

Morning Worship Service

Fifth Sunday in Lent

MARCH 17, 2024

9:00 & 11:00 A.M.

“Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.” - John 12:26

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

Variations on a Hymn for Lent

Dale Wood

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare your praise.
Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and sustain in me a willing spirit.

PRAYER OF APPROACH AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Blessed are you, O Lord;
you are ever faithful to your promises.
Open our hearts to hear your voice
in bellowing thunder and deafening silence,
declaring the truths of salvation.
Open our hearts to see your face
in the sorrow of death and joy of life,
making known the way of salvation.
Open our hearts to glorify your name
in faithful obedience and bold action,
for you are the source of salvation.
We pray in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who taught us to pray, saying,

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.

(Jeremiah 31:33)

“The days are surely coming,” says the Lord, “When I will make a new covenant with my people. I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest.”

Friends, we are God's people. Yet even as we strive to know our God and walk in God's paths, we fall short. Trusting in God as a merciful covenant partner, let us confess our sin together:

Living Christ, with whom we journey to the cross, we confess that we are always looking for an easier way. We long for the fullness of life with you, but we are slow to abandon the comforts of the life we know. We seek the fruit of new life, but we are not willing to die to ourselves. You call us to life in community, but we stubbornly cling to “me and mine.” Yet you offer the grace of life abundant, even and especially when our best efforts fall short. Transform us, renew us, and free us from our attachment to what was, so that you might bring us into the glory of what will be. In Jesus’ name we pray,

(Time of Silent Confession)

Lord, Have Mercy
Congregation please sing:

Lord _____ have mer - cy. Christ, _____ have

mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer - cy.

Friends, hear the good news! We worship a God who forgives our iniquities and remembers our sins no more. Proclaim the good news with me:

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

CHILDREN’S SERMON

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

[Psalm 51:1-12](#)

Pew Bible pg. 520

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Gilbert Martin

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

[John 12:20-33](#)

Pew Bible pg. 106

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Death to Life”

Rev. John Brock

*UNISON PROFESSION OF FAITH

from *The Heidelberg Catechism*

Q1. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

That we are not our own, but belong – body and soul, in life and in death – to our faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. Because we belong to him, Christ, by the Holy Spirit, assures us of eternal life and makes us wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for God.

*HYMN OF AFFIRMATION

*Jesus Calls Us
(See insert)*

GALILEE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

A Way to Calvary Leadeth

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**

Gracious God, it is our joy to return the gifts of our lives to you. May our offering this morning forever bring glory to your name, and may we continue to work tirelessly for the well-being of your whole creation. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN NO. 415**

Come, Labor On

ORA LABORA

POSTLUDE

The Heavens Declare the Glory of God

Benedetto Marcello

***BENEDICTION**

*Congregation standing as able.

Bold is spoken by the congregation.

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Are you looking for a church home? If so, please speak to our minister following worship.

As a courtesy to those around you, please turn off or silence cell phones and personal communication devices.

Large print bulletins and hymnals are available from the ushers.

The Flowers are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in memory of Martha Jo Patterson by Kirsten Bolton.

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 11:00 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. However, all children are welcome in worship! If you excuse yourself and your child, the service can be heard over speakers in McFadden Hall, which is located directly behind the Sanctuary.

Ritual of Friendship—Members and Visitors: Please sign the black attendance register every Sunday and pass it down your pew. Please read the names, greet one another, and meet new members and visitors.

We care about you as we care about each other. If you would like to submit a prayer request, you may use the blue cards in the pews or in McFadden Hall, and our pastoral staff and prayer partners will pray for you.

