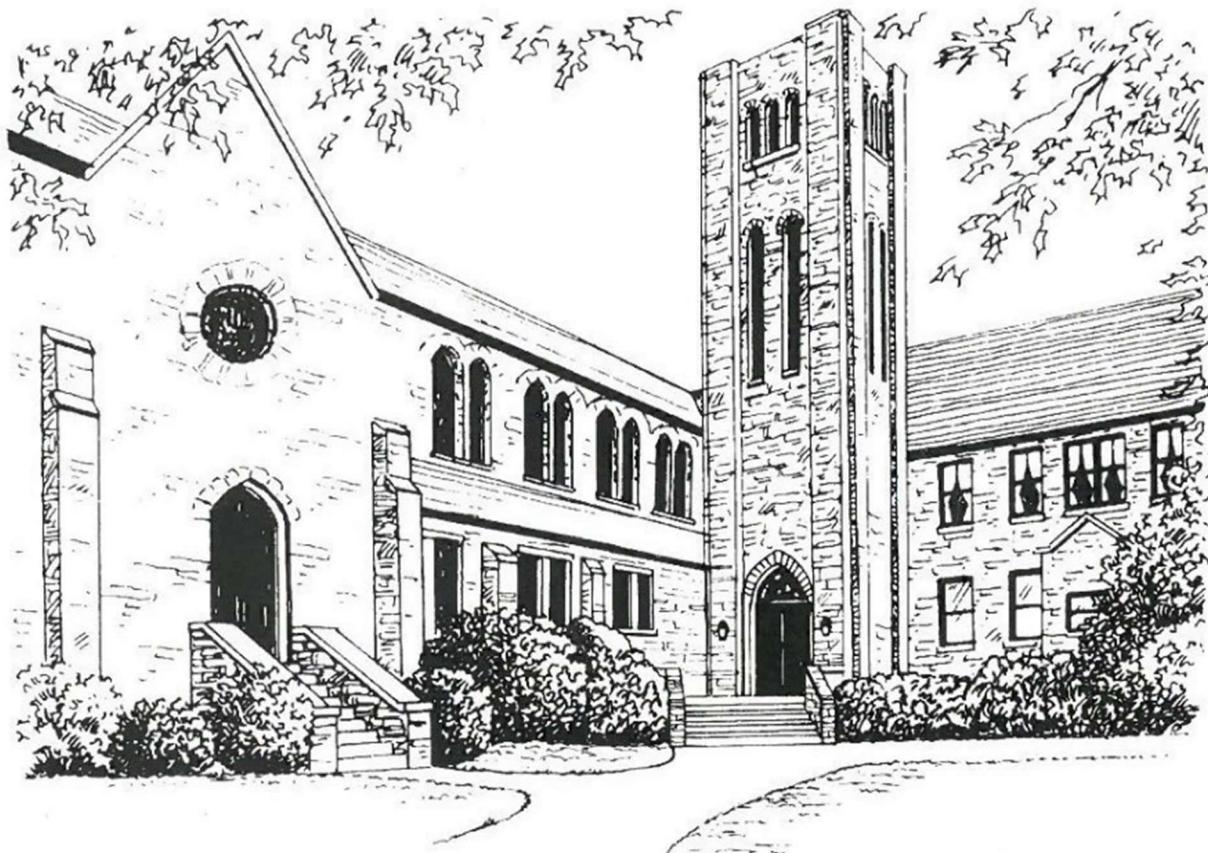


# First Presbyterian Church

400 Jefferson Street, P.O. Box 1725  
Tupelo, Mississippi 38802



## 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](http://www.firstprestupelo.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/FPCTupelo>

662.842.5681

# *Morning Worship Service*

## *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

MAY 18, 2025

9 & 11:00 A.M.

*“See, I am making all things new.” (Revelation 21:5)*

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

### CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

CHRISTIAN GREGOR, ARR. BETTY GAREE  
*Hosanna*

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Alleluia! Christ is alive; let all the people praise him.

