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
Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2026 9:00 & 11:00 A.M

"For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing."
- 1 Thessalonians 5:9-11

*Congregation standing as able. **Bold** is spoken by the congregation.

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome, Concerns, and Celebrations of the Church

Prelude *When Morning Gilds the Skies* Dale Wood

Introit *Take My Life and Let It Be* arr. Brian Hanson

*Call to Worship

We lift up our eyes to the Lord!
Knowing our Creator meets us in this time of worship.
We lift up our eyes to the Lord!
Trusting our Redeemer to meet us with forgiveness and renewal.
We lift up our eyes to the Lord!
Relying on our Sustainer to build us up for lives of love and service.

*Prayer of the Day

Lord God, throughout our history,
You have raised up faithful leaders
to deliver us from oppression,
like the prophet Deborah.
Heed the cries of those
who are suffering in the world today
and deliver them by Your mighty hand,
that they may know and trust

the promise of Your steadfast love;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*Hymn of Praise No. 422 *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending* BEACH SPRING

Call to Confession

We are a people who wander from the ways of God. We have not loved, served, and given of ourselves as we should. We have sinned. Let us then offer our prayer of confession, trusting in our Savior's infinite grace and mercy.

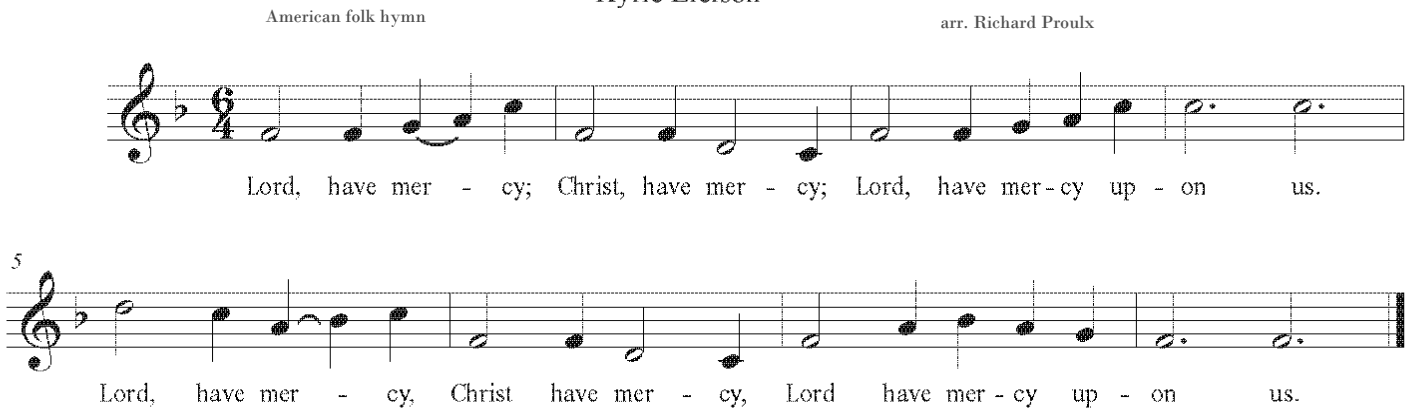
Prayer of Confession

Loving God, You are generous in the many ways You have gifted us. We have so many blessings to be grateful for. Yet we are often motivated by fear, rather than our trust in You. We hold onto what we have, afraid we will never have enough. We become focused on protection rather than Your call to welcome and love others. We see our blessings as our own, rather than seeing Your care in each gift. Forgive us, God of grace. Forgive us and restore us to Your vision for the world we pray.

(Time of Silent Confession)

Kyrie Lord, Have Mercy (Congregation Please Sing)

Kyrie Eleison



Assurance of Pardon

Hear the Good News! Although we have sinned, in Jesus Christ we are graciously forgiven. Be at peace. **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

Unison Reading — Psalm 123

To you I lift up my eyes,
O you who are enthroned in the heavens!
As the eyes of servants
look to the hand of their master,
as the eyes of a maid
to the hand of her mistress,
so our eyes look to the Lord our God,
until he has mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
for we have had more than enough of contempt.
Our soul has had more than its fill
of the scorn of those who are at ease,
of the contempt of the proud.

Children's Sermon

New Testament Reading — 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 — Pew Bible, pg. 205

Anthem — *Lord, Make This Church a Giving Place* arr. Heather Sorenson

Lord make this church a giving place, a house of prayer, a sacred space,
a chapel of Your boundless grace. Lord, make this church a giving place.

Lord, make this church an open door, where every word redeems, restores,
a healing room for evermore. Lord, make this church an open door.

Lord, make this church a light of hope, a beacon bright, a welcome home,
a gathering where Your love is shown. Lord, make this church a giving place.