The service is live streamed and available for viewing on [YouTube.com](https://www.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

Liturgist: 9:00: Rick Jones 11:00: Julie Gibens

Greeters: 9:00: Kathy and Pete McMurry

11:00: Teresa and Kirk Biddle, Aubre and Jack Wells

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Cancer Treatment: Mollie Gratz

Homebound: Grace Stamps, Annette Thornton, Bobbye Carsten

College Students: Ana Morgan Beckham, Teddy Brock, Carson Clark

Service Members: Patrick Hastings, Andrew Ray

Confirmants: Alice Fagan, Hudson Fisher, Gracie Wallace, and Kelsey Whitten, along with their teachers and elder mentors.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

To God be the glory for the gift of spring and the beautiful colors that it brings. If you would like to make a gift to the spring bulb and landscape fund with an honorarium or memorial, you may leave your gift in the offering plate. Please be sure to include the name and designation on the check or envelope. The deadline is March 25, and all names will be listed in the March 31 bulletin. We suggest a minimum of \$20 for each name.

Circle 5 meets Tuesday, March 19, at Busylad.

Our Easter Brunch is Sunday, March 31, at 10:00 A.M. in Stuart Garden. If you would like to help with food, please bring a pickup breakfast item on a disposable tray. If you prefer bringing a non-disposable tray, you may get it in Stuart Garden following the brunch.

The Congregational Care Committee has scheduled a tour of Toyota Mississippi for April 25 at 11:00 A.M. Because Toyota limits group tour numbers, we have a limited number of spots available. If you would like to go with us, you may sign up by calling the church office at 662-842-5681 by April 11.

Be sure to join church friends and our visitors for supper at 5:30 P.M., Wednesday, March 20, in the Fellowship Hall. The menu: Presly's Smoked Beef Brisket, Fried and baked Chicken Tenders, Homestyle Green Beans, Southern Cheese Grits, Roasted Vegetable Medley, Broccoli Salad, Tater Tots, Rolls, Fresh Fruit, and Assorted Desserts. Sign up by Noon Wednesday using Sunday's attendance register, the link in Friday's newsletter, or call the church office at 662-842-5681.

Wednesday programs for Faithbuilders and Youth begin at 6:00 P.M.; Cherubs begin at 6:10 P.M. All programs conclude at 7:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY
9:00 A.M.: 38 11:00 A.M.: 84

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE
Weekly Budget: \$18,475 Amount Received 3/10/24: \$5,560
YTD Budgeted Income: \$240,173 YTD Income Received: \$354,252

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP AND WORK

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

9:00 A.M. Worship Service, Sanctuary
10:00 A.M. Sunday school
11:00 A.M. Worship Service, Sanctuary
4:00 P.M. Confirmation Class
4:30 P.M. Boy Scouts, Room B205
5:30 P.M. Youth

MONDAY, MARCH 18

2:45 P.M. CASA, Gym
10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

11:00 A.M. Bible Study, Bolton/Sistahood Room
2:45 P.M. CASA, Gym
5:30 P.M. Officer training, Bolton/Sistahood Room
6:00 P.M. Circle 5, Busylad
7:00 P.M. A.A. Meeting

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

2:45 P.M. CASA, Gym
3:00 P.M. Mah Jongg, Stewart Clayton Room
5:05 P.M. Tower Ringers
5:30 P.M. Supper, Fellowship Hall
6:00 P.M. Faithbuilders & Youth
6:10 P.M. Cherubs
6:15 P.M. 2024 Confirmand statements, Fellowship Hall
7:00 P.M. Called Session meeting for Confirmands
7:00 P.M. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

8:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast, Hilton Garden Inn
12:00 P.M. Lenten Luncheon, First United Methodist Church,
 Speaker: Rev. John Brock

2:45 P.M. CASA, Gym

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

12:00 P.M. A.A. Meeting
2:45 P.M. CASA, Gym

THE SESSION

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

Class of 2024

Kim Burleson
Cindy Faucette
Leslie Geoghegan
Michael Gratz Jr.
Chauncey Godwin
Charles Reece
Alice Rogers

Class of 2025

Richard Hastings
Trey Leeke
Lucy Nash
Chris Rogers
Mary Stubbs
Glenn Thomas
Presly Wallace

