

# 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](http://www.firstprestupelo.org)

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

# Morning Worship Service

## Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026

9:00 & 11:00 A.M.

“I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”  
- JOHN 10:10B

\*Congregation standing as able.

**Bold** is spoken by the congregation.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS, AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* ARR. DINO KARTSONAKIS

INTROIT *Jesus Is Risen* ARR. JOSEPH MARTIN

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise God, the Good Shepherd.

**In the valley’s deep shadows,**

**God’s voice guides us.**

We are God’s sheep,

**and God never abandons God’s own sheep.**

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

God, Your loving voice calls us.

With our names spoken so tenderly,  
we follow joyfully.

Jesus, when we lose our way,

You don’t give up until

You have us securely in Your arms.

Holy Spirit, help us express

our soul’s deep desire

to meet You in worship today. Amen.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 144

*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!*

HYFRYDOL

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus said, “I am the Good Shepherd; I know my own, and my own know me.” In

confession, we trust God to know us fully: the good and the bad, the faithful and the sinful. But we also know God's faithfulness, God's mercy, and God's power to redeem us and lead us into new life. Trusting in this promise, let us confess our sins together.

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, from before the foundation of the world, You called us by name and pledged Your steadfast love. But like ornery sheep, we stray from the fold. You offer to lead us, but we prefer to lead ourselves. Christ laid down His life, yet we refuse to lay down our phones, our plans, our pride.**

**Forgive us, O God. Call us back to the open gate of Christ's redeeming love that we may enter Your Beloved Community and find restoration for our souls, reconciliation with our enemies, and the glory of abiding with You forevermore.**

*(Time of Silent Confession)*

#### KYRIE

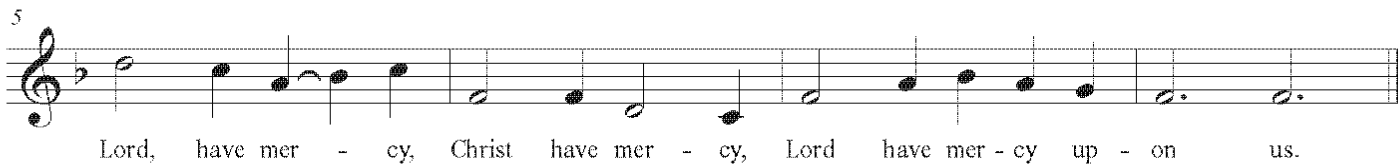
Lord, Have Mercy

(CONGREGATION PLEASE SING)

Kyrie Eleison

American folk hymn

arr. Richard Proulx



#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The proof of God's amazing love is this: while we were yet sinners, Christ came to us; Christ died for us; and Christ rose from the dead so the gates of heaven may be thrown open wide and all of creation renewed. So believe the good news: in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and restored to new, abundant life.

**Alleluia! 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.***

**The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;  
he restores my soul.  
He leads me in right paths  
for his name's sake.**

**Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil,  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.**

**You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD  
my whole life long.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

EPISTLE READING	1 Peter 2:19-25	PEW BIBLE, PG. 233
ANTHEM	<i>My Shepherd, You Supply My Need</i>	ARR. SANDRA PORTMAN
GOSPEL READING	JOHN 10:1-10	PEW BIBLE, PG. 103
SERMON	Abundant Life	REV. JOHN BROCK

\*STATEMENT OF FAITH — from *The Second Helvetic Confession*

**In all crises and trials of our life we call upon God alone, and do so by the mediation of our only mediator and intercessor, Jesus Christ. For we have been explicitly commanded: “Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me” (Psalm 1:15). Moreover, we have a most generous promise from the Lord who said: “If you ask anything of the Father, He will give it to you” (John 16:23), and: “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28). And since it is written:**

**“How are men to call upon Him in whom they have not believed?” (Romans 10:14), and since we do believe in God alone, we assuredly call upon God alone, and we do so through Christ alone. Amen.**

\*HYMN OF AFFIRMATION NO. 387    *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

BRADBURY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

In Your great love for us,  
**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

*Cornerstone Medley*

ARR. MARK HAYES

\*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

**Shepherding God, You lead us, guard us, prepare us, and preserve us. We have responded by giving back to You what has come from Your hand. Bless these gifts, and multiply them in the life of Your church, so the gates of salvation may be flung wide, and all Your Beloved Community may know the love and the peace that is ours in Christ Jesus. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN

*God Is Calling Through the Whisper*  
(see insert on page 6)

W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY

POSTLUDE

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

ARR. VICTOR LABENSKÉ

\*BENEDICTION

# God Is Calling through the Whisper

1 God is call-ing through the whis-per of the Spir - it's deep-est sighs,  
 2 God is call-ing through the voic-es of our neigh-bors' ur-gent prayers,  
 3 God is call-ing through the mu-sic of sub-lime and hu-man arts,

through the thrill of sud-den beau-ties that can catch us by sur-prise.  
 through their long-ing for re-demp-tion and for res-cue from de-spair.  
 through the hymns of earth and an-gels, and the car-ols of our hearts.