Gospel Reading — Matthew 25:14-30 — Pew Bible, pg. 28

Sermon — "Time and Talents" — Rev. John Brock

*Statement of Faith — from *A Declaration of Faith*

In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, God has already demonstrated His judging and saving work. We are warned that rejecting God's love and not caring for others whom God loves results in eternal separation from Him

and them. Yet we are also told that God loves the whole world and wills the salvation of all humankind in Christ. We live in tension between God's warnings and promises. Knowing the righteous judgment of God in Christ, we urge all people to be reconciled to God, not exempting ourselves from the warnings. Constrained by God's love in Christ, we have good hope for all people, not exempting the most unlikely from the promises. Judgment belongs to God and not to us. We are sure that God's future for every person will be both merciful and just. Amen.

*Hymn of Affirmation *Trust and Obey* TRUST AND OBEY

(see insert on page 7)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

O Lord, Our God

Deliver us.

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 *Adagio* W. A. Mozart

*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

God of grace and God of glory, we dedicate these gifts given this day to Your work in the world. May these gifts bring hope and light to all who need it. Amen.

*Closing Hymn No. 341 *Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!* ASSURANCE

Postlude *Bishops' Promenade* Norman Coke-Jephcott

*Benediction

JOIN US FOR OUR

Thanksgiving POTLUCK LUNCHEON

NOV | 22 | NOON

Community Life Center
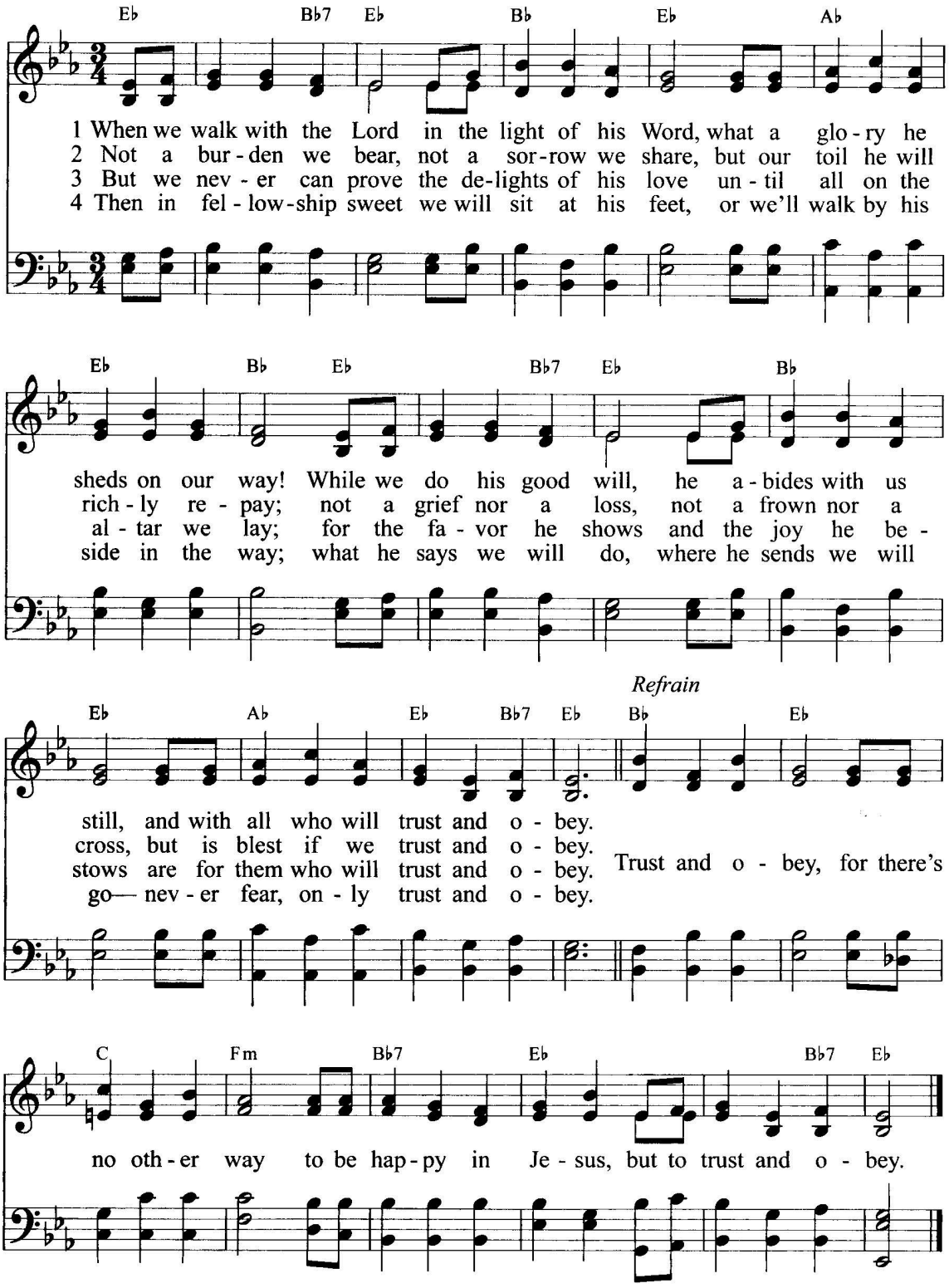
Honey Baked Turkey/Ham, Dressing, Cranberry Sauce, Rolls, and Beverages will be provided. Please bring a "family-sized" side, salad, or dessert to share.

