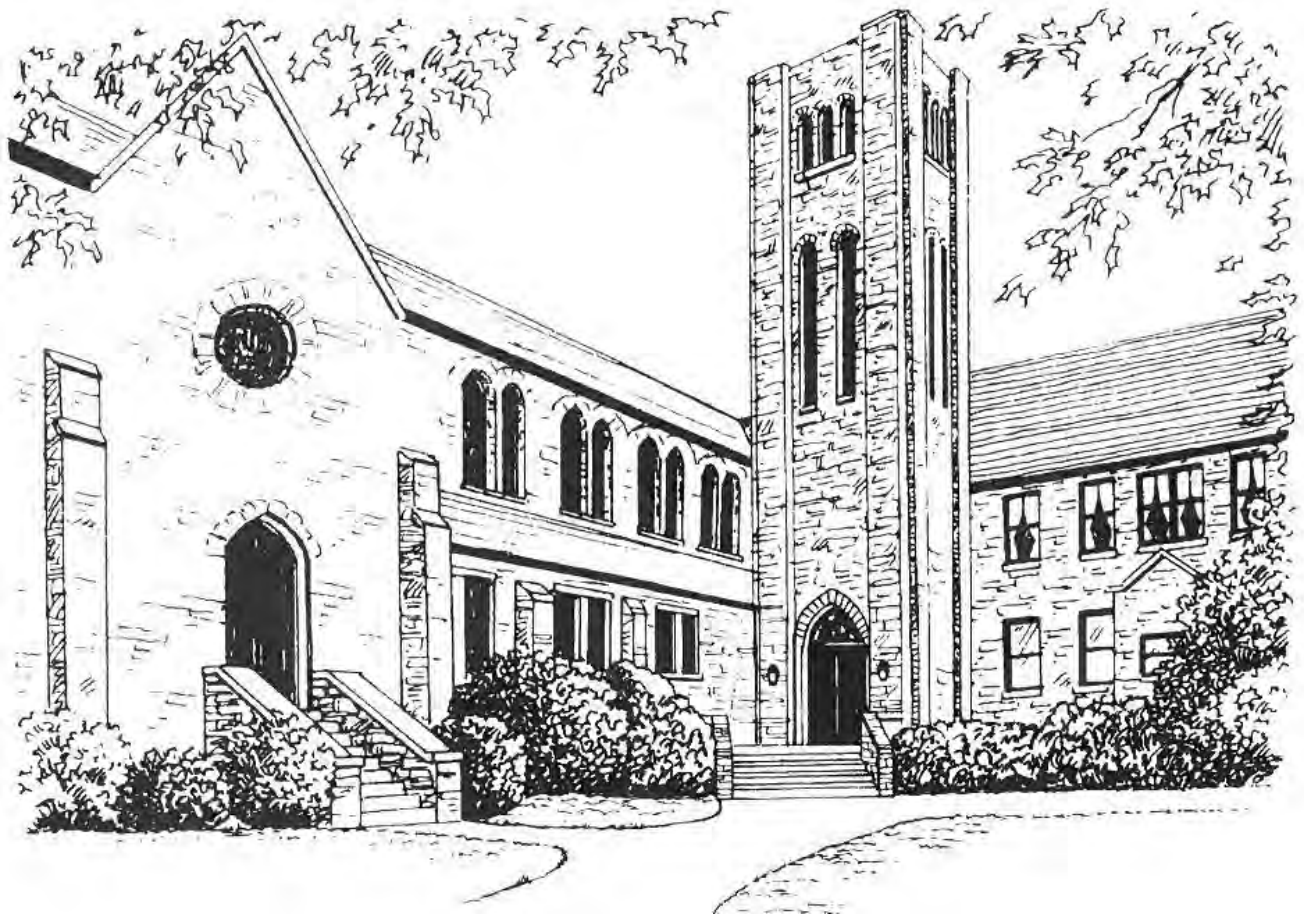


# First Presbyterian Church

400 W 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](http://www.firstprestupelo.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/FPCTupelo>

662.842.5681

# *Morning Worship Service*

## *Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

9:00 & 11:00 A.M.

“And we, though many, throughout the Earth,  
We are one body in this one Lord.”  
*One Bread, One Body*, John Michael Talbot

\*Congregation standing as able.

**Bold** is spoken by the congregation.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS, AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

*Processional on “Lauda Anima”*

DON HUSTAD

INTROIT

*Let the Song Go ‘Round the Earth*

BURYL RED

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, let us worship our God.

**For there is one Lord, one faith, one baptism.**

There is one God and Father of all,

**who is above all and through all and in all.**

We come with humility, gentleness, and patience.

