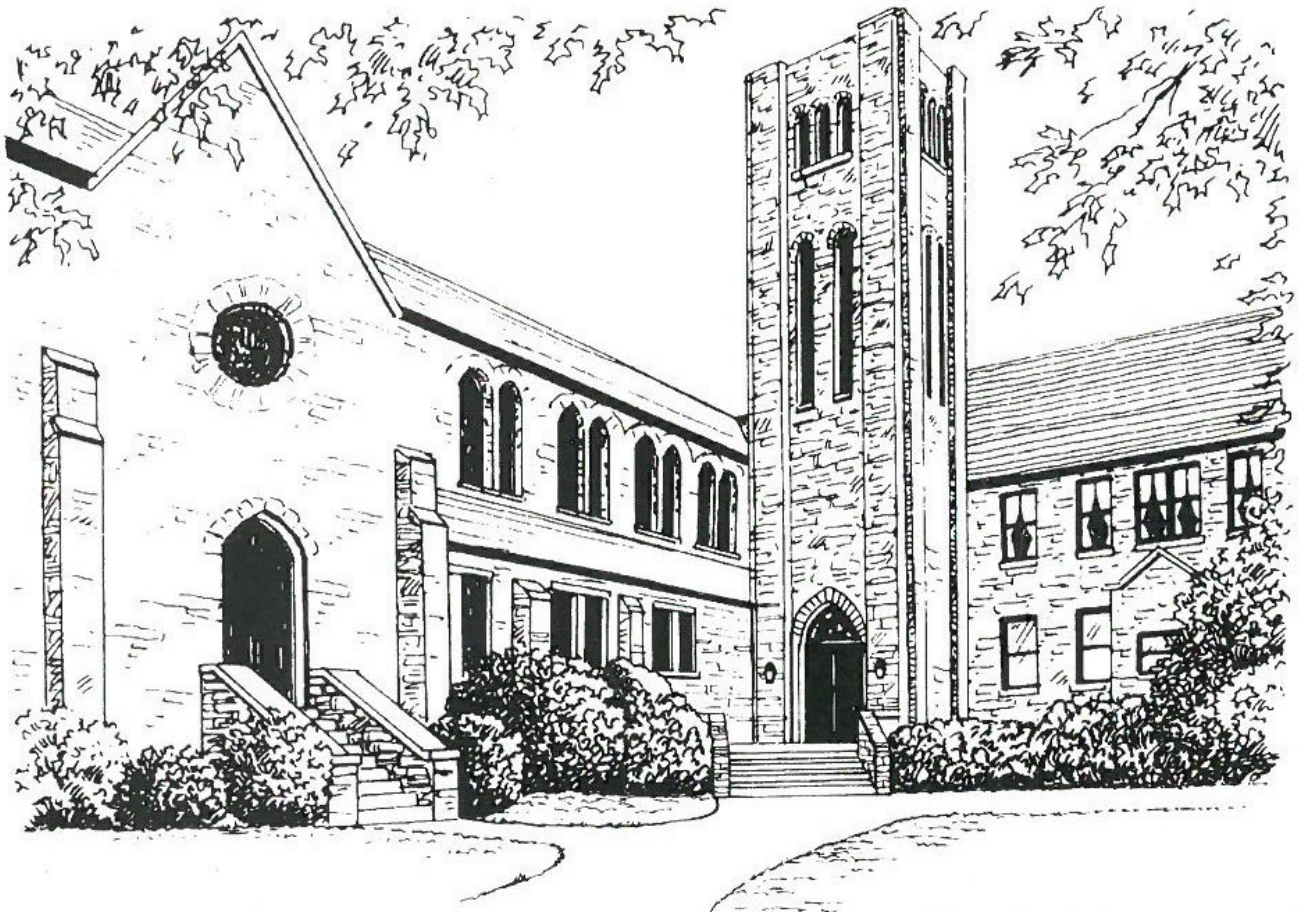


First Presbyterian Church

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>

662.842.5681

Morning Worship Service
Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

June 21, 2026

10:30 A.M.

“Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”
- MATTHEW 10:39

*Congregation standing as able.

Bold is spoken by the congregation.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS, AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

Meditation on “Slane”

ERIC THIMAN

INTROIT

Be Still, My Soul

ARR. MACK WILBERG

*CALL TO WORSHIP

All of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death.

We know that our old self was crucified with Him so that we might no longer be enslaved to sin.

Consider yourselves alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Thanks be to God!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy and gracious God,
Your steadfast love abides with Your people in every age.
You teach us to trust in You
and call us to live in peace with one another.
Show us the way to live grateful lives, without fear,
knowing the true worth of Your creation,
including ourselves;
in Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 447

Lead On, O King Eternal

LANCASHIRE

CALL TO CONFESSION

Confident that we are promised newness of life
through repentance and forgiveness,
let us turn to God and to one another, confessing our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Hear our cries to You, O Lord:

for our lack of compassion toward the poor,

have mercy on us;

for our failure to end the destruction of air, water, soil, and creatures on Earth,

have mercy on us;

for our disbelief in Your power to make us whole,

have mercy on us;

for making war,

have mercy on us;

for mistrusting Your Word,

have mercy on us;

for all that we have done and have not done out of hardened hearts,

have mercy on us.