Flash of light-ning, crash of thun-der; hush of still-ness, rush of won-der:  
 Place of hurt or face of need-ing; stri-dent cry or si-lent plead-ing:  
 Lift of joy and gift of sing-ing; days and nights our prais-es bring-ing:

God is call-ing—can you hear? God is call-ing—can you hear?  
 God is call-ing—can you hear? God is call-ing—can you hear?  
 God is call-ing—and we hear! God is call-ing—and we hear!

TEXT: Mary Louise Bringle, 2003  
 MUSIC: Polish carol; harm. Wilbur Lee, 1958  
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W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY  
 8.7.8.7.8.8.7.7  
 (this tune in a higher key, 128)

# Weekly

## FPC Schedule

### Sunday

9:00 A.M. Worship  
10:00 A.M. Sunday School  
10:00 A.M. New Member Orientation class  
11:00 A.M. Worship  
4:30 P.M. Boy Scouts  
5:30 P.M. Youth

4/26

### Monday

2:30 P.M. CASA

4/27

### Tuesday

11:00 A.M. Bible Study  
9:00 A.M. Tai Chi  
2:30 P.M. CASA  
5:30 P.M. Nominating Committee  
7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

4/28

### Wednesday

10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting  
2:30 P.M. CASA  
3:00 P.M. Mah Jongg  
5:30 P.M. Spring Picnic in the Stuart Garden  
7:00 P.M. Chancel Choir

4/29

### Thursday

8:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast, Hotel Tupelo  
2:30 P.M. CASA  
3:00 P.M. TCPS Board Appreciation

4/30

### Friday

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

5/1

### Saturday

5/2

### *Notes*

- Sunday is Youth Sunday!
- Brunch honoring our 2026 High School Graduating Class will be on Sunday during Sunday School hour.

## 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** are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in memory of Mary Phyfer and Coco Lica by Trey, Lorena, Lawson, and Aryanna Phyfer.

**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](http://www.firstprestupelo.org).

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

**Liturgist:** 9:00: Joey McDuffie

11:00: Larry Crowell

**Greeters:** 9:00: Kristi Hillhouse and Amanda Montgomery

11:00: Genie Alice and Jim Bruce, Anne Marie and Minor Littrell

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our weekly Bible study will meet this Tuesday, April 28 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 12.

For May 3, our scripture passages will be from Acts 7:55-60, Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16, 1 Peter 2:2-10, and John 14:1-14.



Be sure to join church friends and our visitors in the Stuart Garden (weather permitting) for our Spring Picnic and fellowship at 5:30 P.M., Wednesday, April 29. There is no cost, so come and join us for Mark Reynolds' Pulled Pork BBQ, Hotdogs, and All the Fixings! We look forward to seeing you there!

**Volunteers Needed** — We need you to help sub as a camera monitor on Sundays! If you can take a shift (9:00 Worship, 10:00 Sunday School, or 11:00 Worship), please contact Kathy Wallace. We appreciate any help you can give.

**Flowers in the Sanctuary Update** - Beginning August 1, the cost per arrangement is moving to \$75. If you have put your name down already for flowers after this date and would like to remove it, feel free to scratch it out on the calendar by the kitchen. We feel the price is still more than fair compared to the florists, but with prices going up, we had to as well. Thank you for understanding.

Join us for the **Chandler Baby Shower** on May 17 from 1:00pm - 2:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Theme - Diapers & Dinner! Sizes 1-2 for diapers, please.

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### PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

**Cancer Treatment:** Scarlett Reeder

**Homebound:** John Gaston, Joy Hyatt, Betty Nash

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

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

### ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

9:00 A.M: 67    11:00 A.M: 93

### STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Weekly Budget: \$22,106    Amount Received 4/19/26: \$3,791

YTD Budgeted Income: \$353,696    YTD Income Received: \$498,023

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, TUPELO

INVITES YOU TO  
OUR

# Youth SUNDAY SERVICES

MAY 3, 2026

9:00 A.M. WORSHIP

10:00 A.M. BRUNCH IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

11:00 A.M. WORSHIP

Worship Planned and Led by Our Youth

JOIN US FOR  
BRUNCH HONORING OUR

# 2026 High School Graduating Seniors

MAY 3, 2026  
FELLOWSHIP HALL  
10:00 A.M.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# Spring Picnic

IN THE STUART GARDEN

weather permitting

Wednesday, April 29

5:30 PM

JOIN US FOR A COMPLIMENTARY  
MEAL AND FELLOWSHIP!

MARK REYNOLDS' PULLED PORK  
BBQ, HOTDOGS, AND ALL THE  
FIXINGS!



## **THE MISSION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IS TO:**

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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