**We come bearing with one another in love.**

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, You created the earth and all that dwells within it. You oversee all of creation and care for even the birds of the air and lilies of the field. You call us to be one, united in mission and committed to Your glory. May it be so as we worship this morning. May Your presence unite us. May Your presence transform us. May Your presence carry us to the places You would have us go from here. These things we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*We All Are One in Mission*

LANCASHIRE

*(See Insert)*

# We All Are One in Mission

Rusty Edwards

Henry Smart

First system of the musical score. It features a grand staff with a treble and bass clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: We all are one in mission, we all are one in call. Our We all are called for ser - vice to wit - ness in God's name. Our Now let us be u - nit - ed and let our song be heard. Now

Second system of the musical score. It continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The lyrics are: var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all. A min - is - tries are dif - ferent, our pur - pose is the same. To let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing word. We

Third system of the musical score. It continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove to touch the lives of oth - ers by God's sur - prise - ing grace so all are on in mis - sion, we all are one in call, our

Fourth system of the musical score. It concludes the piece. The lyrics are: plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love, ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace. var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

In his letter, John reminds us that those who claim to have no sin, deceive themselves and the truth is not in them. Knowing this, let us be honest with ourselves that we may be honest with God. Let us confess our sin.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God, you have called us to live lives worthy of the calling to which we have been called. But we confess to You and to each other that we have not always put You above all else; we have not always spoken the truth in love; we have not always made every effort to maintain the unity of Spirit. Forgive us, Holy God, and by Your grace, help us to grow in every way to be more like Him who is our head, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*(Time of Silent Confession)*

## KYRIE

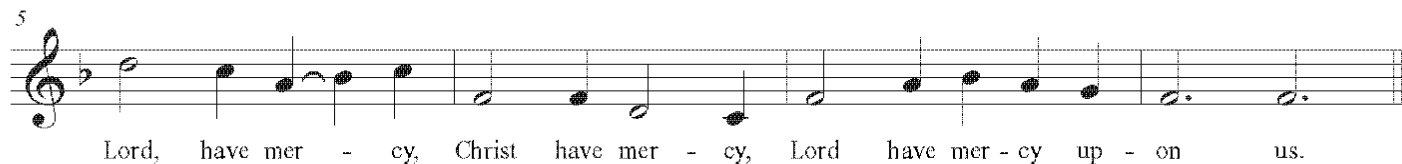
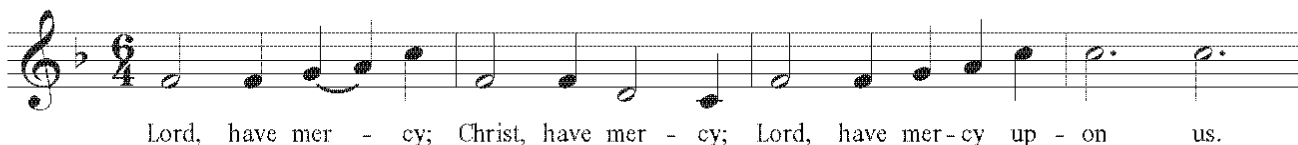
Lord, Have Mercy

(CONGREGATION PLEASE SING)

Kyrie Eleison

America folk hymn

arr. Richard Proulx



## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The good news in Christ is that when we face ourselves and God with honesty, we are given grace to grow, and courage to continue the journey of discipleship. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

\*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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE PSALM READING

PSALM 133

How very good and pleasant it is  
when kindred live together in unity!

**It is like the precious oil on the head,  
running down upon the beard,  
on the beard of Aaron,  
running down over the collar of his robes.**

It is like the dew of Hermon,  
which falls on the mountains of Zion.

**For there the Lord ordained his blessing,  
life forevermore.**

Let us worship God.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

PEW BIBLE, PG. 616

ANTHEM

*One Bread, One Body*

TALBOT/HAYES

One bread, one body,  
one Lord of all,  
one cup of blessing which we bless.  
And we, though many,  
throughout the earth,  
we are one body in this one Lord.

Gentile or Jew,  
servant or free,  
woman or man, no more.

*Refrain*

Many the gifts,  
many the works,  
one in the Lord of all.

*Refrain*

\*STATEMENT 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.**

\*HYMN OF AFFIRMATION NO. 357 *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

MARYTON

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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.**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

DALE WOOD

\*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, because of Your many gifts to us, accept these gifts we offer now back to You.  
Take these tithes and offerings, Lord, and use them to transform our community.  
Not just these gifts, but use our whole lives to accomplish Your will in those we meet  
every day.**

\*CLOSING HYMN No. 438

*Blest Be the Tie that Binds*

DENNIS

POSTLUDE

*If You But Trust in God to Guide You*

J. S. BACH

\*BENEDICTION

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## 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](mailto: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 and in memory of Wilson Reeder, our beloved son, brother, grandson, and friend by Jeff, Lee, Kirk, and Ross Reeder and Gladys Wilson.

