

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

World Communion Sunday

October 4, 2026

9:00 & 11:00 A.M

Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.”

- PHILIPPIANS 3:13B-14

*Congregation standing as able.

Bold is spoken by the congregation.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS, AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE *“Cantilena” from Sonata in D Minor* JOSEF RHEINBERGER

INTROIT *Let the Song Go ‘Round the Earth* BURL A. RED

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The heavens are telling the glory of God
and the firmament proclaims His handiwork.

There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard.

Yet it goes out through all the earth
and to the end of the world.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

God our deliverer,
as You revealed Your law
to Moses at Mount Sinai,
teach us to worship You alone
and to keep Your commandments,
that we live by our faith
and be faithful as Your people.
Through Christ we pray. Amen.

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

AMANDA DAVIS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Whether you feel like you have a grasp on who you are or whether you are questioning your identity. Whether you are new to this type of prayer or whether you've confessed a thousand times before. Whether you feel confident in the flesh or whether you know your shortcomings all too well. God meets us where we are, and God invites us into this prayer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that our confidence is often misplaced. We put our confidence in our abilities rather than in Your love. We put our confidence in our belongings rather than in Your generosity. We put our confidence in ourselves rather than in You. Forgive us for our misgivings. Redirect us according to Your Spirit and Your will. Help us to follow Your ways and find our freedom in Your heavenly calling. Open us to new levels of trust and joy as we press on towards Your goal.

(Time of Silent Confession)

KYRIE

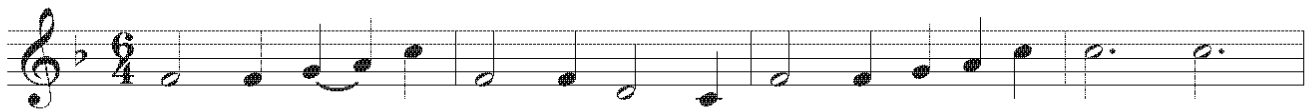
Lord, Have Mercy

(CONGREGATION PLEASE SING)

Kyrie Eleison

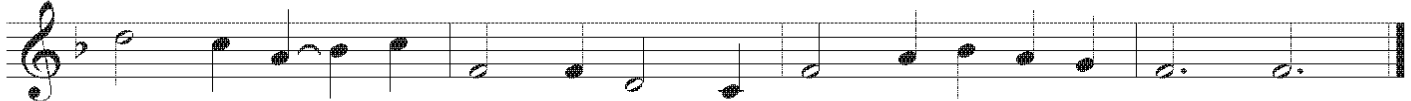
American folk hymn

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

Friends, we have not already obtained the prize or reached the goal — but Christ has! And in Christ ,you are a new creation, you are made whole, and you are called beloved.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel, **in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

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 80:7-15

Restore us, O God of hosts;
let your face shine, that we may be saved.

**You brought a vine out of Egypt;
you drove out the nations and planted it.**

You cleared the ground for it;
it took deep root and filled the land.

**The mountains were covered with its shade,
the mighty cedars with its branches;**

it sent out its branches to the sea
and its shoots to the River.

**Why then have you broken down its walls,
so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?**

The boar from the forest ravages it,
and all that move in the field feed on it.

**Turn again, O God of hosts;
look down from heaven and see;
*have regard for this vine,
the stock that your right hand planted.***

CHILDREN'S SERMON

TWO CENTS A MEAL OFFERING

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 20:1-20

PEW BIBLE, PG. 66

*Bread of the world in mercy broken, wine of the soul in mercy shed
by whom the words of life were spoken, and in whose death our sins are dead.
Look on the heart by sorrow broken, look on the tears by sinners shed;
and be Your feast to us the token that by Your grace our souls are fed.
Sit at this place, dear Lord and Father, fill up the cup and break the bread;
O let us feel Your loving power, O let us hear the words You said:
“This is my blood and body broken, refresh your spirit, make it whole;
remember me with food, the token: bread of the word, wine of the soul.”*

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Philippians 3:4b-14

PEW BIBLE, PG. 198

SERMON

Reshaping

REV. JOHN BROCK

*STATEMENT OF FAITH — *The Nicene Creed*

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**

he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*HYMN OF AFFIRMATION

Break Thou the Bread of Life
(see insert on page 8)

BREAD OF LIFE

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

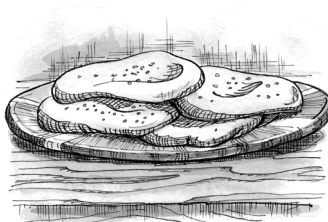
J. S. BACH

*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

Sweet Savior, Your Word is greater to us than gold, even great gold. May
these gifts brought today be a gesture of our gratitude for the riches of
Your Word given to us. Multiply these gifts and make them like the
drippings of the honeycomb to those in need. Amen.



INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION 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.

*CLOSING HYMN No. 513 *Let Us Break Bread Together* LET US BREAK BREAD

POSTLUDE *To God Be the Glory* DON HUSTAD

*BENEDICTION

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Cancer Treatment: Emily Barber, Margaret Murphey

Homebound: Gladys Wilson, Mary Ann Chiles, Carolyn Gaston

College Students: Kailan Reynolds, Walt Rose, Emma Claire Wallace

Service Members: Patrick Hastings, Andrew Ray

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

9:00 A.M.: 54 11:00 A.M.: 109

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Weekly Budget: \$22,106 Amount Received 9/27/26: \$16,808
YTD Budgeted Income: \$795,816 YTD Income Received: \$823,300

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.**

Break Thou the Bread of Life

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Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life — John 6:35 KJV

1. Break Thou the bread of life, Dear Lord, to me,
 2. Bless Thou the truth, dear Lord, To me, to me,
 3. Thou art the bread of life, O Lord, to me,
 4. O send Thy Spir - it, Lord, Now un - to me,

As Thou didst break the loaves Be - side the sea;
 As Thou didst bless the bread By Gal - i - lee;
 Thy ho - ly Word the truth That sav - eth me;
 That He may touch mine eyes, And make me see:

Be - yond the sa - cred page I seek Thee, Lord;
 Then shall all bond - age cease, All fet - ters fall;
 Give me to eat and live With Thee a - bove;
 Show me the truth con - cealed With - in Thy Word,

My spir - it pants for Thee, O liv - ing Word.
 And I shall find for my Thy peace, O My all in Word.
 Teach me to love Thy truth, For Thou in art all.
 And in Thy Book re - vealed I see Thee, Lord, love.
 Lord.

WORDS: St. 1,2, Mary A. Lathbury, 1841-1913; st. 3,4, Alexander Groves, 1842-1909
 MUSIC: William F. Sherwin, 1826-1888

BREAD OF LIFE
 6.4.6.4.D.

This tune in a higher key, No. 368.



Sunday.

9:00 A.M. Worship

10:00 A.M. Sunday School

11:00 A.M. Worship

4:30 P.M. Boy Scouts

COMMUNION

TWO CENTS A MEAL

10/4

Monday.

2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym

6:45 P.M. Circle 3, Debra Robison's Home

10/5

Tuesday.

9:00 A.M. T'ai Chi

**9:00 A.M. Registration for The Stated
Meeting of St. Andrew Presbytery Opens**

2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym

7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

10/6

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

10/7

Thursday.

8:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast, Talbot House

2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym

10/8

Friday.

12:00 P.M. AA Meeting

2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym

10/9

Saturday.

10/10

Next Week:

Monday. - Columbus Day & Committee Mtgs.

Tuesday. - Martha's, Circle 24, & Circle 5

Wednesday. - Tupelo Garden Club

Thursday. - Shepherd's Center Meeting

Saturday. - Helping Hands

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 Erin Stubbs Roberts on her birthday by Mary and Buddy 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: Virginia Toliver

11:00: Trey Phyfer

Greeters: 9:00: Betty & Charles Reece

11:00: Theresa & Steve McCormick, Nancy Brown & Jimmy Milam

Crucifers: 9:00: Andy Godwin

11:00: Chris Ellis

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 11, our scripture passages will be from **Exodus 32:1-14, Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23, Philippians 4:1-9, and Matthew 22:1-14.**



Our **Wednesday night supper and program** will take place in the Fellowship Hall on **Wednesday, October 7**, at 5:30 P.M. Rev. John will present on what he is learning in his Doctoral Program and what the next steps are. The menu includes rotel chicken spaghetti, green beans, fruit salad, garden salad, rolls, and dessert. Chicken tenders 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 host **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.

Operation Christmas Child is here! This year, our church will participate by packing shoebox gifts for children around the world. Shoeboxes and packing information are available now in the church library. Pick up a box, choose an age group, and begin filling it with fun, useful items and a special gift for a child. More information on what to include can be found at <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/>. We ask that you pre-pay or provide \$10 to help cover shipping fees for your shoebox. If you would rather donate toward shoeboxes and allow our youth to shop for and pack them, monetary donations are also welcome. 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.

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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