Class of 2026

Glen Davidson, Sr.
Jim Fisher
Ben Hunter
Bob Lence
Corey Littrell
Helen Monts
Aubre Wells

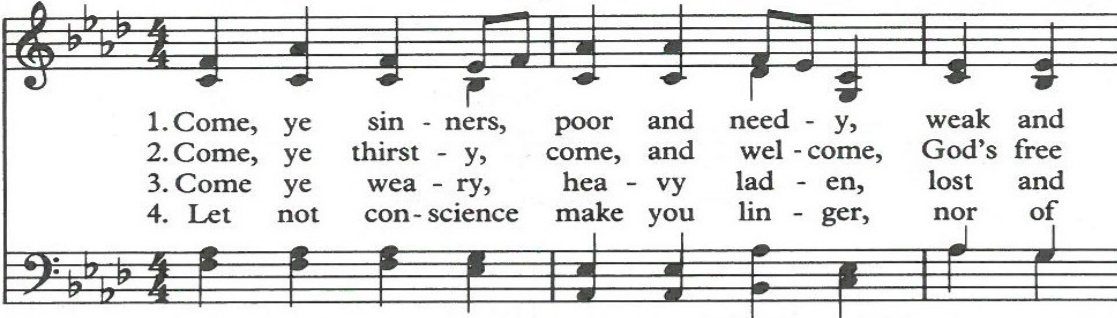
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Rev. John Brock, Pastor
Rev. Dr. Ron Richardson, Parish Associate for Pastoral Care
Melissa McDuffie, Director of Youth and Christian
Education Dr. Robert Taylor, Director of Music
Dr. Ray Harris, Organist
Seth Shelnut, Audio/Visual Technician
Claire Leeke, Director of Elementary and Youth Choirs
Cindy Faucette, Church Librarian
Margaret Anne Murphey, Music Librarian
Helen Curtis, Church Secretary
Kay Stanford, Financial Secretary
Jen Baylor, Receptionist
Eddie Baker, Maintenance Superintendent
Rev. M. McCoy Franklin, Pastor Emeritus

First Presbyterian Church

400 West Jefferson Street
Tupelo, Mississippi 38804
Mailing address: P.O. Box 1725, Tupelo, MS 38802
(662) 842-5681
<https://www.firstprestupelo.org>

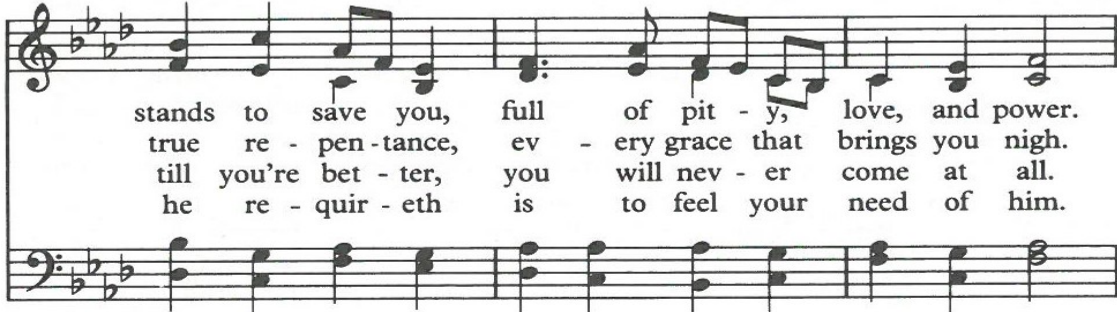
340 Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy



1. Come, ye sin - ners, poor and need - y, weak and
 2. Come, ye thirst - y, come, and wel - come, God's free
 3. Come ye wea - ry, hea - vy lad - en, lost and
 4. Let not con - science make you lin - ger, nor of



wound - ed, sick and sore; Je - sus read - y
 boun - ty glo - ri - fy; true be - lief and
 ruin - ed by the fall; if you tar - ry
 fit - ness fond - ly dream; all the fit - ness