**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](http://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.

**Leading the worship service today:** Melissa McDuffie, Dr. Bob Taylor, Dr. Ray Harris

**Liturgist:** 9:00: Trey Phyfer

11:00: Liz Rose

**Greeters:** 9:00: Jim Fisher, Hudson Fisher

11:00: Will & Amanda, Julia Davis, Beverly Chappell



## *Wednesday Night Dinner & Program:*

Date	Time
9.17.2025	5:30pm

### Menu:

**Presly's Smoked Pork Loin, Fried and Grilled Chicken Tenders, Southern Cheese Grits, Homestyle Green Beans, Broccoli Salad, Rolls, Full Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, and Assorted Desserts!**

Sign Up by Noon  
Wednesday:



**Program:** Guatemala Water Mission Presentation



As we approach the Kirkin' service, we will look at the various influences that would eventually lead "Father" Stuart to establish FPC.

## John Knox

John Knox occupies a central spot in the history of the Presbyterian Church.

As the founder of the Church of Scotland, of which we are an offshoot, it is difficult to overstate the influence of Knox on our polity and doctrines. Knox began his spiritual journey as an ordained Roman Catholic priest in 1536. It is not recorded just when Knox embraced the Protestant cause, but perhaps the most important influences were early Reformers Patrick Hamilton and George Wishart. Knox is known to have acted as Wishart's bodyguard in 1544, bearing a two-handed sword for the purpose. After Wishart's execution for heresy, Knox became a fugitive and eventually a galley slave from 1547-1549.

After 19 months as a rower, he was released and fled to England where he was licensed to preach in the Church of England. Upon Mary Tudor's ascension to the throne, she restored Catholicism as the official religion forcing Knox to flee to Geneva where he was taken in by John Calvin. Having studied with Calvin, he returned to Scotland as a guiding light of the Reformation. In 1560, Knox and five other ministers wrote the Scots Confession in only four days! They would labor for months on the Book of Discipline which described the organization of the new Kirk. He would go on to become minister of St. Giles High Kirk in Edinburgh where, being an austere man, he would regularly preach against the excesses of the world, including those of Mary, Queen of Scots. Upon his death in 1572, he was buried in the churchyard of St. Giles (fun fact: when the church yard was paved, Knox was not moved; he rests beneath space #23 in the car park). Although it would take 120 years to become the national church, Knox is credited with establishing Presbyterian polity in the Church of Scotland, which would be exported to the Presbyterian Church in the American Colonies and form the basis of our polity today.

Next week: Hamilton, Wishart, et. al.



## PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

**Cancer Treatment:** Ginger Mark, Scarlett Reeder, Jim Seiler

**Homebound:** Gladys Wilson, Mary Ann Chiles, Carolyn Gaston

**College Students:** Isabella Posey, Ashton Posey, Jon Timothy Posey

**Service Members:** Patrick Hastings, Andrew Ray

## ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

9:00 A.M.: 54    11:00 A.M.: 114

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Weekly Budget: \$21,281

Amount Received 9/7/25: \$11,044

YTD Budgeted Income: \$766,110

YTD Income Received: \$734,937

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## UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Our weekly Bible study will meet this Monday, September 15 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 21.

**Sign up by noon Wednesday to hold your place for our Wednesday Night Supper and Program** using the QR Code provided, using today's Attendance Register, or by calling the church office at 662-842-5681. This week the cost is \$7 per person, and we will enjoy Presly's Smoked Pork Loin, Fried and Grilled Chicken Tenders, Southern Cheese Grits, Homestyle Green Beans, Broccoli Salad, Rolls, Full Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, and Assorted Desserts! **Our program** will be a Guatemala Water Mission Update. We hope to see you in the Fellowship Hall for supper and fellowship at **5:30 P.M. Wednesday, September 10!**



**In Worship during the month of September,** we will be focusing on the theme of *Follow Jesus*. For September 21, the mini-theme will be "Learn to See through the Lens of Love" and our scripture passage will be from **Mark 12:28-34**.

# *This Week at FPC*

## Sunday, September 14

### Youth Mission - Keep Tupelo Beautiful

9:00 A.M. Worship Service

10:00 A.M. Sunday School

11:00 A.M. Worship Service

4:30 P.M. Boy Scouts, Rm. B205

5:30 P.M. Youth

## Monday, September 15

11:00 A.M. Bible Study, Bolton/Sistahood Rm.

2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym

5:15 P.M. Steering Committee

6:00 P.M. Session Meeting

## Tuesday, September 16

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

2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym

2:30 P.M. Cook for the Salvation Army

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

## Wednesday, September 17

10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting

2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym

3:00 P.M. Mah Jongg, Stewart-Clayton Rm.

5:00 P.M. Tower Ringers

5:30 P.M. Wednesday Night Program

7:00 P.M. Chancel Choir

## Thursday, September 18

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

1:30 P.M. Shepherd's Center Meeting

2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym

## Friday, September 19

12:00 P.M. AA Meeting

2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym



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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  
Buddy Stubbs  
Virginia Toliver  
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

