

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

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 27, 2026

9:00 & 11:00 A.M

“Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others.”

- PHILIPPIANS 2:4

*Congregation standing as able.

Bold is spoken by the congregation.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS, AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

MAURICE WHITNEY

INTROIT

One Bread, One Body

ARR. MARK HAYES

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God, we lift our souls to you.

**Make us to know your ways,
and teach us your paths.**

Lead us in your truth, O God,
for you are our salvation.

For you we wait, all day long.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Good and gracious God,
we come to be instructed in your way,
to be encouraged in Christ,
to be consoled by love,
and to share in the joy of the Spirit.

Do your work within us, God,
as we gather to worship you.

Guide us in your will and lead us in your way.

Open our hearts and minds

that we may be united by your love.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE (SEE INSERT) *For All the Saints*

SINE NOMINE

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

DEBRA ROBISON

CALL TO CONFESSION

Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord,

and of your steadfast love,

for they have been from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

according to your steadfast love remember me,

for your goodness' sake, O Lord!

Confident in God's mercy, let us confess our sin to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, you instruct us to look to the interest of others, to be of the same mind that was in Christ Jesus. We are to do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but instead serve you with humility and patience. We know your will. We even say we will do it, and yet too often we fail to follow your commandments. We act out of self-interest. We regard others as less than ourselves. We neglect your teachings to care for the least of these. We refuse to follow you, go our own way, and then wonder why we are so lost. Remind us of your mercy, Lord, of your steadfast love and your promise to forgive those who humbly repent and turn to you. Hear our prayer, work within us, and enable us to do your will.

(Time of Silent Confession)

KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy

(CONGREGATION PLEASE SING)

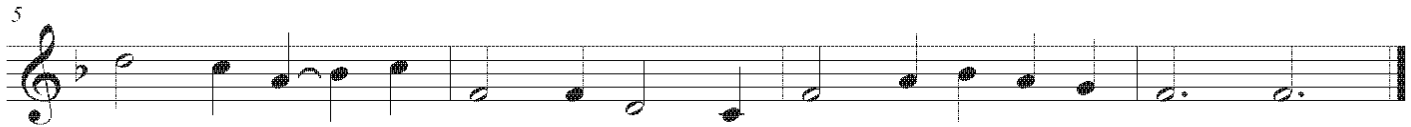
Kyrie Eleison

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

Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore God instructs sinners in the way.
The Lord leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble the way.
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 25:1-9

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
O my God, in you I trust;
do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.
Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.
Make me to know your ways, O Lord;
teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I will wait all day long.

**Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.**

Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!

**Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.**

*He leads the humble in what is right
and teaches the humble his way.*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 17:1-7

PEW BIBLE, PG. 64

ANTHEM

May They Be One

LLOYD LARSON

O, Holy Father, glorify Your son.

Do this that I might glorify You.

O, Holy Father, I pray for those You gave Me;

Protect them by the power of Your name.

May they be one as You and I are one.

Purify them with Your word of truth.

May they be one; then the world will know that You have sent Me.

Father, grant these servants the strength to carry on.

Empower them and guide them in this work that We've begun.

But my prayer is not for those alone who serve in My place;

I pray for all who will come to know Your love and grace.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Philippians 2:1-13

PEW BIBLE, PG. 197

SERMON

In Full Accord

REV. JOHN BROCK

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

To be reconciled to God is to be sent into the world as God’s reconciling community. This community, the church universal, is entrusted with God’s message of reconciliation and shares God’s labor of healing the enmities which separate people from God and from each other. Christ has called the church to this mission and given it the gift of the Holy Spirit. The church maintains continuity with the apostles and with Israel by faithful obedience to his call.

*HYMN OF AFFIRMATION (SEE INSERT) *We Are One in the Spirit*

ST. BRENDAN’S

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

God of compassion,
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

Jesus, United by Thy Grace

EMMA LOU DIEMER

*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

Holy God, bless these gifts for your good use. May these tokens of our gratitude be of service in blessing the poor, feeding the hungry, and clothing and sheltering those struggling to survive. Use these gifts to further Christ’s mission and ministry in a hurting world. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN No. 306

Fairest Lord Jesus

CRUSADER’S HYMN

POSTLUDE

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

JOHANN WALTHER

*BENEDICTION

For All the Saints

William Walsham How

SINE NOMINE

Ralph Vaughan Williams

5

For all the saints who from their la - bors rest. Who
 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might; _____
 O may Thy sol - diers, faith - ful, true and bold, _____
 O blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine. _____
 And when the strife is fierce, the war - fare long, _____
 From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast. Through

