

# Easter Sunday



*Resurrection of Our Lord*



the good news is..

alive in the world

SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2026

9:00 A.M. & 11:00 A.M.

First Presbyterian Church

400 W Jefferson Street

Tupelo, Mississippi 38804

662.842.5681

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



# *Morning Worship Service*

## *The Resurrection of Our Lord*

April 5, 2026

9:00 & 11:00 A.M.

“O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; His steadfast love endures forever!”

- PSALM 118:1

\*Congregation standing as able.

**Bold** is spoken by the congregation.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS, AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

*Alleluia! Christ Is Risen!*

PAUL MANZ

INTROIT

*Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise*

JOHNSON/WILLIAMS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

On Friday, we thought the good news had been silenced.

**On Friday, we thought the good news had taken its last breath.**

On Friday, we thought the good news had been buried.

**But today, we know the good news is alive and well.**

The good news is dancing!

**The good news is on the loose!**

The good news is out in the world, calling your name!

**Alleluia! Even death has lost its sting.**

*Let us worship our good-news Christ.*

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal God, Lord of Life and Conqueror of Death — this is the day You have made, and we rejoice and are glad in it. We come like the women at the garden's edge, trembling with fear and great joy, finding the tomb empty and death defeated. Speak to us now, risen Christ. Fix our hearts on things above, where You reign in glory. Let this hour of worship be one of wonder, for You are our strength, our song, and our salvation. To the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — all glory, now and forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

*Blessed Is He Who Comes*

BECKI SLAGLE MAYO

\*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 123

*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

EASTER HYMN

CALL TO CONFESSION

Friends, on Easter Sunday we remember that the world did its worst to God.  
The world battered and bruised,  
betrayed and abandoned,  
crucified and buried our living God.  
And despite it all, Jesus still chose to return.  
Jesus rose again and immediately went to work spreading God's love to the very  
people who had hurt Him. So hear me when I say, there is nothing you can do that  
could keep God's love at bay.  
With that good news in mind, let us go to God in prayer, trusting that Jesus Christ  
loves, claims, and seeks us.  
Friends, let us pray:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God,  
we want to be Easter people.  
We want to shout Your good news from the rooftop.  
We want to follow the disciples, who ran to look for You.  
We want to follow the angels, who said, "Be not afraid,"  
but we are afraid.  
And we don't know where to look.  
And we are worried we'll say the wrong thing.  
So forgive us, for we are imperfect Easter people.  
We are best intentions and best laid plans.  
We are an out-of-tune chorus of "alleluias."  
We are on our way, but we are not there yet.  
Show us how to embody Your good news in this world.  
Show us how to be Your Easter people.  
With hope for tomorrow, we pray.**

*(Time of Silent Confession)*

KYRIE

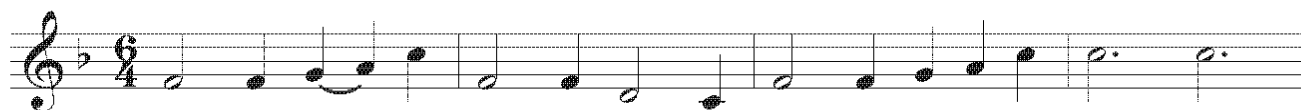
Lord, Have Mercy

(CONGREGATION PLEASE SING)

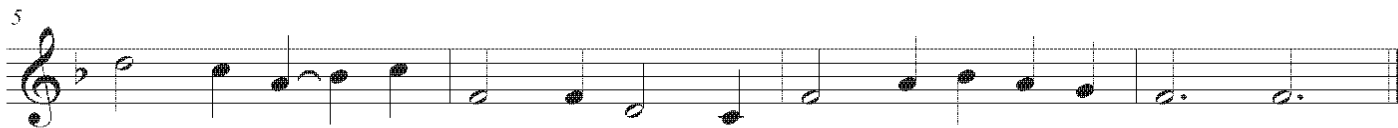
Kyrie Eleison

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

Family of faith,

Even when we are an out-of-tune chorus of “alleluias,” we belong to God.

Jesus died and rose for you. And there is nothing that could keep God’s love at bay.

So join me in this good news declaration:

**Through Jesus Christ we are seen, saved, loved, and claimed.**

**This is the good news of the gospel! Thanks be to God.**

**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.***

BAPTISMS (11:00 SERVICE)

Loretta Mae Bruce

Finlay Reed Clayton

Violet Starr Crowell

Miles Ander Grisham

Oliver Lucas Grisham

Olive Anne Kramer

Barrett Michael Poindexter

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
his steadfast love endures forever!

**Let Israel say,**

**“His steadfast love endures forever.”**

The LORD is my strength and my might;  
he has become my salvation.

**There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:**

**“The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;  
the right hand of the LORD is exalted;  
the right hand of the LORD does valiantly.”**

I shall not die, but I shall live  
and recount the deeds of the LORD.

