

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

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 13, 2026

9:00 & 11:00 A.M

“Then Peter came and said to him, ‘Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?’ Jesus said to him, ‘Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.’” - MATTHEW 18:21-22

*Congregation standing as able.

Bold is spoken by the congregation.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS, AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

DON HUSTAD

INTROIT

I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry

JOHN YLVISAKER

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

and all that is within me,

bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

and do not forget all God's benefits—

who forgives all your iniquity,

who heals all your diseases,

who redeems your life from the pit,

who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

who satisfies you with good as long as you live

so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Let us worship God!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God,
whose ways are far beyond our understanding,
help us to trust your judgements
so that we may do your will
by loving you and one another.
In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 151** *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

DIADEMATA

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
The Lord will not always accuse,
nor will God be angered forever.
God does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
Trusting this promise, we boldly confess our sin
to God and before one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Christ, you declare: Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. You instruct us to forgive seventy-seven times, to remember God's grace toward us and extend it to one another. Despite your clear word to refrain from judging others, we pronounce others guilty and unworthy of our compassion. We quarrel over opinions and sow division when you call us to cultivate relationships and demonstrate our unity in Christ. Instead of responding to your grace with gratitude, we attempt to limit the love you command us to share. Forgive our hard-heartedness. Expand our circles of concern. Enliven our communities with your boundary-breaking, reconciling Spirit.

(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.

5
Lord, have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy up - on us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is the Lord's steadfast love toward those who fear God; as far as the east is from the west, so far the Lord removes our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear the Lord. 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.***

THE BAPTISM OF MAMIE ELIZABETH HUTTO

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

RESPONSIVE READING

PSALM 103:8-13

The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**He will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger forever.**

He does not deal with us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

**For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far he removes our transgressions from us.
As a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 14:19-31

PEW BIBLE, PG. 61

ANTHEM

How Much I Owe

JOHN HUDSON

*When this passing world is done, when has sunk yon glaring sun,
when I stand with Christ on high, looking o'er life's history,
then, Lord, shall I fully know not till then how much I owe.
Chosen not for good in me, wakened up from wrath to flee,
hidden in the Savior's side, by the Spirit sanctified,
teach me, Lord, on earth to show, by Thy love, how much I owe.
Oft the nights of sorrow reign weeping, sickness, sighing, pain;
but, when fear is at the height, Jesus comes, and all is light;
Blessed Jesus! Bid me show doubting saints how much I owe.
When I stand before the throne, dressed in beauty not my own,
when I see Thee as Thou art, love Thee with unsinning heart,
Then Lord, shall I fully know not till then how much I owe.*

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 18:21-35

PEW BIBLE, PG. 20

SERMON

Forgive

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. 403 *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

CONVERSE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S 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

Amazing Grace

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, we worry that we cannot possibly give you what you deserve, that despite our desire to be faithful, we will fail and fall short. In your grace, you remind us that we need not, that we cannot, repay you for your mercy and goodness toward us, but that you accept us and use whatever we offer in gratitude. Bless these gifts given as a symbol of our loyalty and love for you. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN (SEE INSERT) *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive*

AZMON

POSTLUDE

Toccata in Seven

JOHN RUTTER

*BENEDICTION

Capital Campaign Dinner

Sunday, September 13

5:30 PM

First Presbyterian Church Gym

No cost - Reservations Requested



Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

Azmon

Rosamond E. Herklots

Carl Gotthoelf Glaser

The musical score is written on three staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the staves, with some words hyphenated across lines. The score begins with a treble clef, a sharp sign, and a 3/4 time signature. The first staff contains the first line of the melody. The second staff contains the second line of the melody, starting with a measure rest. The third staff contains the third line of the melody, starting with a measure rest. The lyrics are: "For - give our sins as we for - give," You How can Your par - don reach and bless the In blaz - ing light Your cross re - veals the Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls, and taught us, Lord, to pray, but You a - lone can un - for - giv - ing heart that broods on wrongs and truth we dim - ly knew; what tri - vial debts are bid re - sent - ment cease; then bound to all in grant us grace to live the words we say. will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part? owed to us, how great our debt to You. bonds of love, our lives will spread your peace.

