

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

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 30, 2026

9:00 & 11:00 A.M

“I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac,
and the God of Jacob.” -Exodus 3:6

*Congregation standing as able.

Bold is spoken by the congregation.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS, AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE *Holy God, We Praise Thy Name* DIANE BISH

INTROIT *We are Standing on Holy Ground* GERON DAVIS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Seek the Lord! Seek God in the wilderness.

Seek God in the sanctuary.

Seek God in the burning bush.

Seek God in the burning heart.

The Lord is here! This place is holy!

We are standing on holy ground.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, we give you thanks
that you have spoken to us
and revealed yourself to us
through the gift of your word.
Help us to heed your voice,
that we may follow you faithfully
and honor your glorious name,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 138 *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*

NICAEA

CALL TO CONFESSION

You call out to us, Lord, but we struggle to listen. As we come before you with our hearts open, quiet the noise of the world, of our pressing thoughts and fears, so that we may hear your Spirit fully.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of wonders, we confess that we do not understand why you call us when we are scared, clumsy, busy, or flawed. We confess that we think we know better than you do who is qualified to do your work. Forgive our fears and excuses and self-doubts. Lend us your fire and your strength as we go about the work of serving our neighbors, building up your church, loving your children, and tending to the scorched places of our world. Help us to burn for you, without burning up or burning out. Give us a purpose and the courage to pursue it. We ask this in Jesus' name.

(Time of Silent Confession)

KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy
Kyrie Eleison

(CONGREGATION PLEASE SING)

American folk hymn

arr. Richard Proulx

Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

5

Lord, have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy up - on us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news! New life rises from the ashes. In Christ, your sins are dead and you are alive to all that I good.

In Christ, we are made whole; in Christ, we are forgiven. 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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE READING

PSALM 26:1-8

Vindicate me, O Lord,
for I have walked in my integrity,
and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.

**Prove me, O Lord, and try me;
test my heart and my mind.**

For your steadfast love is before my eyes,
and I walk in faithfulness to you.

**I do not sit with the worthless,
nor do I consort with hypocrites;**

I hate the company of evildoers
and will not sit with the wicked.

**I wash my hands in innocence
and go around your altar, O Lord,**
singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and telling all your wondrous deeds.

**O Lord, I love the house in which you dwell
and the place where your glory abides.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 12:9-21

PEW BIBLE, PG. 162

ANTHEM

The Majesty and Glory of Your Name

JOHNSON/FETTKE

When I gaze into the night skies and see the work of your fingers;

The moon and stars suspended in space.

Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him?

You have given man a crown of glory and honor;

And have made him a little lower than the angels.

You have put him in charge of all creation:

The beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea.

Oh, what is man? Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him?

*O Lord, our God, the majesty and glory of your name
Transcends the earth and fills the heavens
O Lord, our God; little children praise You perfectly,
And so would we. And so would we.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 3:1-15

PEW BIBLE, PG. 50

SERMON

Whose God

REV. JOHN BROCK

*STATEMENT OF FAITH — from *The Confession of 1967*

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of our minds. We believe that God has created the world of space and time to be the sphere of God's dealings with humankind. In its beauty and vastness, transcendence and awe-fullness, order and disorder, the world reflects to the eye of faith the majesty and mystery of its Creator.

We believe that God has created us for a personal relationship in which we may respond to the love of the Creator. Life is a gift to be received with gratitude and a task to be pursued with courage.

*HYMN OF AFFIRMATION (SEE INSERT) *In the Garden*

GARDEN

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

O Lord our God,
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

Sicilienne

MARIA THERESIA VON PARADIS

*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, we offer our gifts to you, grateful for all you have given us, and grateful for the chance to give to others. Build up your church through these offerings, that we might be a place where your goodness is seen, practiced, and shared. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN No. 461

God is Here!