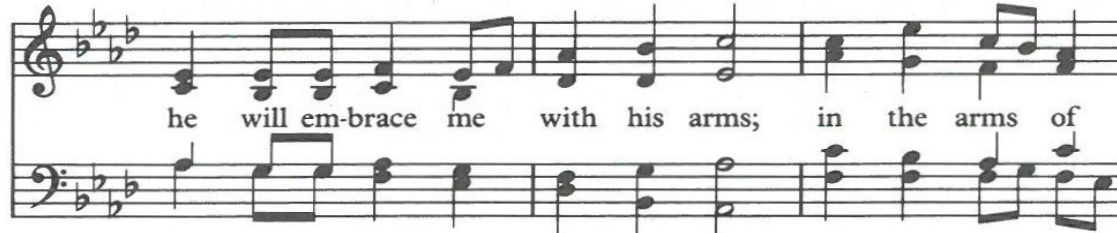


stands to save you, full of pit - y, love, and power.
 true re - pen - tance, ev - ery grace that brings you nigh.
 till you're bet - ter, you will nev - er come at all.
 he re - quir - eth is to feel your need of him.

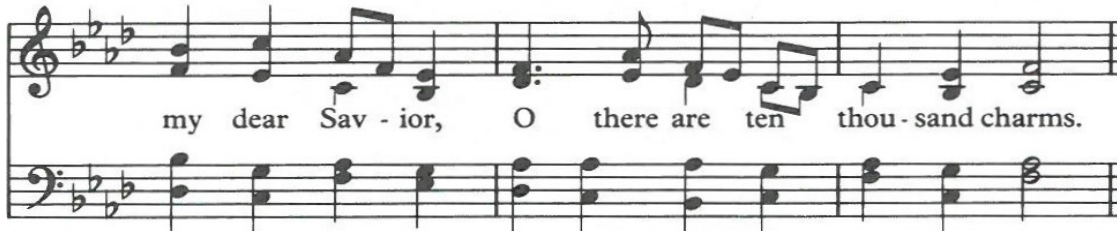
Refrain



I will a - rise and go to Je - sus;



he will em - brace me with his arms; in the arms of



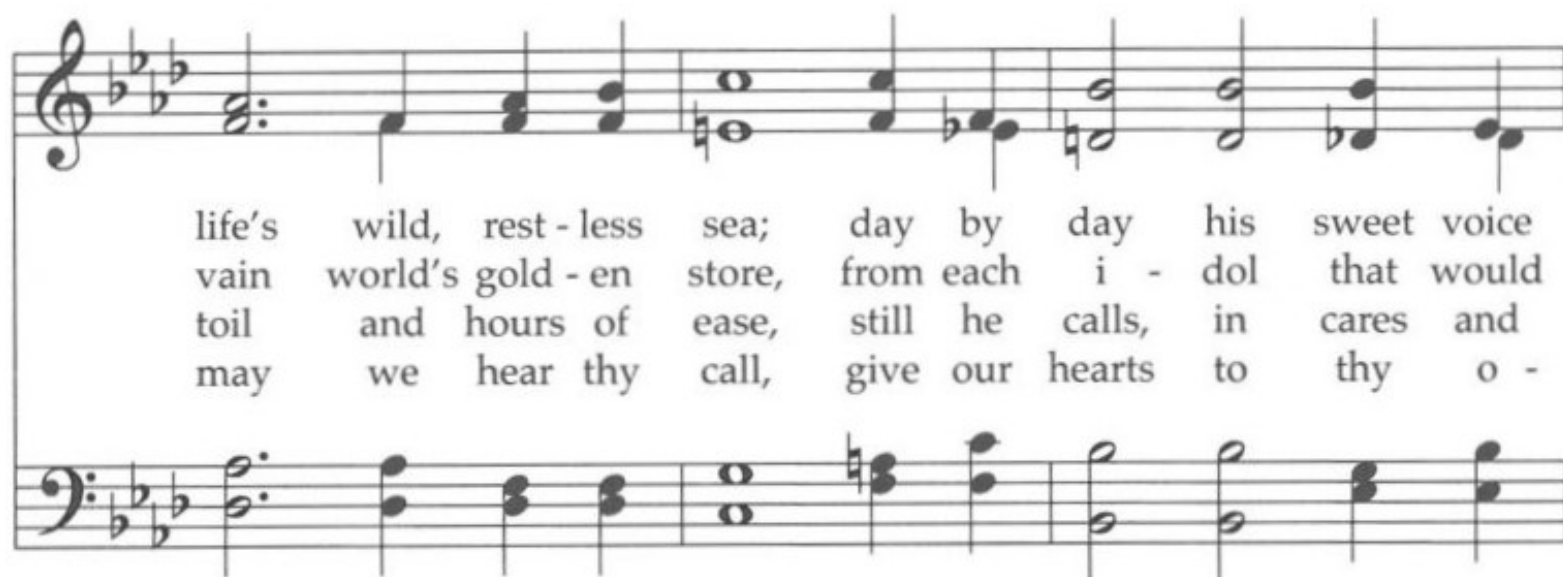
my dear Sav - ior, O there are ten thou - sand charms.

