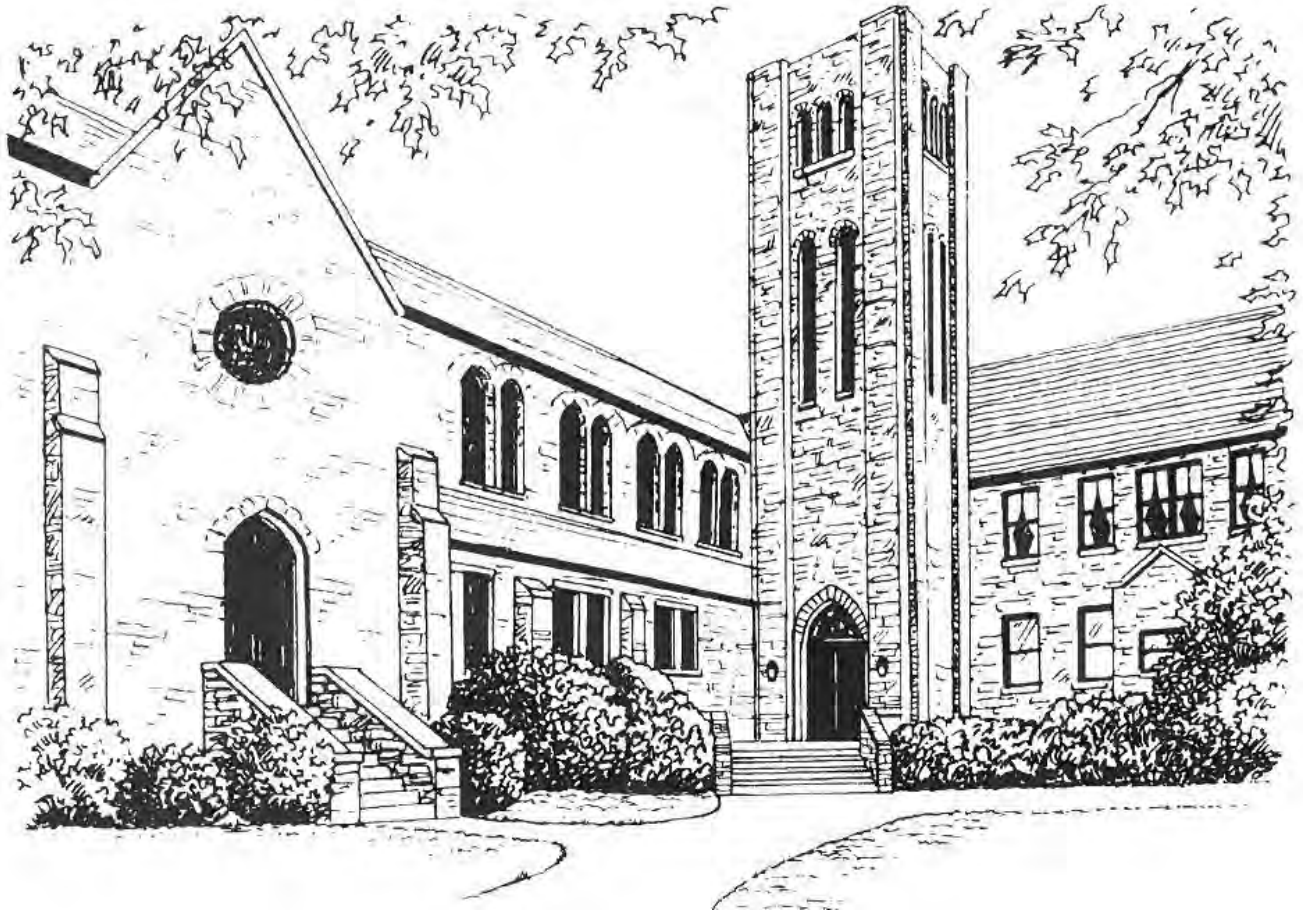


First Presbyterian Church

400 Jefferson Street
Tupelo, Mississippi



THE MISSION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IS TO:

Learn the Word of God in worship and study.
Live the Word of God in our homes and communities.
Lead others to the Word of God in love.

Visit us online. www.firstprestupelo.org
<https://www.facebook.com/FPCTupelo>

662.842.5681

Morning Worship Service
Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

JULY 20, 2025

10:30 A.M.

