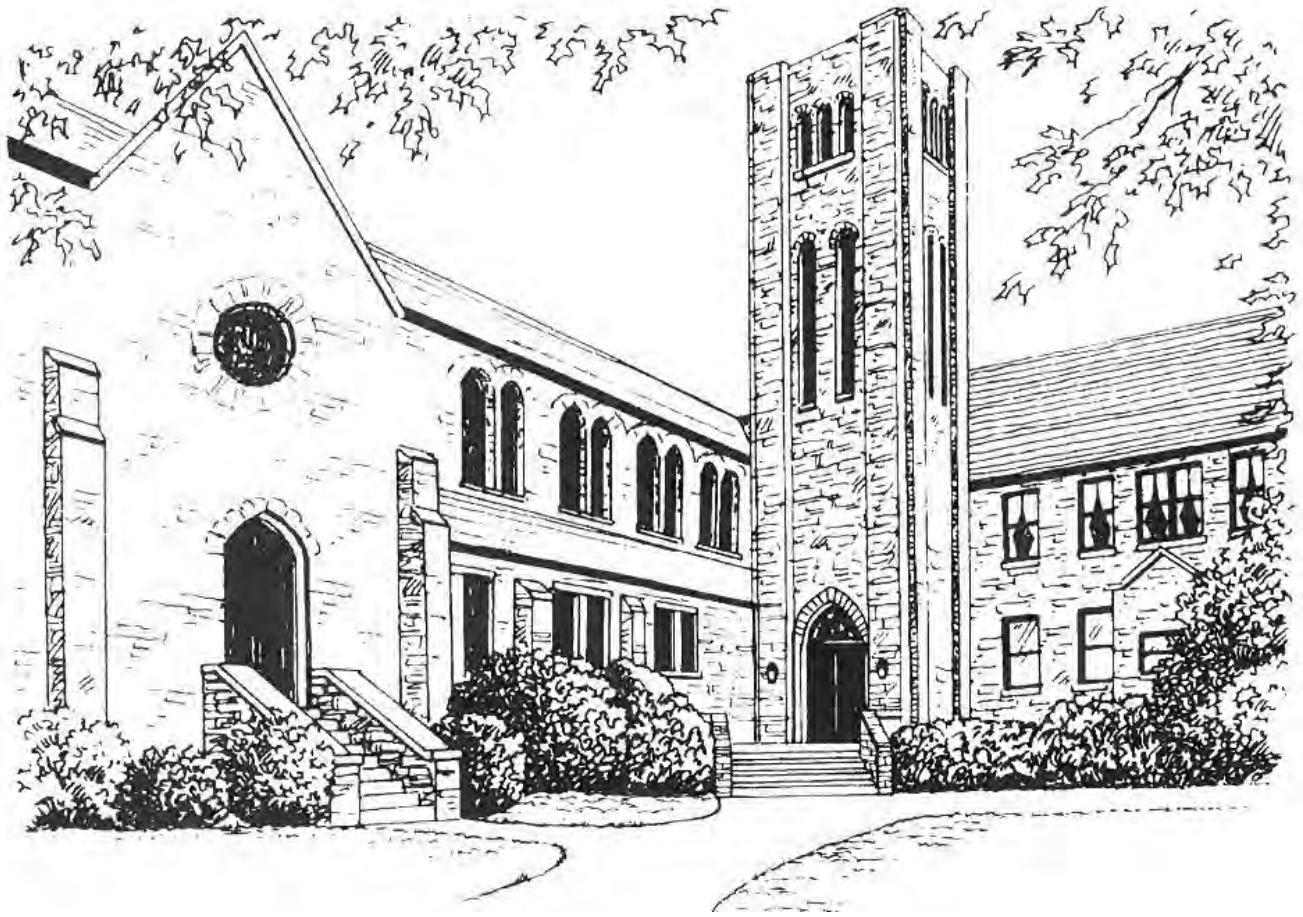


First Presbyterian Church

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
<https://www.facebook.com/FPCTupelo>

662.842.5681

Morning Worship Service

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 16, 2025

9:00 & 11:00 A.M.

“He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”
- Micah 6:8

*Congregation standing as able.

Bold is spoken by the congregation.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS, AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE *Jupiter* from “The Planets” GUSTAV HOLST/McCHESNEY

*CALL TO WORSHIP

John came out of the wilderness to preach repentance;
he preaches to us still.