**The LORD has punished me severely,  
but he did not give me over to death.**

Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter through them  
and give thanks to the LORD.

**This is the gate of the LORD;  
the righteous shall enter through it.**

I thank you that you have answered me  
and have become my salvation.

**The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.**

This is the LORD’s doing;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.

**This is the day that the LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

*See what a morning, gloriously bright with the dawning of hope in Jerusalem;  
Folded the grave-clothes, tomb filled with light, as the angels announce Christ is risen!*

*See God's salvation plan, wrought in love, borne in pain, paid in sacrifice,  
fulfilled in Christ, the Man, for He lives, Christ is risen from the dead!*

*See Mary weeping: "Where is He laid" as in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb;  
Hears a voice speaking, calling her name: It's the Master, the Lord raised to life again!*

*The voice that spans the years, speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us,  
will sound till He appears, for He lives, Christ is risen from the dead!*

*One with the Father, Ancient of Days, through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty.*

*Honor and blessing, glory and praise to the King crowned with power and majesty!*

*And we are raised with Him, death is dead, love has won, Christ has conquered;*

*And we shall reign with Him, for He lives, Christ is risen from the dead!*

\*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. 113 *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!*

LLANFAIR

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

*Lift High The Cross*

PHIL LEHENBAUER

\*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 the empty tomb, Your grace astounds, Your generosity fills to overflowing. Accept these offerings as signs of our gratitude and bless our work on Christ's behalf. May we love as Christ loved. May we serve as Christ served. Call us forth into Your world, guided by Christ's spirit. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN No. 118

*The Day of Resurrection*

LANCASHIRE

POSTLUDE

"Hallelujah!" from *Messiah*

GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL

\*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](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 Virginia Jones, and Roy & Sarah Parker by Margaret Parker.

**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: Melissa McDuffie

11:00: Sheree Lence

**Greeters:** 9:00: Kathy and Pete McMurry

11:00: Cindy and Robin Faucette, Julie and Leighton Gibens

**Crucifers:** 9:00: Emma McDuffie

11:00: Perry Clayton

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our weekly Bible study will NOT meet this Monday, April 6 at 11:00 A.M.. We will resume meeting on April 13.

For April 12, our scripture passages will be from Acts 2:14a, 22-32, Psalm 16, Exodus 15:1-11, Psalm 111, 1 Peter 1:3-9, and John 20:19-31.



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 Hot Chicken Salad Casserole, Fried and Grilled Chicken Tenders, Build Your Own Beef Tacos, Homestyle Green Beans, Tater Tots, Congealed Salad, Rolls, Fresh Fruit, Full Salad Bar, and Assorted Desserts! Our program will be *Father Stuart* by Judge Davidson. We hope to see you in the Fellowship Hall for supper and fellowship at **5:30 P.M. Wednesday, April 8.**

**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.

Join us for **Easter Brunch** on between services today at 10:00 A.M in the Stuart Garden.

**New & Prospective Member Class** - For the last three Sundays of April, Rev. Brock will be teaching a New & Prospective Member Class in the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour. Any one is welcome to attend! If you have any questions, please email or call.

**Ivy & Katelyn Wells** wish the congregation a huge thank you for the gifts and shower. They say everything was amazing, and they are so appreciative!

**The Rosebud & Cradle Cross** last Sunday were in honor of the birth of **Clara Elizabeth Chandler**, daughter of Jake & Elizabeth Stokes Chandler on March 30, 2026.

We will have **Communion** next Sunday, April 12.



# New & Prospective Member Class

Sundays at 10:00 A.M.

**April 12, April 19, & April 26**

All are invited to attend

## **PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK**

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

**Homebound:** Carolyn Gaston, John Gaston, Joy Hyatt

**College Students:** Afton Gable, Maggie Gibens, Charlie Gratz

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

## **ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY**

9:00 A.M: 55 11:00 A.M: 162

## **STEWARDSHIP UPDATE**

Weekly Budget: \$22,106

Amount Received 3/29/26: \$40,592

YTD Budgeted Income: \$265,272

YTD Income Received: \$468,560

# Weekly

## FPC Schedule

### **Sunday**

Easter

Resurrection of Our Lord

9:00 A.M. Worship

10:00 A.M. Brunch in the Stuart Garden

11:00 A.M. Worship

4:30 P.M. Boy Scouts

4/5

### **Monday**

Easter Monday

2:30 P.M. CASA

5:30 P.M. Session Training, Bolton Rm.

6:45 P.M. Circle 3, Member's House

4/6

### **Tuesday**

9:00 A.M. T'ai Chi

2:30 P.M. CASA

7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

4/7

### **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

4/8

### **Thursday**

8:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast

2:30 P.M. CASA

4/9

### **Friday**

12:00 P.M. AA

2:30 P.M. CASA

4/10

### **Saturday**

9:00 A.M. Helping Hands

4/11

### *Notes*

- Sunday is Communion & Two Cents a Meal

## **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.

### **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