Forgive us and renew us.

Guide us into ways that do not deny You but lead to peace.

(Time of Silent Confession)

KYRIE

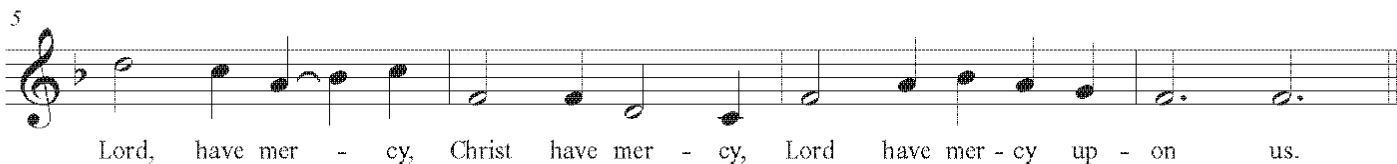
Lord, Have Mercy

(CONGREGATION PLEASE SING)

Kyrie Eleison

American folk hymn

arr. Richard Proulx



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Through Christ's death and resurrection, we are a new creation, ready to sing God's glory and testify to God's grace. 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.***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE READING

PSALM 69:7-18

It is for your sake that I have borne reproach,
that shame has covered my face.

**I have become a stranger to my kindred,
an alien to my mother's children.**

It is zeal for your house that has consumed me;
the insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.

**When I humbled my soul with fasting,
they insulted me for doing so.**

When I made sackcloth my clothing,
I became a byword to them.

**I am the subject of gossip for those who sit in the gate,
and the drunkards make songs about me.**

But as for me, my prayer is to you, O LORD.

At an acceptable time, O God,
in the abundance of your steadfast love, answer me.

**With your faithful help rescue me
from sinking in the mire;**

let me be delivered from my enemies
and from the deep waters.

**Do not let the flood sweep over me
or the deep swallow me up
or the pit close its mouth over me.**

Answer me, O LORD, for your steadfast love is good;
according to your abundant mercy, turn to me.

**Do not hide your face from your servant,
for I am in distress—make haste to answer me.**

***Draw near to me; redeem me;
set me free because of my enemies.***

CHILDREN'S SERMON

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 20:7-13

PEW BIBLE, PG. 722

ANTHEM

At Calvary

MARY McDONALD

*Years I spent in vanity and pride, caring not my Lord was crucified,
not knowing it was for me He died on Calvary.*

*By God's Word at last my sin I learned; then I trembled at the law I'd spurned,
until my guilty soul imploring turned to Calvary.*

Refrain:

*Mercy there was great and grace was free; pardon there was multiplied to me;
there my burdened soul found liberty, at Calvary.*

*Now I've given to Jesus everything; now I gladly own Him as my King;
now my raptured soul can only sing of Calvary.*

*O the love that drew salvation's plan! O wondrous grace that brought it down to man!
O the mighty gulf that God did span at Calvary! [Refrain]*

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 10:24-39

PEW BIBLE, PG. 10

SERMON

A Sword?!?

REV. JOHN BROCK

*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. 307 *Fight the Good Fight*

DUKE STREET

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

Be Thou With Me

J. S. BACH

*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

Take our hearts, our hands, our gifts, Holy God. Mold us, shape us, send us, so that we might be Your body in the world You so love. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN No. 540 *God Be with You Till We Meet Again* RANDOLPH

POSTLUDE *Hornpipe* GEORGE F. 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.

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 today to the glory of God and in honor of Bill and Doyce Deas who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary this week.

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 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 our 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: Rev. John Brock, Dr. Bob Taylor, Dr. Ray Harris

Liturgist: 10:30: Virginia Toliver

Greeters: 10:30: Bobby & Martha Dale, Charles & Betty Reese

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our weekly Bible study will meet this Tuesday, June 23 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 19.

For June 28, our scripture passages will be from **Genesis 22:1-14, Psalm 13, Romans 6:12-23, and Matthew 10:40-42.**

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.

We will continue with **ONE SERVICE** until the August 2 (**Rally Day**). Worship with us at 10:30 A.M. and Sunday School at 9:30 A.M.



The Nominating Committee is beginning its work to propose a slate of elders for the Class of 2030. If you have any suggestions for members of the church you would like the Committee to consider, please use the QR code provided.

Join us next Sunday, June 28 at 1:00 pm as we celebrate with a **Wedding Shower for Cooper & Lynnsee Moore** in the Fellowship Hall.

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Cancer Treatment: Mel Whitfield

Homebound: John Gaston, Joy Hyatt, Betty Nash

College Students: Afton Gable, Maggie Gibens, Charlie Gratz

Service Members: Patrick Hastings, Andrew Ray

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

10:30 A.M.: 184

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THE SESSION

Rev. John Brock, Moderator
Lisa Nichols, Clerk of the Session

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

CLASS OF 2029

Richard Hastings
Jimmy Milam
Curtis Monts
Mary Ellis Pace
Margaret Parker
Daintry Thomas
Al 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
Jeff Nock, 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

