

Morning Worship Service

Seventh Sunday of Easter

(The Sunday after the Ascension)

May 29, 2022

9:00 & 11:00 A.M.

“...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 The Apostles' Creed

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Dale Wood

INTROIT

Hosanna!

Christian Gregor, 1723-1801 arr. Larry Biser

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 97:6, 8, 10, 12)

Leader: The heavens declare God's righteousness,

People: and all the peoples see God's glory.

Leader: Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice,

People: because of your judgments, O Lord.

Leader: The Lord loves those who hate evil;

People: The Lord preserves the lives of the saints and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord, you saints of God,

People: and give thanks to God's holy name.

*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 482

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

PRAYER OF APPROACH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Holy God, you have shown us your love and compassion in the face of your Son, crucified, risen, and ascended; we pray that you will send your spirit upon us that we may go forth as one people, proclaiming the good news of new life, of freedom and reconciliation, of life eternal, in the name of the risen one, Jesus the Christ, who taught us all to pray saying,

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.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: Together let us open our hearts to our loving God.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we know that you are slow to anger, and that your spirit overflows with great mercy. Look upon us with compassion as we confess our failure to proclaim your good news. Too often we ignore those who are imprisoned in oppression or fear; the peoples who sit in darkness longing for word of God's anointed one. Free our hearts and minds to announce your word of grace while it is day, and sing your

hymns in the darkest of night, that all the world may come to know your love and forgiveness. This we ask through Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Jesus has come so that the joy of God may be in us, and that our joy may be complete.

*RESPONSE – No. 579

“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.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

ANTHEM

*Prelude on "Dix"
(For the Beauty of the Earth)*

arr. Douglas E. Wagner

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[John 17:20-26; Acts 16:16-34](#)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Moving Forward

Rev. Dr. Ron Richardson

*PROFESSION OF FAITH (Unison)

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.

HYMN OF AFFIRMATION NO. 442 *The Church’s One Foundation*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING

What an honor and privilege it is to come before God and offer to Him our various gifts and offerings. As we do so, let us give with a generous and cheerful heart.

OFFERTORY

Andante from Sonata #6

Felix Mendelssohn

*DOXOLOGY No. 592

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Leader: Almighty God, as you receive these gifts we ask that you receive us also that, together with these gifts, we may be used to build up this church that Christ may be lifted up for all to see and claim as Lord. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 423

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Postlude on "Old Hundredth"

Fred Bock

*Congregation standing as able.

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Are you looking for a church home? If so, please speak to our minister following worship.

As a courtesy to those around you, kindly turn off or silence cell phones and personal communication devices.

Large print bulletins and hymnals are available from the ushers. You may also view the bulletin by visiting our website at www.firstprestupelo.org. See the bulletin link at the top of the homepage.

Nursery Care is available for newborns through four-year-olds. Please ask an usher for directions to the nursery if you are visiting for the first time.

After the 11:00 Children's Sermon, preschoolers and kindergarteners are invited to attend "**Wee Kirk.**" This is a time of fun childcare with age appropriate songs and games. However, all children are welcome in worship! If you excuse yourself and your child, you can hear the service over speakers in McFadden Hall (directly behind the Sanctuary).

The Flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the glory of God and in memory of Anita and Bob Thomason, Polly Thomason, and Karol Voге.

Ritual of Friendship—Members and Visitors: Please sign the black attendance register every Sunday and pass it down your pew. Please read the names, greet one another, and meet new members and visitors.

We care about you as we care about each other. If you would like to submit a prayer request, you may use the blue cards in the pews or in McFadden Hall, and our pastoral staff and prayer partners will pray for you.

Leading the worship service today: Rev. Dr. Ron Richardson, Dr. Bob Taylor, Dr. Ray Harris

Liturgist: 9:00-Rick Jones; 11:00-Lisa Nichols

Greeters: 9:00-Lori & Bill Dickerson, Leslie Geoghegan, Margaret Parker
11:00-Amy & Bryan Fagan, Kathy & Presly Wallace

The service is live streamed and available for viewing on YouTube.com by those unable to be with us this morning. Search *firstprestupelo*. We also invite you to visit our website at www.firstprestupelo.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Christian Education committee has planned an exciting summer schedule. See today's insert for more information.