9

Thee _____ by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, Thy
 Thou, Lord, their cap - tain in the well - fought fight; _____
 fight as the Saints who nob - ly fought of old, and
 We fee - bly strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; Yet
 steals on the ear the dis - tant tri - umph song. And
 gates _____ of pearl streams in the count - less host, _____

13

name, O _____ Je - sus, be for - ev - er _____ blest, Al -
 Thou, in the dark - ness drear, their one true light. Al -
 win with _____ them the vic - tor's crown of gold. Al -
 all are _____ one in Thee, for all are Thine. Al -
 hearts are _____ brave a - gain, and arms are strong. Al -
 sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly _____ Ghost. Al -

- le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

WE WILL HOST

*The Stated Meeting of
St. Andrew Presbytery*

ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, BEGINNING AT 9:00 A.M.
 IF YOU ARE WILLING AND ABLE TO VOLUNTEER THIS
 DAY, PLEASE CONTACT JOHN BROCK
 OR AMANDA DAVIS.

We Are One in the Spirit

Peter Scholtes, 1966

We are one in the Spi-rit, we are one in the Lord. We are
 We will walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in hand. We will
 We will work with each oth-er, we will work side by side. We will
 All___ praise to the Fa-ther, from whom all things come. And all

one in the Spi-rit, we are one in the Lord. And we
 walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in hand. And to -
 work with each oth-er we will work side by side. And we'll
 praise to Christ Je - sus, God's___ on - ly___ Son. And all

pray that all u - ni - ty will one day be re - stored. And they'll
 geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land. And they'll
 guard each man's dig - ni - ty and save___ each man's pride. And they'll
 praise to the Spi - rit, who___ makes___ us___ one. And they'll

know we are Christ - ians by our love, by our love; yes they'll
 know we are Christ - ians by our love, by our love; yes they'll
 know we are Christ - ians by our love, by our love; yes they'll
 know we are Christ - ians by our love, by our love; yes they'll

know___ we are Christ - ians by our love._____
 know___ we are Christ - ians by our love._____
 know___ we are Christ - ians by our love._____
 know___ we are Christ - ians by our love._____

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
5:00 P.M. Youth Service Project 9/27

Monday

2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym 9/28

Tuesday

9:00 A.M. T'ai Chi
2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym
7:00 P.M. AA Meeting 9/29

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 Program & Meal
7:00 P.M. Chancel Choir 9/30

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
6:00 P.M. Braver Angels 10/1

Friday

12:00 P.M. AA
2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym 10/2

Saturday

10/3

Next Week

Sunday - Communion &
Two Cents a Meal

Monday - Circle 3

Tuesday - The Stated Meeting of
St. Andrew Presbytery

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 loving memory of Presly Thornton Wallace, Jr., son of Kathy & Presly Wallace, on his birthday, by Robin and Cindy Faucette.

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: Lucy Nash

11:00: Rud Robison

Greeters: 9:00: Angela & Payne Atkinson

11:00: Wanda & George Dent; Helen & Mark Monts

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Youth will meet at the church at 5:00 P.M.** today for a church service project and to make sack lunches for Saints Brew to distribute.

Our weekly Bible study will be taking a break until Tuesday, November 3rd. We will begin studying the book of Proverbs when Bible Study resumes.

For October 4, our scripture passages will be from **Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20, Psalm 19, Philippians 3:4b-14, and Matthew 21:33-46.**



Our **Wednesday night supper and program** will take place in the Fellowship Hall on **Wednesday, September 30,** at 5:30 P.M. This week, Andy Crotwell and John Brock will share on the book, “The Prodigal God” by Timothy Keller. The menu includes spaghetti, green beans, French bread, garden salad, and dessert. Pizza and tots are 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.

On October 6, we will be hosting **The Stated Meeting of St. Andrew Presbytery** starting at 9:00 A.M. If you are willing and able to volunteer that day, please contact John Brock or Amanda Davis.

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Cancer Treatment: Emily Barber

Homebound: Betty Nash, Ruby Kathryn Patterson, Barbara Price

College Students: Isabella Posey, Jon Timothy Posey, Olivia Reynolds

Service Members: Patrick Hastings, Andrew Ray

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

9:00 A.M.: 63 11:00 A.M.: 97

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Weekly Budget: \$22,106 Amount Received 9/20/26: \$3,803
YTD Budgeted Income: \$795,816 YTD Income Received: \$804,492

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 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