“LIFE IS A GIFT TO BE RECEIVED WITH GRATITUDE AND A TASK TO BE PURSUED WITH
COURAGE”

- *THE CONFSSION OF 1967*

*Congregation standing as able.

Bold is spoken by the congregation.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS, AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

MORNING HAS BROKEN

DALE WOOD

INTROIT

SAINTS BOUND FOR HEAVEN

ARR. MACK WILBERG

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, people of God, for in Jesus Christ, the world has been reconciled to God.

We gather to celebrate the love of God, who breaks down every wall and heals every division.

The risen Lord calls us into a new creation—into lives of justice, mercy, and peace.

We come, seeking to be reconciled and to be agents of reconciliation in the world.

Let us worship the One who has made peace through the cross and who sends us forth in hope.

With grateful hearts, we worship the God of grace and the Lord of peace. Amen.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious and reconciling God,

In Jesus Christ, You have come to us, breaking down the walls of hostility and bringing peace to all.

By Your Spirit, gather us in unity—across every boundary we build—and make us one body.

Open our hearts this day to Your Word of truth and hope.

May our worship be pleasing in Your sight, and may it renew us for lives of compassion, courage, and justice.

Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

*Hymn of Praise

IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST

AMAZING GRACE

(see insert)

CALL TO CONFESSION

God's reconciling love in Jesus Christ exposes the brokenness of the world and our own complicity in it.

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin and our need for grace.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Reconciling God,

**You have come to us in Jesus Christ, offering peace where there is division, hope where there is despair,
and love where there is hatred.**

But we confess that we have often ignored Your call.

**We cling to fear rather than faith,
harbor resentment instead of forgiveness,
and seek comfort rather than justice.**

Forgive us, O Lord.

**Restore us to right relationship with You and with our neighbors,
that we may live as instruments of Your peace in the world You love.**

In Christ's name we pray.

(Time of Silent Confession)



KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy

(CONGREGATION PLEASE SING)

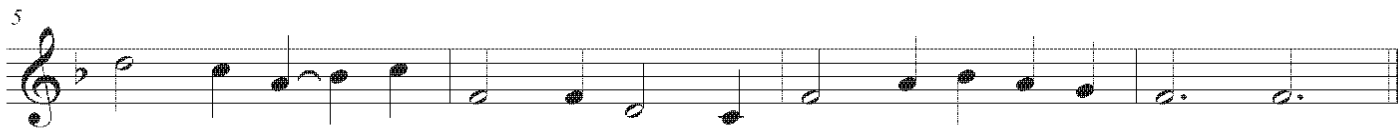
Kyrie Eleison

American folk hymn

arr. Richard Proulx



Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



Lord, have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy up - on us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news:

In Christ, God was reconciling the world to Himself,
not counting our trespasses against us,
but entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*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

MISSION MINUTE

PRESBYTERIAN HOME FOR CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE READING

PSALM 85

Lord, you were favorable to your land;
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

**You forgave the iniquity of your people;
you pardoned all their sin.**

You withdrew all your wrath;
you turned from your hot anger.

**Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
and put away your indignation toward us.**

Will you be angry with us forever?

Will you prolong your anger to all generations?

**Will you not revive us again,
so that your people may rejoice in you?**

Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

**Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.**

Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.

**Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.**

Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.

**The Lord will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.**

*Righteousness will go before him
and will make a path for his steps.*

NEW TESTAMENT READING

2 CORINTHIANS 5:11-21

PEW BIBLE, PG. 181

ANTHEM

AT CALVARY

MARY McDONALD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

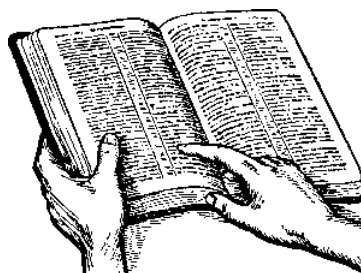
GENESIS 33:1-17

PEW BIBLE, PG. 30

SERMON

“MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION”

REV. JOHN BROCK



*STATEMENT OF FAITH — *CONFESSION OF 1967 INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE TEXT*

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God's reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God's message of reconciliation and share God's labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call.

*HYMN OF AFFIRMATION NO. 85 WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS WONDROUS LOVE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our 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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY I CALL TO THEE, LORD JESUS CHRIST J. S. BACH

*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

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of grace and mission,

You have reconciled us to Yourself and called us to be ambassadors of Your love.

Receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude and our commitment.

