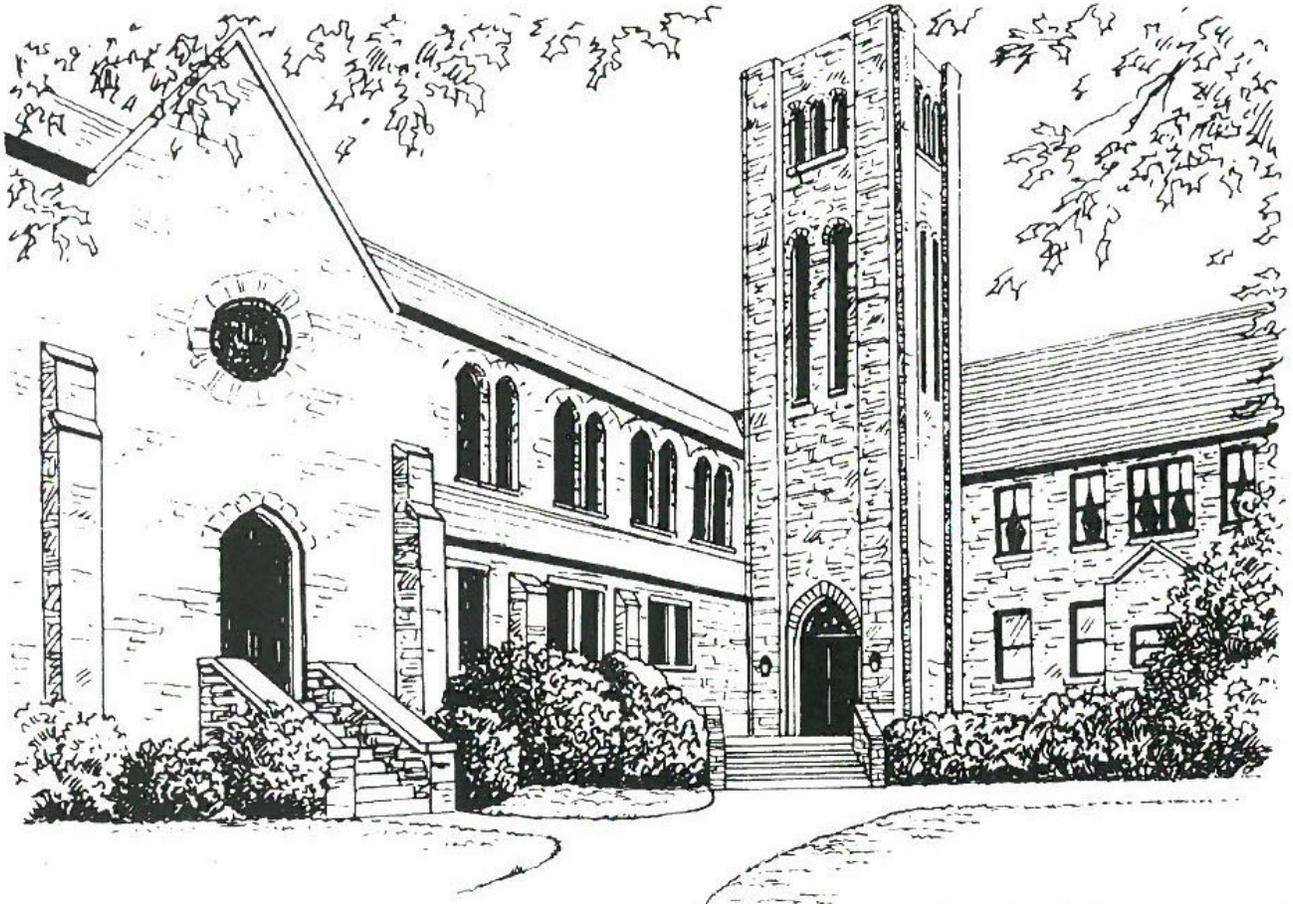


First Presbyterian Church

400 W Jefferson Street



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>

Morning Worship Service

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 15, 2026

9:00 & 11:00 A.M.

Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" - JOHN 20:28

*Congregation standing as able.

Bold is spoken by the congregation.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS, AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley

DALE WOOD

INTROIT

You Are the Christ

JOSEPH M. MARTIN

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 95

O come, let us sing to the LORD.

Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving.

For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

In His hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are His also.

O come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

This is the day that the LORD has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it! Holy God, as we come before You in worship, we ask that we be aware of Your presence. Open our eyes to the ways in which You are at work around us, open our ears to the message You would have us hear, and soften our hearts to the places You are calling us to go. Join us this morning, Holy Spirit; may our worship be a sweet sound in Your ear. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE No. 379

My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less

SOLID ROCK

CALL TO CONFESSION

In confessing to God, David says, "Then I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,' and You forgave the guilt of my sin." Let us follow David's lead this morning as we confess our sins, not hiding anything from the God who loves us.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we come before You this morning confessing our sin. For the things we have done knowingly that do not bring You glory or love our neighbors, we ask for forgiveness. Give us the strength to resist these temptations. For the things we have done selfishly out of habit or without thinking, we are sorry. Open our eyes to these that we might be aware of things that threaten to separate us from You. For the ways we have left undone the things You call us to do, forgive our apathy or fear. Fill us with courage to speak up for the things we know to be right. Holy God, we trust in Your great love for us and for Your promise of forgiveness as we bring our confession to You this morning...

(Time of Silent Confession)

KYRIE

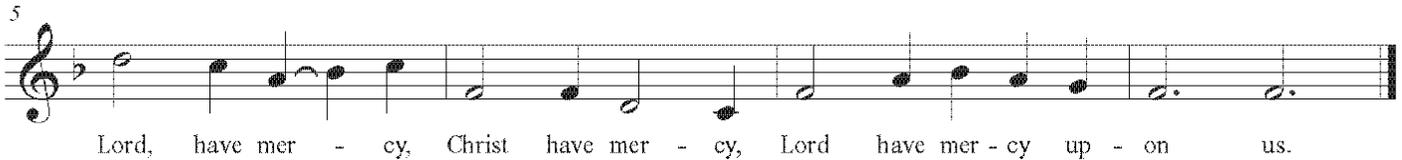
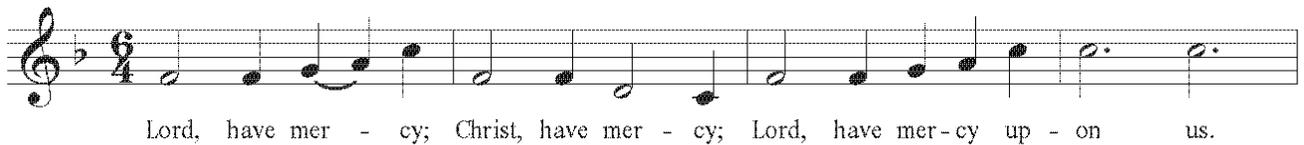
Lord, Have Mercy

(CONGREGATION PLEASE SING)

Kyrie Eleison

American folk hymn

arr. Richard Proulx



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the words of David again, ““Then I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,’ and You forgave the guilt of my sin.” Friends, believe this good news:

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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION



O LORD, You have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
You discern my thoughts from far away.

You search out my path and my lying down
 and are acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.

You hem me in, behind and before,
 and lay Your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.

Where can I go from Your spirit?

Or where can I flee from Your presence?

If I ascend to heaven, You are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, You are there.

If I take the wings of the morning
 and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

even there Your hand shall lead me,
and Your right hand shall hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
 and night wraps itself around me,"

even the darkness is not dark to You;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to You.

For it was You who formed my inward parts;
 You knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are Your works; that I know very well.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 29:11-13

PEW BIBLE, PG. 731

ANTHEM

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

ARR. GILBERT MARTIN

*When I survey the wondrous cross
 on which the Prince of Glory died,
 my richest gain I count but loss,
 and pour contempt on all my pride.*

*Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them through His blood.*

*See, from His head, His hands, His feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?*

*Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all!*

GOSPEL READING

John 20:24-29

PEW BIBLE, PG. 115

SERMON

MELISSA MCDUFFIE

*AFFIRMATION 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. 383

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

OLIVET

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

A Way to Calvary Leadeth

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

Generous God, You have given us more than we know. Accept these gifts in return as a sign of our gratitude for Your unending forgiveness and grace. May we live lives of gratitude sharing this grace and forgiveness with those around us. In the name of Your Son, our Savior, we pray, Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN No. 356

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

POSTLUDE

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

WALTHER

*BENEDICTION

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Cancer Treatment: Scarlett Reeder, Jim Seiler

Homebound: Mary Ann Chiles, Carolyn Gaston, John Gaston

College Students: Isabella Posey, Jon Timothy Posey, Ross Reeder

Service Members: Patrick Hastings, Andrew Ray

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

9:00 A.M: 45 11:00 A.M: 99

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 are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of Martha Jo (Kelly) Patterson from her daughter, Kirsten Bolton, and son-in-law, Jay Mason.

