

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

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

October 11, 2026

9:00 & 11:00 A.M

“Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.”

- PHILIPPIANS 4:8

*Congregation standing as able.

Bold is spoken by the congregation.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS, AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

DALE WOOD

INTROIT

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

MARK ANDREWS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise the Lord! O give thanks to the Lord,

for God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever.

Who can utter the mighty doings of the Lord, or declare all His praise?

Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.

Save us, O Lord our God, and gather us from among the nations,

that we may give thanks to Your holy name and glory in Your praise.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.

And let all the people say,

Amen. Praise the Lord!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, you set before us every day

a bounty of good things.

Bring us to Your feasting table,

hungry for Your Word,

eager to rebuild the cities You have made,

and ready to receive strangers
 so that we celebrate at all times and in all places
 the peace which is life in You. Amen.

*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 155

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

DARWALL'S 148TH

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

BETH ANN ELLZEY

CALL TO CONFESSION

With great love for us, God, Who is rich in mercy, made us alive in Christ,
 even when we were dead through our sin. By grace we have been saved. With
 that assurance of the gospel, let us confess our sin before God and one
 another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God, You call us again and again to seek Your kingdom first, to
 do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with You. Still, we make
 our excuses and justify in our own hearts why we go our own way. Lord,
 forgive our sin. Turn us from our preoccupation with our own lives and
 turn us to your ways of grace, mercy, love and service. May we heed your
 invitation to be part of your kingdom and strive, through the power of
 your Holy Spirit, to live as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, our Lord and
 Savior.**

(Time of Silent Confession)

KYRIE

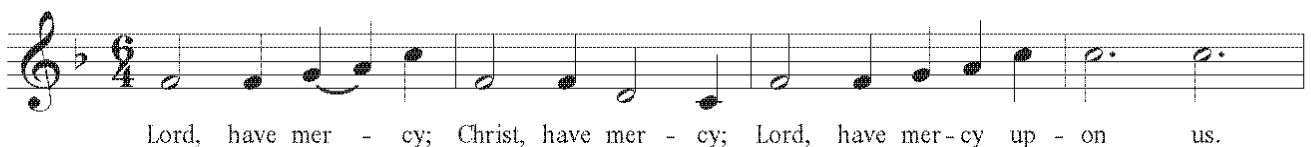
Lord, Have Mercy

(CONGREGATION PLEASE SING)

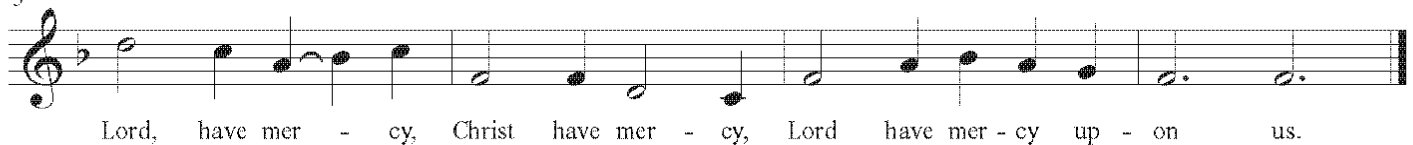
American folk hymn

Kyrie Eleison

arr. Richard Proulx



5



ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news! The night is far gone, the day is near.
Let us lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.
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

UNISON READING

PSALM 23

**The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 25:1-9

PEW BIBLE, PG. 652

ANTHEM

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

ARR. HAL H. HOPSON

*Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!*

*All Thy works with joy surround Thee, earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise;
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in Thee.*

*Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, all who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.*

*Mortals, join the mighty chorus, which the morning stars began;
Love divine is reigning o'er us, binding all within its span.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife;
Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.*

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Philippians 4:1-9

PEW BIBLE, PG. 198

SERMON

"Whatever"

REV. JOHN BROCK

*STATEMENT OF FAITH — *A Declaration of Faith*

We are certain that Jesus lives. He lives as God with us, touching all of human life with the presence of God. He lives as one of us with God. Because he shares our humanity and has bound us to himself in love, we have an advocate in the innermost life of God. We declare that Jesus is Lord. His resurrection is a decisive victory over the powers that deform and destroy human life. His lordship is hidden. The world appears to be dominated by people and systems that do not acknowledge his rule. But his lordship is real.

Continue on next page

It demands our loyalty and sets us free from the fear of all lesser lords who threaten us. We maintain that ultimate sovereignty now belongs to Jesus Christ in every sphere of life. Jesus is Lord. He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord.

*HYMN OF AFFIRMATION

Sweet Hour of Prayer
(see insert)

SWEET HOUR

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Hear us O God,

Your mercy is great.