Use them—and use us—to proclaim good news to the poor, to bring healing to the brokenhearted,

and to work for justice, peace, and reconciliation in Your world.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Are you looking for a church home? If so, please speak to our minister following worship or email him at pastor@firstprestupelo.org.

Large print hymnals are available from the ushers.

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

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God in memory of Rev. Wesley Brock by John and Ruth Brock

All children are welcome in worship! Children's activity bags and special bulletins are available for all ages and are located with our regular worship bulletins in the Narthex. 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.

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.

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.

All of the liturgy today was adapted from the *Confession of 1967 Inclusive Language Text*.

Leading the worship service today: Rev. John Brock, Dr. Bob Taylor, Dr. Ray Harris

Liturgist: Suzanne Cornett

Greeters: Judy Griffie, David Williams

As of 7/1/2025, we have received more **key fobs**. Unfortunately, the cost of the fobs has increased. Starting 7/1/2025, key fobs will cost **\$15.00**. If you need a fob, please fill out the form in the church office and leave your name and payment in the office for Ms. Kay. The following Sunday, you may pick up your new key fob in the office. **Alternatively, MJ is available in the office Monday-Thursday from 8-5 and is more than happy to make you one while you wait!**

Join Us! **Bingo, Burgers, & Blue Bell** will be **THIS** Wednesday, July 23 in the Fellowship Hall! Reservations are requested. Scan the code below to sign up now, or you can call the front desk at 662.842.5681 or email frontdesk@firstprestupelo.org! We look forward to seeing you there! **Sponsored by the Fellowship Committee and Scoops & Brews.**

<https://forms.gle/2taXTuXPQSZHvtb59>



Nominating Committee is beginning its work to propose a slate of elders for the Class of 2029. If you have any suggestions for members of the church you would like the Committee to consider, please use the QR code provided here in the bulletin or go to the following link:

<https://forms.gle/JtFTc3nGxG8Ff5Pu8>



PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Cancer Treatment: Ginger Mark, Scarlett Reeder, Jim Seiler

Homebound: Jack Price, Annette Thornton, Gladys Wilson

College Students: Reid Hardison, Olivia Hastings, Lewis Herman

Service Members: Patrick Hastings, Andrew Ray

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

One Service at 10:30 A.M.: 165

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Weekly Budget: \$19,644

Amount Received 7/13/25: \$13,130

YTD Budgeted Income: \$595,863

YTD Income Received: \$599,582

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our weekly Bible study will meet this Monday, July 21 at 11:00 A.M. We will continue meeting in the Bolton/Sistahood Room. This group enjoys engaging discussions and fellowship and is open to everyone. This week, we will be studying Luke 15.

Next Sunday is the last Sunday of our Summer Worship schedule. After next week, we will return to our regular two service schedule with Sunday Worship at 9:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. and Sunday School at 10:00 A.M.

Join us for RALLY DAY! Rally Day will be on Sunday, August 3. We will enjoy brunch and pass out bibles to incoming first graders. Also, we will hold the annual blessing of the backpacks. In addition, we will hold our 2024-2025 Teacher Recognition and 2025-2026 Teacher Commissioning. Join us for a wonderful time of celebration brought to us by our Christian Education Committee.

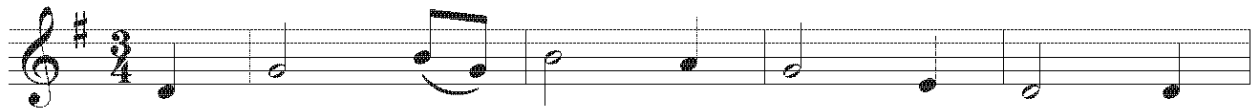
We are now accepting a “Love Offering” to allow current and former members of our congregation to support WINDWARD, the project started by Ann Kelly’s Leland Presbyterian Church. They have converted part of their building to host visiting tornado and Delta mission teams. At this point, they need approximately \$7,500 for appropriate kitchen and laundry appliances. Please designate WINDWARD when you make your donation! Donations will be accepted from Sunday, June 22 through Sunday, August 3.