The church office will be closed on Monday, May 30 in observance of Memorial Day.

Vacation Bible School takes place Wednesday, June 1 through Friday, June 3, from 9:00 A.M. until Noon each day. Contact VBS chair, Roxie Thomas or co-chair, Sally Kate Collins if you need more information or would like to help.

Church After School Association's summer program at FPC begins Monday, June 6. FPC's gym will be in use by CASA from 7:30 a.m. until 5:45 p.m., Monday through Friday, until July 29. After that date, the program resumes its fall schedule, weekdays from 2:30 P.M. until 5:45 P.M.

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP AND WORK

SUNDAY, MAY 29

9:00 A.M. Worship Service, Sanctuary
 No Sunday school
11:00 A.M. Worship Service, Sanctuary

MONDAY, MAY 30

Church Office closed, Memorial Day
7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts

TUESDAY, MAY 31

9:00 A.M. T'ai Chi Chih
10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting
7:00 P.M. A.A. Meeting

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

9:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M. VBS

THURSDAY, JUNE 2

8:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast, Hilton Garden Inn
9:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M. VBS

FRIDAY, JUNE 3

9:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M. VBS
12:00 P.M. A.A. Meeting

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Weekly Budget: \$16,837 Amount Received 5/22/22: \$9,153
YTD Budgeted Income: \$382,831 YTD Income Received: \$483,539

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

9:00 A.M.: 43 11:00 A.M.: 113

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Cancer Treatments: Sam Pace, Julie Seiler

Homebound: Joe Sheffield, Grace Stamps, Annette Thornton

College Students: Ivy Wells, Lucy Wells, Ana Morgan Beckham

Service Members: Patrick Hastings, Andrew Ray

THE SESSION

Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd, Moderator
Clerk of the Session, Lisa Nichols

Class of 2022

Steve Bryson
Anne Marie Littrell
Pete McMurry
Mary Pace
Buddy Stubbs
Virginia Toliver
David Williams

Class of 2023

Kirk Biddle
Susan Boone
Amy Fagan
Mitzi Moore
Aubrey Patterson, Jr.
Grayson Robbins
Debra Robison

Class of 2024

Kim Burleson
Cindy Faucette
Leslie Geoghegan
Michael Gratz, Jr.
Chauncey Godwin
Alice Rogers
Mike Thomas

First Presbyterian Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd, Interim Pastor
Rev. Dr. Ron Richardson, Parish Associate for Pastoral Care
Melissa McDuffie, Director of Youth and Christian Education
Dr. Bob Taylor, Director of Music
Dr. Ray Harris, Organist
Seth Shelnut, Audio/Visual Technician
Danielle Frerer Ratliff, Director of Elementary and Youth Choirs
Margaret Anne Murphey, Music Librarian
Helen Curtis, Church Secretary
Kay Stanford, Financial Secretary
Debbie Merritt, Receptionist
Eddie Baker, Maintenance Superintendent
Joyce Richardson, Housekeeper
Rev. M. McCoy Franklin, Pastor Emeritus

THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & WORSHIP COMMITTEES
PRESENT

FPC'S 2022 Summer Schedule

Sunday School for All - Children through Adults

Sunday, May 29 - Memorial Day Weekend

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL - WORSHIP @ 9 & 11

Sunday, June 5

SERVICE PROJECT FOR ALL AGES - DETAILS TO FOLLOW
WORSHIP @ 9 & 11

Sunday, June 12, 19, & 26

CLASSES COMBINED BY VARIOUS AGE GROUPS
WORSHIP @ 9 & 11

Sunday, July 3 - Fourth of July Weekend

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL - WORSHIP @ 9 & 11

Sunday, July 10, 17, & 24

CLASSES COMBINED BY VARIOUS AGE GROUPS
WORSHIP @ 9 & 11

Sunday, July 31

CONGREGATION-WIDE EVENT- DETAILS TO FOLLOW
WORSHIP @ 9 & 11

Sunday, August 7

RALLY DAY - DETAILS TO FOLLOW
WORSHIP @ 9 & 11

More Information to Come!