Join Us to Celebrate This Special Day!

First Presbyterian Church
400 W. Jefferson St.
Tupelo, MS 38804

Trust and Obey

90



WORDS: John H. Sammis (1846-1919)
MUSIC: Daniel B. Towner (1850-1919)

TRUST AND OBEY
6.6.9.D.Ref.

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 Ernest & Frances Joyner by Dan & Frances Brasfield.

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: Melissa McDuffie
11:00: Andy Crotwell
Greeters: 9:00: David Williams & Judy Griffie
11:00: Wesley & Henry Brock, Trey & Lorena Phyfer

Upcoming Events and Announcements

Our weekly Bible study starts back this Tuesday, November 17, at 11:00 A.M. We will meet in the Bolton/Sistahood Room. This group enjoys engaging discussions and fellowship, and it is open to everyone. This week, we will study Proverbs 1:1-19.

For November 22, our scripture passages will be from **Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24, Psalm 100, Ephesians 1:15-23, and Matthew 25:31-46.**

Our **Wednesday night supper and program** will take place in the Fellowship Hall on **Wednesday, November 18,** at 5:30 P.M. John Brock will be presenting on the theological idea of gratitude. The menu includes Chicken & Dressing, Sweet Potato Casserole, Ham & Turkey, Mac & Cheese, Green Beans, Cranberry Sauce, a full Salad Bar, Rolls, & Dessert. This week, we will serve Chicken Tenders 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 Tuesday** by scanning the QR code or by calling the church office at 662-842-5681.

From our Financial Secretary: To receive contribution credit for this year, we need all contributions in by **December 31.** Honorariums and Memorials for this year need to be in by the **6th of December** to be counted towards 2026.

Join us for a "**Pounding**" to honor our new **Parish Associate, Ann Kelly.** This is a chance to **drop-in** and meet and greet with Ann at the **home of Rud and Debra Robison from 5-7 pm today**. A "Pounding" is a type of party where guests stock the newcomer's pantry by bringing household staples that are traditionally sold by the pound or other non-perishables, such as flour, sugar, coffee, cornmeal, canned goods, oatmeal, etc. Their address is 2 Boxwood Lane. Parking is available in either of the two vacant lots on Boxwood or along the east side of Madison Street.

Prayers for this Week

Cancer Treatment: Emily Barber
Homebound: Mary Ann Chiles, Carolyn Gaston, John Gaston
College Students: Jon Timothy Posey, Olivia Reynolds, Kailan Reynolds
Service Members: Patrick Hastings, Andrew Ray

Attendance Last Sunday

9:00 A.M.: 58 11:00 A.M.: 120

This Week @ FTC

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. Pounding for Ann Kelly

11/15

Monday — Ann Kelly's 1st Day
2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym
6:00 P.M. Session Meeting

11/16

Tuesday
9:00 A.M. T'ai Chi, Garden
11:00 A.M. Bible Study, Bolton/Sistahood
2:30 P.M. Cook for Salvation Army, Kitchen
2:30 P.M. CASA, Gym
7:00 P.M. AA, Session Room

11/17

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
7:00 P.M. Chancel Choir

11/18

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

11/19

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

11/20

Saturday

11/21

Next Week:

Sunday – Thanksgiving Lunch & Hanging of the Greens
Monday – Friday – Thanksgiving Break & Redoing the Gym Floors
Wednesday – No Wednesday Night Service, Office Closed
Thursday – Thanksgiving, Office Closed

JOIN US FOR A

POUNDING

TO WELCOME

ANN KELLY



During a pounding party, guests stock the newcomer's pantry by bringing household staples that are traditionally sold by the pound or other non perishables, such as flour, sugar, coffee, cornmeal, canned goods, oatmeal, etc.

15 NOV

5-7 PM DROP IN
AT THE HOME OF
RUD & DEBRA ROBISON

The Mission of First Presbyterian Church is to:

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The Session

Rev. John Brock, Moderator
Lisa Nichols, Clerk of the Session

Class of 2027	Class of 2028	Class of 2029
Heather Crotwell	Jim Bruce	Richard Hastings
Amanda Davis	Tatum Collins	Jimmy Milam
Beth Anne Ellzey	Lee Herman	Curtis Monts
Mac Godwin	Trey Phyfer	Mary Ellis Pace
Mary Margaret Gratz	Buddy Stubbs	Margaret Parker
Debra Robison	Virginia Toliver	Daintry Thomas
Liz Rose	Kathy Wallace	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

