spot - less

earth come down, Fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell - ing,
 trou - bled breast! Let us all in Thee in - her - it,
 life re - ceive; Sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er,
 let us be; Let us see Thy great sal - va - tion

All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown! Je - sus, Thou art all com -
 Let us find the prom - ised rest; Take a - way the love of
 Nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways
 Per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee; Changed from glo - ry in - to

pas - sion, Pure, un - bound - ed love Thou art; Vis - it us with
 sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be; End of faith, as
 bless - ing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts a - bove; Pray, and praise Thee
 glo - ry, Till in heaven we take our place, Till we cast our

Thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore Thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise.

The Call

Called to light to pierce the darkness,
Called to truth where lies abound,
Called to life to reach the dying,
Called to peace where strife is found.

One by one the Spirit calls us,
By God's grace He reckons all.
Find us worthy of the mission,
Ever faithful to the call.

Called to love, to touch the suff'ring,
Called to freedom where captives plead,
Called to lead, to guide the wand'ring,
Called to serve where there is need.

One by one the Spirit calls us,
By God's grace He reckons all.
Find us worthy of the mission,
Ever faithful to the call.

Ever faithful to the call.

Text by Pamela Martin
Music by Craig Courtney