In Christ There is No East or West

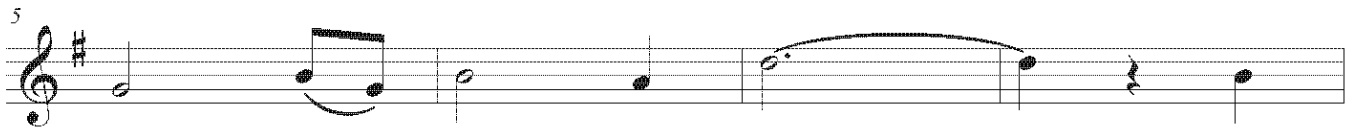
AMAZING GRACE

John Oxenham

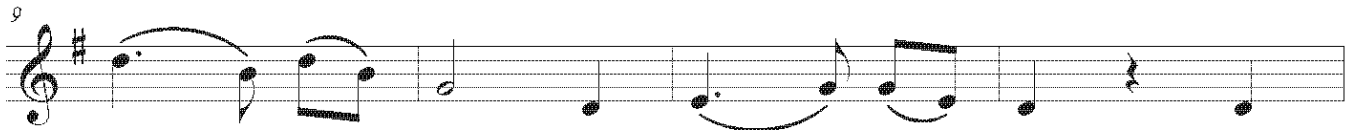
The Southern Harmony



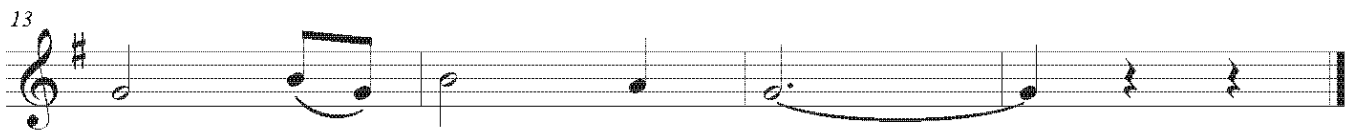
In Christ there is no east or west, in
For God in Christ has made us one from
Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what -
In Christ now meet both east and west, in



Him no pride of birth; the
ev' - ry land and race; has
e'er your race may be. All
Him meet south and north. All



cho - sen fam' - ly God has blessed now
rec - on - ciled us through His Son and
chil - dren of the liv - ing God are
Christ - ly souls are one in Him through -



spans the whole wide earth.
met us all with grace.
sure - ly kin to me.
out the whole wide earth.

The Church

At Worship and Work

SUNDAY

20

JULY

9:30 A.M. Sunday School, Fellowship Hall
10:30 A.M. Worship Service, Sanctuary
4:00 P.M. Bible Study, Bolton/Sistahood Classroom
4:30 P.M. Boy Scouts, Room B205

MONDAY

21

JULY

7:30 A.M. CASA, Gym
11:00 A.M. Bible Study
5:00 P.M. Steering Committee
6:00 P.M. Session Meeting

TUESDAY

22

JULY

7:30 A.M. CASA, Gym
9:00 A.M. T'ai Chi Chih
10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting
7:00 P.M. A.A. Meeting

WEDNESDAY

23

JULY

7:30 A.M. CASA, Gym
3:00 P.M. Mah Jongg-Stewart Clayton SS Rm.
5:30 P.M. Bingo, Burgers, & Blue Bell

THURSDAY

24

JULY

7:30 A.M. CASA, Gym
8:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast, Hilton Garden Inn

FRIDAY

25

JULY

7:30 A.M. CASA, Gym
12:00 P.M. A.A. Meeting

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THE SESSION

Rev. John Brock, Moderator
Lisa Nichols, Clerk of the Session

CLASS OF 2026

Glen Davidson, Sr.
Jim Fisher
Ben Hunter
Bob Lence
Corey Littrell
Helen Monts
Aubre Wells

CLASS OF 2027

Heather Crotwell
Amanda Davis
Beth Anne Ellzey
Mac Godwin
Mary Margaret Gratz
Debra Robison
Liz Rose

CLASS OF 2028

Jim Bruce
Tatum Collins
Lee Herman
Trey Phyfer
Virginia Toliver
Buddy Stubbs
Kathy Wallace

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Rev. John Brock, Pastor
Melissa McDuffie, Director of Youth and Christian Education
Dr. Bob Taylor, Director of Music
Dr. Ray Harris, Organist
John Buchman, Audio/Visual Technician
Claire Leeke, Director of Elementary and Youth Choirs
Dr. Kathy McMurry, Treasurer
Cindy Faucette, Church Librarian
MJ Whitt, Church Secretary
Kay Stanford, Financial Secretary
Penny O'Quinn, Morning Receptionist
Lucy Wells, Afternoon Receptionist
Ricky Kimbrell, Maintenance Superintendent
Rev. M. McCoy Franklin, Pastor Emeritus