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

The Lord's My Shepherd

DON HUSTAD

*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

Bountiful God, all that we can offer comes from your generosity. May these gifts that we return to you become a blessing for your whole community, enriching and empowering us for the work to which you call us. We thank you in the name of Jesus Christ, your indescribable gift to us and the world. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN No. 145

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

MARION

POSTLUDE

Prelude in C Major

J. S. BACH

*BENEDICTION

Sweet Hour Of Prayer

SWEET HOUR L.M.D.

William W. Walford (1772-1850), 1845

William B. Bradbury (1816-1868), 1861



1. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, That calls me from a world of care,
2. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, Thy wings shall my pe - ti - tion bear,
3. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, May I thy con - so - la - tion share,



And bids me at my Fa-ther's throne Make all my wants and wish - es known;
To Him whose truth and faith-ful - ness En-gage the wait - ing soul to bless;
Till, from Mount Pis-gah's loft - y height, I view my home, and take my flight;



In sea-sons of dis - tress and grief, My soul has oft - en found re - lief,
And since He bids me seek His face. Be-lieve His word and trust His grace,
This robe of flesh I'll drop, and rise To seize the ev - er - last - ing prize;



And oft es-caped the tempt - er's snare, By thy re-turn, sweet hour of prayer.
I'll cast on Him my ev - 'ry care, And wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer.
And shout, while pass - ing thro' the air, Fare-well, fare-well. sweet hour of prayer.



Prayer

Christian Life



First
Presbyterian
Church

Tupelo, Mississippi



OCT
28

MORE DETAILS TO
COME!

FESTIVAL

GAMES - FELLOWSHIP - FUN!

WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAM & MEAL

NONE THIS WEEK!

HAVE A GOOD FALL

BREAK!



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

10/11

Monday.

COLUMBUS DAY

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

10/12

Tuesday.

9:00 A.M. T'ai Chi
10:00 A.M. Garden Club Prep, Kitchen
12:00 P.M. Circle 24, Sheffield Room
2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym
6:00 P.M. Circle 5, Busylad
7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

10/13

Wednesday.

9:30 A.M. Tupelo Garden Club, FH
10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting
2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym
3:00 P.M. Mah Jongg

10/14

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

10/15

Friday.

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

10/16

Saturday.

9:00 A.M. Helping Hands Volunteers

10/17

Next Week:

Sunday. - Baptism of Delaney Johnston;
Outdoor Worship

Monday. - Steering Committee

Tuesday. - Cook for the Salvation Army

Friday. - Lake Comorant HS, FH & Kit.

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 memory of Helen & Ray Aycock and Irma & Van Stubbs by Mary & Buddy Stubbs, Erin & Billy Roberts, and Sara Frances & Vandy Stubbs.

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: Jim Fisher

11:00: Debra Robison

Greeters: 9:00: Lori & Bill Dickerson

11:00: Lisa Johnson, Cindy Faucette, Lisa Nichols, Judy Thomas

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our weekly Bible study will be taking a break until Tuesday, November 10. We will begin studying the book of Proverbs when Bible Study resumes.

For October 18, our scripture passages will be from Exodus 33:12-23, Psalm 99, 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10, and Matthew 22:15-22. We will have outdoor worship at both services, weather permitting.

We will not have our Wednesday night supper and program this week. Have a great Fall Break!



Have you picked up your **Operation Christmas Child** shoebox yet? There is still plenty of time to participate! Pick up your boxes in the church library. Fill your box with a mix of fun items, school supplies, and personal care items appropriate for the age and gender you select. Please remember that some items cannot be included, so be sure to check the packing guidelines before filling your box. More information on what to include can be found at <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/> (or you can scan the QR Code). We ask that you pre-pay your shipping label or provide \$10 to help cover shipping fees for your shoebox. If shopping and packing a box is not convenient for you, you can still participate by donating money for our youth to use to shop for and fill additional shoeboxes. Cash may be placed in an envelope labeled for **Operation Christmas Child**, or checks may be written with “OCC” in the memo/for line. Completed shoeboxes should be returned to the church by **Sunday, November 15**. Contact Morgan Ricks or Anne Kramer with questions.

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Cancer Treatment: Emily Barber, Margaret Murphey

Homebound: John Gaston, Joy Hyatt, Betty Nash

College Students: Jenkins Wells, Daniel Crotwell, Anne Crotwell

Service Members: Patrick Hastings, Andrew Ray

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

9:00 A.M.: 56 11:00 A.M.: 120

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Weekly Budget: \$22,106 Amount Received 10/4/26: \$6,977
YTD Budgeted Income: \$884,240 YTD Income Received: \$831,519

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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