**Make straight the paths we now walk
and prepare the way for God’s reign of justice and love.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Mighty God, make us worthy
of the challenge of the gospel.
Prune away all that is fruitless
and burn away all that is false
until nothing is left but the good news
of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 473 *For the Beauty of the Earth*

DIX

CALL TO CONFESSION

As John the Baptist called the people to repent,
as Jesus calls us now,
we turn to the One who is both Judge and Savior,
trusting that repentance opens the door to new life,

and that peace beyond all measure has been promised to us.

Let us confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION — written by AVERY SMITH

Loving God, as one we confess our failings:

We aim to seek justice,

but then when it proves too hard, too exhausting, we rush to cheap grace.

We aim to embrace kindness,

but then snap at loved ones, shut out the stranger, remain ignorant of our neighbor's needs.

We aim to walk humbly with God.,

but willfully ignore how our path diverges from Yours.

We cry “peace!” when we mean “compliance!”

We cry “peace!” when we mean “complacency!”

We cry “peace!” when there is no peace.

(Time of Silent Confession)

KYRIE

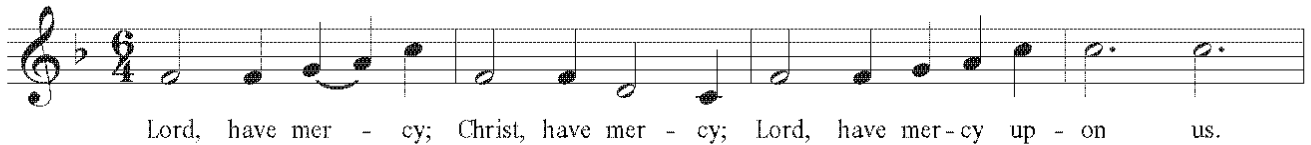
Lord, Have Mercy

(CONGREGATION PLEASE SING)

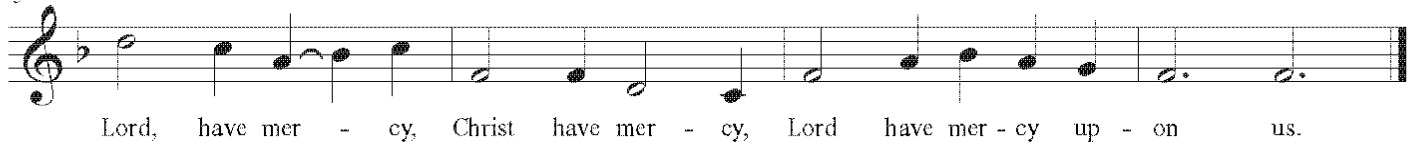
Kyrie Eleison

America folk hymn

arr. Richard Proulx



5



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, there is a kindness in God's justice

that hears out our confessions and liberates us to move forward,

to build a better world.

God's word forgives us and redeems us.

God's breath revitalizes us for the journey.

Thanks be to God!

***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.***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

UNISON READING

MICAH 6:6-8

**“With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?
Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”
He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?**

CHILDREN’S SERMON

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Colossians 3:12-17

PEW BIBLE, PG. 201

ANTHEM

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

TOMMY DORSEY/RANEY

GOSPEL READING

Luke 3:1-14

PEW BIBLE, PG. 60

SERMON

“Fruits Worthy of Repentance”

REV. JOHN BROCK

*STATEMENT OF FAITH — from *The Heidelberg Catechism*

88 Q. What is involved in genuine repentance or conversion?

A. Two things:

**the dying-away of the old self,
and the rising-to-life of the new.**

89 Q. What is the dying-away of the old self?

A. To be genuinely sorry for sin

**and more and more to hate
and run away from it.**

90 Q. What is the rising-to-life of the new self?

**A. Wholehearted joy in God through Christ
and a love and delight to live
according to the will of God
by doing every kind of good work.**

91 Q. What are good works?

**A. Only those which
are done out of true faith,
conform to God's law,
and are done for God's glory;
and not those based
on our own opinion
or human tradition.**

*HYMN OF AFFIRMATION No. 150 *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

MADRID

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

Just As I Am

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 of grace,
we offer these gifts as signs of our turning toward You.
Use them to mend what is broken,
to feed what is hungry,
and to build the beloved community where Christ reigns.
Amen.**

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 409 *Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice* ABERSTWYTH

POSTLUDE *To God Be the Glory* DON HUSTAD

*BENEDICTION

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 placed to the glory of God and in loving memory of our beloved sons, John Osborne and Michael Osborne, whose spirits live on in God's eternal light. Lovingly given by Debra and Rud Robison.