"For - give our sins as we for - give," You
How can Your par - don reach and bless the
In blaz - ing light Your cross re - veals the
Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls, and
taught us, Lord, to pray, but You a - lone can
un - for - giv - ing heart that broods on wrongs and
truth we dim - ly knew; what tri - vial debts are
bid re - sent - ment cease; then bound to all in
grant us grace to live the words we say.
will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?
owed to us, how great our debt to You.
bonds of love, our lives will spread your peace.

The poster features a central logo for 'shepherd'scenter OF GREATER TUPELO' with a green tree icon. Below the logo, the text 'save the date' is in red, and 'FALL FESTIVAL' is in large green letters. To the left, 'FAIRPARK SEPTEMBER 12' is written in red and green, with '10 AM - 4 PM' below it. To the right, a list of activities is shown: 'LOCAL ARTISTS', 'VENDORS', 'LIVE ENTERTAINMENT', and 'RAFFLE'. At the bottom, an orange banner contains contact information for vendors and raffle tickets.

shepherd'scenter
OF GREATER TUPELO

save the date
**FALL
FESTIVAL**

FAIRPARK
SEPTEMBER
12
10 AM - 4 PM

DOWNTOWN | TUPELO, MS

- LOCAL ARTISTS
- VENDORS
- LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
- RAFFLE

FOR VENDOR INFORMATION:
Please text Jean Watson
662.322.2878

RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE:
CONTACT MARGARET PARKER
662.687.2027

THIS WEEK @ FPC

Sunday

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

9/13

Monday

2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym
5:30 P.M. Committee Meetings

*Wednesday Night Supper
reservations due.*

9/14

Tuesday

9:00 A.M. Tai Chi
2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym
2:30 P.M. Cook for the Salvation Army
Kitchen
6:00 P.M. Circle 5, Busylad
7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

9/15

Wednesday

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

9/16

Thursday

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

9/17

Friday

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

9/18

Saturday

9:00 A.M. Helping Hands

9/19

Next Week

Monday – Steering
Committee & Session
Meetings

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 in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. John Erskine Bishop by Chauncey and Ann Godwin.

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: Virginia Tolliver

11:00: Larry Crowell

Greeters: 9:00: Nancy Brown & Jimmy Milam

11:00: Beverly Chappell, Will, Amanda, & Julia Davis

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Our **Capital Campaign Dinner** will take place **this evening, September 13, at 5:30 P.M. in the gymnasium.** This is a **free event for all ages.** Children will be asked to participate in part of the program before being dismissed to their own activity. Nursery care will be provided. **Please scan the QR code to register you and your family.**

Our weekly **Bible study will NOT meet this Tuesday, September 15.** Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 22, and we will study Acts 28.



Our **Wednesday night supper and program** will take place in the Fellowship Hall on **Wednesday, September 16, at 5:30 P.M.** Our program this week will explore hymns and church music with Heather Crotwell and Bob Taylor. This week's menu includes roast, potatoes & carrots, butter beans, creamed corn, garden salad, rolls, and dessert. Pizza is on the kids menu. Adults are \$10/person, kids (12 & under) are \$5/person, and there is a \$40 maximum per family. The kids menu is available to ages 13+ at adult pricing. Please specify when making your reservation. **Sign up by noon on Monday** by scanning the QR code or by calling the church office at 662-842-5681.

For September 20, our scripture passages will be from **Exodus 16:2-15, Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45, Philippians 1:21-30, and Matthew 20:1-16.**

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



PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Cancer Treatment: Emily Barber

Homebound: Barbara Price, Gladys Wilson, Mary Ann Chiles

College Students: Lucy Gratz, Lewis Herman, Magalie Martin

Service Members: Patrick Hastings, Andrew Ray

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

9:00 A.M.: 51 11:00 A.M.: 98

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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