ABBOT'S LEIGH

POSTLUDE

Praeludium in C Major

FELIX MENDELSSOHN

*BENEDICTION

WEDNESDAY NIGHT KICK-OFF

NO COST - COME JOIN US IN FELLOWSHIP!

September 2, 2026

Dinner at 5:30
Games to Follow!

in the Stuart Garden (weather permitting)

Light menu of pizza, chicken tenders, pasta salad, chips,
and cookies for dessert

RESERVATIONS APPRECIATED!



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In the Garden

WORDS: C. Austin Miles, 1912

MUSIC: C. Austin Miles, 1912

GARDEN

Irregular with Refrain

1. I come to the gar - den a - lone, while the dew is
 2. He speaks, and the sound of His voice is so sweet the
 3. I'd stay in the gar - den with Him though the night a -

still on the ros - es; and the voice I hear, fall - ing on my ear,
 birds hush their sing - ing, and the mel - o - dy that He gave to me
 round me is fall - ing, but He bids me go; through the voice of woe,

Refrain
 the Son of God dis - clos - es.
 with - in my heart is ring - ing. And He walks with me, and He
 His voice to me is call - ing.

talks with me, and He tells me I am His own; and the joy we

share as we tar - ry there, none oth - er has ev - er known.



save the date

FALL FESTIVAL

DOWNTOWN | TUPELO, MS

FAIRPARK

SEPTEMBER

12

10 AM - 4 PM

- LOCAL ARTISTS
- VENDORS
- LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
- RAFFLE

RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE:
CONTACT MARGARET PARKER
662.687.2027

FOR VENDOR INFORMATION:

Please text Jean Watson

662.322.2878

Weekly

FPC 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. Youth Pool Party
@ The Crowell's Home

8/30

Monday

2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym
6:00 P.M. Called Session Meeting

8/31

Tuesday

9:00 A.M. Tai Chi
11:00 A.M. Bible Study
2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym
7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

9/1

Wednesday

10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting
2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym
3:00 P.M. Mah Jongg
5:30 P.M. Wednesday Night Kick-Off Picnic
7:00 P.M. Chancel Choir

9/2

Thursday

7:45 A.M. St. Luke's Food Pantry
8:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast @
Talbot House
2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym

9/3

Friday

12:00 P.M. AA Meeting
2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym

9/4

Saturday

9/5

Next Week:

- Sunday - Communion & Two Cents a Meal
- Monday - Office Closed for Labor Day & Circle 3
- Tuesday - Marthas, Circle 24, & Circle 5
- Saturday - Haynes/Griffie Wedding

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 in loving memory of Dolores & Reggie Rose and in honor of Garra & Hank Owens by Lilee, Walt, Liz, & Kevin Rose.

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

Liturgists: 9:00: Sheree Lence

11:00: Debra Robison

Greeters: 9:00: Steve & Lucy Nash

11:00: Gay Abney, Leslie Hastings, Mark & Helen Monts

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our weekly Bible study will meet this Tuesday, September 1 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 26.

For September 6, our scripture passages will be from **Exodus 12:1-14, Psalm 149, Romans 13:8-14, and Matthew 18:15-20.**

There will be a **pool party for the youth** from 5:30 PM—7:00 PM at the Crowell's home **this evening**, August 30, 2026.

The calendar for **flowers in the sanctuary for 2027** is posted by the kitchen for sign-up.

Flowers in the Sanctuary Update - As of August 1, the cost per arrangement moved 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.



The Nominating Committee is working 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.

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Cancer Treatment: Emily Barber

Homebound: Mary Ann Chiles, Carolyn Gaston, John Gaston

College Students: Anne Crotwell, Afton Gable, Maggie Gibens

Service Members: Patrick Hastings, Andrew Ray

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

9:00 A.M.: 60 11:00 A.M.: 113

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Weekly Budget: \$22,106 Amount Received 8/23/26: \$5,698
YTD Budgeted Income: \$707,391 YTD Income Received: \$751,374

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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