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.

Children in first through fifth grade are invited to join our Sunday version of Faithbuilder's during the 11:00 A.M. Sunday service. This fall, we will meet weekly through December 14 to give us extra time to prepare for the Joy Gift program. We meet **after the children's sermon** for a fun and engaging time of learning about the structure of our church service, with activities to help kids grow in their understanding and participation in worship. If your child attends, you can pick them up in the gym area after the service.

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.

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

Liturgist: 9:00: Virginia Toliver

11:00: Larry Crowell

Greeters: 9:00: Bill Dickerson, Joey, Carter, & Emma McDuffie

11:00: Susan Boone, Lee Pryor Caldwell, Rudy & Jala Caldwell

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Cancer Treatment: Ginger Mark, Scarlett Reeder, Jim Seiler

Homebound: Barbara Price, Jack Price, Annette Thornton

College Students: Ana Morgan Beckham, Daniel Crotwell, Afton Gable

Service Members: Patrick Hastings, Andrew Ray

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

9:00 A.M.: 48 11:00 A.M.: 110

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Weekly Budget: \$17,025

Amount Received 11/9/25: \$6,549

YTD Budgeted Income: \$936,357

YTD Income Received: \$892,889

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our weekly Bible study will NOT meet this Monday, November 17. We will resume meeting in the Bolton/Sistahood Room on Monday, January 5 with our Intro to Acts.

In Worship during the month of November, we will focus on the theme of *Confess*. For November 23, the mini-theme will also be *"Repair,"* and our scripture passages will be from **Luke 19:1-10, Exodus 22:1-15, and Leviticus 25:1-18.**



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. The cost for supper is \$7 per person, and the menu includes Vanelli's Lasagna with Meat Sauce, Fried and Grilled Chicken Tenders, Homestyle Green Beans, Macaroni and Cheese, Congealed Salad, Rolls, Fresh Fruit, Full Salad Bar, and Assorted Desserts! **Our program** will be given by Jim Johnson. We hope to see you in the Fellowship Hall for supper and fellowship at **5:30 P.M. Wednesday, November 19!**

Pledge Cards — If you haven't already, please turn in your pledge cards this week. If you need a pledge card, we have extra available on the table outside the office.

Joy Gift Program will be on December 14 this year. We ask that each person give from their hearts with this wonderful program provides support for Presbyterian church workers and their families in their time of need and leadership development and education for communities of color at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

Our Choir Program is December 21. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

***Through the Darkness into the Light* by Lori Dickerson** is now available on Amazon!

Today before 11:00 Worship, we will welcome into membership **Twinda Snider** and **Melanie Deas**.

FROM OUR ACCOUNTING OFFICE

Contribution credit for 2025 must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2025.

Memorials and Honorariums to be sent out before Christmas must be received by December 8, 2025.



This Week at APC

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

YOUTH SERVE AT THE SALVATION ARMY

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, NOVEMBER 17

2:30 P.M. CASA, GYM

5:00 P.M. STEERING COMMITTEE

6:00 P.M. SESSION MEETING

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

9:00 A.M. T'AI CHI CHIH

10:30 A.M. THANKSGIVING COMMUNITY SERVICE, LINKS CENTER

2:30 P.M. CASA, GYM

2:30 P.M. COOK FOR SALVATION ARMY

7:00 P.M. A.A. MEETING

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

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 - JIM JOHNSON

7:00 P.M. CHANCEL CHOIR

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

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, NOVEMBER 21

12:00 P.M. AA MEETING

2:30 P.M. CASA, GYM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

9:00 A.M. HELPING HANDS VOLUNTEERS



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BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
of North Mississippi

*Cooking Like
The Stars*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH

6 PM - 9 PM

**PARK
HEIGHTS**
RESTAURANT

335 East Main Street - Tupelo, MS 38804
Phone: 662.842.5665 | parkheightstupelo.com



Pastor John Brock



Eddie Dalton



Reed Jones



Alan Larson

FOR TICKET INFORMATION, CALL 662.841.6504.

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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

