

Morning Worship Service

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 8, 2022

9:00 & 11:00 A.M.

The purpose of this sermon is to explore why some hear the voice of the Shepherd and others do not.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

Rigaudon

Andre Campra

*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 419

How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord

INTROIT

Anthem of Dedication

Warren Martin

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, let all of God's people give praise and worship the Lord!

People: For the Lord is our Shepherd who watches over us day and night.

Leader: And the Lord guides us through all the days of life to the glory of God.

People: Let no one doubt we try to be faithful children of the living God.

Leader: Let us commend for all to hear the loving care of our Good Shepherd!

People: Blessed be the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF APPROACH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Holy God, through signs of grace You reveal Your glory to all the world. Open our eyes to the hidden and surprising wonders You perform, that we may believe with our minds and trust in our hearts that You alone are Lord of all creation. Through Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray the prayer Your Son taught his disciples to pray...

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 CONFESSON

Leader: The author of the 34th Psalm reminds us, "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

Let us admit our brokenness to God as we pray in unison the prayer of confession provided in this morning's bulletin.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of hope and safety, like sheep who go astray, we have wandered from Your paths of life and light. We have heard the Shepherd's voice call us by name, but we have turned instead to our own way. Show us Your tender mercy; restore us in the security of Your fold. Lead us back to still waters, seat us again at Your bounteous table. Fill us with Your Spirit, that we might bear glad witness to Your saving mercy, revealed to us in the Great Shepherd, Christ Jesus, Our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: As scripture reminds us, "The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes." Christ is our foundation. God's will in him cannot be shaken. Our redemption is sure. Know that your sins have been forgiven. Amen.

*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

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[John 10:22-30](#)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Shepherd's Voice

Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd

*PROFESSION OF FAITH (Unison)

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is 'the giver and re-newer of life' who instills our faith and enables us to follow Jesus Christ. The Scriptures describe how the Spirit moved at the dawn of creation, anointed Christ in baptism, raised Jesus from the dead, and was poured out on the Church at Pentecost. The same Spirit is still at work in the life of the Church and the life of the world.

The Holy Spirit manifests God's gracious action and empowers our grateful response. The Spirit gathers us for worship, enlightens and equips us through the Word, claims and nourishes us through the Sacraments, and sends us out for service. To each member of Christ's body, the Spirit gives gifts for ministry in the Church and mission in the world." - *Book of Order, Directory for Worship, W-1.0105*

RECOGNITION OF OUR GRADUATING SENIORS

HYMN OF AFFIRMATION NO. 387

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Jesus The Very Thought Of Thee

Emma Lou Diemer

*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: We thank You God for all Your blessings. Especially the blessing of Your caring presence. We offer to You these gifts with the intentions of our hearts. We pray that You will use them and us in Your work. Grant that all we say and do may serve to bring Your healing and Your love to others. We ask these things in the name of Jesus our Lord. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 510

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Praise Ye The Lord, The Almighty

Johann Walther

*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.

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 honor of our mothers, Camille Caples and Jane Roberson and all mothers everywhere; in honor of Bill Caples' birthday today; and in memory of Virginia Nash by Steve and Lucy Nash.

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. Taylor Todd, Dr. Bob Taylor, Dr. Ray Harris

Liturgist: 9:00-Trey Leeke; 11:00-Andy Crotwell

Greeters: 9:00-Martha & Bobby Dale, Lucy & Bill Hilbun

11:00-Cindy Faucette, Julie & Leighton Gibens, Judy Thomas

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

Join our team to assist at Helping Hands Food Pantry on Saturday, May 14, from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. The team will help stock shelves and bag groceries for neighbors in need. We do this every four weeks. Children are welcome. Helping Hands Food Pantry, an extension of First United Methodist Church of Tupelo, is located at 314 South Church Street, Tupelo. For more information, contact Rick Jones at rickjones2525@gmail.com or 662-213-1520.

It's time to sign up for VBS 2022! Wednesday, June 1 through Friday, June 3, 9:00 A.M.—12:00 P.M. Ages 3 year old- 5th grade invited! [Registration](#) deadline for church members and our regular visitors is May 21. See today's insert for signup information or call the church office, 662-842-5681.

Did you know? The most overdue library book in history was 288 years late! Don't let this be you! Please check your shelves for First Presbyterian Library books and return them. No fines and no questions asked!