Jesus Calls Us

720



1 Je - sus calls us: o'er the tu - mult of our
 2 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
 3 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
 4 Je - sus calls us: by thy mer - cies, Sav - ior,



life's wild, rest - less sea; day by day his sweet voice
 vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
 toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
 may we hear thy call, give our hearts to thy o -



sound - eth say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me."
 keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
 plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
 be - dience, serve and love thee best of all.

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP
AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 24

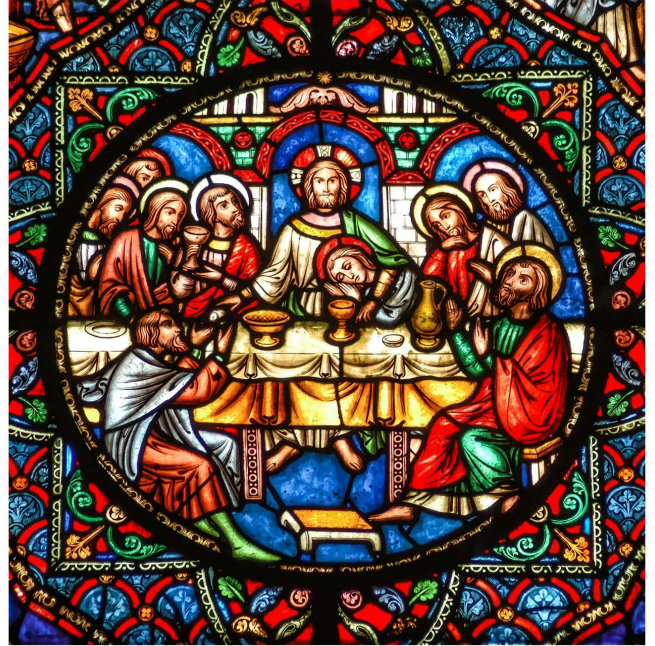
WORSHIP SERVICES
9:00 & 11:00 AM
SANCTUARY
SUNDAY SCHOOL
10:00 AM

400 W. JEFFERSON STREET, TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI

MAUNDY THURSDAY

COMMUNION SERVICE

MARCH 28 - 7:00 P.M.



SANCTUARY

First Presbyterian Church 400 W. Jefferson Street Tupelo, MS

GOOD FRIDAY

MARCH 29
7:00 P.M.
SANCTUARY



First Presbyterian Church 400 W. Jefferson Street Tupelo, MS

Easter
Brunch and Egg Hunt
Sunday, March 31
Brunch at 10:00 A.M.
Egg Hunt at 10:15 A.M.
STUART GARDEN
* Brunch Reservations
Not Necessary