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 every 2nd and 4th Sunday. 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: Melissa McDuffie, Dr. Bob Taylor, Dr. Ray Harris

Liturgist: 9:00: Rev. John Brock

11:00: Rev. John Brock

Greeters: 9:00: Amy Ray and Tracy Kramer

11:00: Mark & Kim Burseson and Jeff & Mitzi Moore

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our weekly Bible study will meet this Monday, March 16 at 11:00 A.M. We will continue meeting in the Bolton/Sistahood Room. This group enjoys engaging discussions and fellowship, and it is open to everyone. This week, we will study Acts 8.

For March 22, our scripture passages will be from **John 8:2-11, Matthew 23:23, and Psalm 103:1-14.**



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, Homestyle Green Beans, Corn on the Cob, Tater Tots, Cheese Grits, Rolls, Fresh Fruit, Full Salad Bar, and Assorted Desserts! **Our program** will be *Wow* by John Brock. We hope to see you in the Fellowship Hall for supper and fellowship at **5:30 P.M. Wednesday, March 18.**

Lenten Lunch will be held at **All Saints' Episcopal Church** on Thursday, March 19 at noon.

True Witnesses Voices from the Margins of Holy Week by **Lori Gallagher Dickerson** are available for you to pick up on the table by the church office. These copies were provided by the Christian Education Committee. Please help yourself!

If you would like to make a gift to the **Spring Flower Bulb Drive** with an honorarium or memorial in the name of a loved one, please send your donation with the name and designation to the church office by **Thursday, March 26.** Envelopes may be found on the back table in the sanctuary or on the table outside the church office. **Minimum of \$20 for each name.**

Next Sunday: Please join us for a baby shower honouring **Katelyn & Ivy Wells** from 1:00-2:30 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall.



First Presbyterian Church, Tupelo

Spring Flower

Bulb Drive

**Get your Bulb Fund
Envelopes in the back
on the table or on the
table by the office door!**

To God be the glory for the gift of Spring and the beautiful colors that it brings.

If you would like to make a gift to the bulb fund with an honorarium or memorial in the name of a loved one, please send your donation with the name and designation to the church office by Thursday, March 26. Envelopes may be found on the back table or by the church office. Minimum of \$20 for each name.



*Hello
Baby Girl*

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
A BABY SHOWER HONOURING

**KATELYN &
IVY WELLS**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FELLOWSHIP HALL

SUNDAY, MARCH 22
1:00-2:30

REGISTERED AT ELIZABETH CLAIR'S,
REEDS, AND BABYLIST.COM

WEEKLY

FPE Schedule

Sunday

9:00 A.M. Worship
10:00 A.M. Sunday School
11:00 A.M. Worship
4:30 P.M. Boy Scouts
5:30 P.M. Confirmation

3/15

Monday

11:00 A.M. Bible Study
2:30 P.M. CASA
5:00 P.M. Steering Committee
6:00 P.M. Session Meeting

3/16

Tuesday

St. Patrick's Day

9:00 A.M. T'ai Chi
2:30 P.M. Cook for the Salvation Army,
Kitchen
2:30 P.M. CASA
7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

3/17

Wednesday

10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting
2:30 P.M. CASA
3:00 P.M. Mah Jongg
5:05 P.M. Tower Ringers
5:30 P.M. Wednesday Night Program
7:00 P.M. Chancel Choir

3/18

Thursday

8:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast
1:30 P.M. Shepherd's Center Meeting,
Rec Room
2:30 P.M. CASA

3/19

Friday

12:00 P.M. AA
2:30 P.M. CASA

3/20

Saturday

3/21

Notes

- Wells' Baby Shower on the 22nd.
- Session Training on the 23rd.

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

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