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP AND WORK

SUNDAY, MAY 8

9:00 A.M. Worship Service, Sanctuary

10:00 A.M. Sunday school

11:00 A.M. Worship Service, Sanctuary

MONDAY, MAY 9

9:30 A.M. Circle 2 meeting, Fellowship Hall

5:15 A.M. Congregational Care Committee, Guatemala Room

5:30 P.M. Christian Education Committee, Session Room

Worship Committee, Bolton Brotherhood Room

7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts

TUESDAY, MAY 10

9:00 A.M. T'ai Chi Chih

10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting, Library

12:00 P.M. Circle 4 meeting, Sheffield classroom

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

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

5:05 P.M. Tower Ringers

7:00 P.M. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, MAY 12

8:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast, Hilton Garden Inn

5:30 P.M. Nominating Committee meeting

FRIDAY, MAY 13

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

6:00 P.M. Devita/Hathcock Wedding rehearsal, Sanctuary

SATURDAY, MAY 14

9:00 A.M. Helping Hands

5:00 P.M. Devita/Hathcock Wedding, Sanctuary

STEWARSHIP UPDATE

Weekly Budget: \$16,837	Amount Received 5/1/22: \$19,189
YTD Budgeted Income: \$382,831	YTD Income Received: \$461,113

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

9:00 A.M.: 47 11:00 A.M.: 93

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Cancer Treatments: Sam Pace, Julie Seiler

Homebound: Bobbye Carsten, Carolyn Gaston, Hugh Luckett

College Students: Eli Martin, John Robert Martin, Retta Maxwell

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

ANTHEM OF DEDICATION

*Commissioned for the
Graduates of Westminster Choir College*

*Dedicated This Morning
to the Seniors of First Presbyterian Church*

Warren Martin

Whom shall we send? And who will go for us?

Here am I, Lord; send me.

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord to Thee.

Take my moments and my days. Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from Thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only for my King.

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of Thy love;

Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee.

Whom shall we send? And who will go for us?

Here am I, Lord; send me.

O Jesus, I have promised to serve Thee to the end.

Be Thou forever near me, my Master and my Friend.

I shall not fear the battle if Thou art by my side,

Or wander from the pathway if Thou wilt be my guide.

O Jesus, Thou hast promised to all who follow Thee

That where Thou art in glory, there shall Thy servant be.

And Jesus, I have promised to serve Thee to the end.

O give me grace to follow my Master and my Friend. Amen.

Graduation Litany

We are gathered together to celebrate the accomplishments of members of our community.

We give blessings to you for all that you have achieved and many more achievements yet to come.

One part of your life's journey is complete. You will prepare to begin another phase that will take you to unimaginable places.

As you prepare for your next journey, we hope that you remember the ones you leave behind, who have loved and supported you throughout the years.

We give blessings of good will and love as you journey forth into the world.

We thank you for the laughter and fellowship that you have shared with us and pray that as you begin your next journey, remember the times that we all shared with you.

Use these memories as a beacon to guide you on your path. Don't look back; continue only forward, while using those memories to create a new path.

We pray that God will give you strength and determination to develop new relationships that will help to strengthen and sustain your faith.

Because we are made in the image of God we have been blessed with free will to make choices and decisions.

We pray that you make wise and rational decisions, always turning to God for help. God hears. God listens. God is always with you. Do not forget that. Always keep in mind that God is around and if you turn to him, he will guide you.

And now we speak this blessing to you:

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;

The Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.

In the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, Amen.

SIGN UP TIME!

PASSPORT to PEACE

It's time to sign up for FPC VBS 2022,

PASSPORT TO PEACE!

Held June 1-3, 2022 from 9 am to 12 pm.

Snacks will be included daily
as well as lunch at the Luau on Friday!

See the Eventbrite registration to register
for children ages 3 through 5th grade.

Church members and regular visitors
registration starts now and our friends
can register starting May 1.

Deadline to register is May 21.

Please contact Roxie Clayton (662) 231-9537 or
Sally Kate Collins (662) 871-3761 with questions
or if you are interested in volunteering!

REGISTER FOR VBS!

HIP, HIP,
HOORAY!

JOIN US TO

Shower Baby Monts



MAY 22ND, 1:30-3 PM
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
FELLOWSHIP HALL

Boy or girl? It's a surprise!

REGISTERED AT REED'S AND
BABYLIST.COM/BABY-ALLI-MONTS