**Let all creation sing with joy. Alleluia!**

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Surprising God, in the resurrection of Jesus Christ you make all things new. Long ago you called your church to live as Jesus taught and gave them your Holy Spirit to open their hearts to enact such love. Give us that same spirit, that we too might discern new directions that you are calling us as individuals and your church. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE No. 307

*Fight the Good Fight*

DUKE STREET

### CALL TO CONFESSiON

Trusting in the love of God to make all things new, let us confess our sin to God and to our neighbor.

### UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSiON

**God of mercy, your word speaks of new creation, but we find ourselves more comfortable with our old, familiar ways. Your word commands us to love those around us, but we look for the ways we are different and allow those to influence our actions. Your word calls us to forgive as we have been forgiven, but we find it much easier to hold on to old grudges and hurts. Forgive us, we pray. May your Holy Spirit move in us that we might live as you call us to live. O God, make us a new creation. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

*(Time of Silent Confession)*

**KYRIE****Lord, Have Mercy***(Congregation please sing)*

Americana folk hymn

**Kyrie Eleison**

arr. Richard Proulx

5

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**

God's promises are trustworthy and true; your sins are forgiven. Be at peace to serve the Lord, and may you always be known by your love.

**\*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.*

**CHILDREN'S SERMON****PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION****RESPONSIVE READING****Psalm 24.1-6**

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the highest heavens; praise him in the heights!  
**Praise him, all his angels; praise him all his hosts!**  
 Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!  
**Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!**  
 Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.  
**He established them forever and ever, he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.**

**GOSPEL READING****John 13:31-35**

PEW BIBLE, PG. 108

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM**

NATALIE SLEETH, ARR. JOEL RANEY  
*Easter Hymn of Promise*

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Revelation 21:1-6

PEW BIBLE, PG. 259

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

**“Somewhere in the Middle”**

MELISSA McDUFFIE

\*UNISON PROFESSION OF FAITH

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*HYMN OF AFFIRMATION No. 220

OLD HUNDREDTH

*All People That on Earth Do Dwell*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.**

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

*Aria*

GEORGE F. HANDEL

\*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

**Loving God, we give you thanks for allowing us to participate in your ministry. Accept these gifts as tangible images of our love for you. Use them to accomplish your will in our community and in our world. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN No. 268

*God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens*

HOLY MANNA

POSTLUDE

*Festive Trumpet Tune*

DAVID GERMAN

\*BENEDICTION



## **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](mailto: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 memory of Margaret and Tom Beaudrot.

**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.

**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](http://www.firstprestupelo.org).

**Leading the worship service today:** Melissa McDuffie, Dr. Bob Taylor, Dr. Ray Harris

**Liturgist:** 9:00: Sam Agnew

11:00: Trey Phyfer

**Ushers:** 9:00: Lori and Bill Dickerson

11:00: Gay Abney, Anna Brock, Cindy and Robin Faucette

### **PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK**

**Cancer Treatment:** Scarlett Reeder, Jim Seiler

**Homebound:** Annette Thornton, Gladys Wilson, Daisy Aycock

**College Students:** Ashton Posey, Isabella Posey, Jon Timothy Posey

**Service Members:** Patrick Hastings, Andrew Ray

### **ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY**

9:00 A.M.: 70    11:00 A.M.: 103

### **STEWARDSHIP UPDATE**

Weekly Budget: \$19,644

Amount Received 5/11/25: \$5,639

YTD Budgeted Income: \$340,493

YTD Income Received: \$457,375

### **UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The session has approved combined worship services May 25 through July 27, 2025.** During that time, Sunday School will be at 9:30 A.M. and worship at 10:30 A.M.; however, due to the Memorial Day holiday, there is no Sunday School on Sunday, May 25.

**Our VBS “Road Trip” begins soon!** The dates are May 28, 29, and 30, and we would appreciate your help with supplies. We are in need of very large cardboard boxes or flat pieces, specifically 6-8 in total. Additionally, we need six road maps, which will be essential for the various activities planned. If you would like to donate any of these items, please drop them off in the Education Supply Room, which is located in the Children's Sunday School Wing on the Second Floor. Within the supply room, there is a designated area specifically for VBS donations. For more information, please contact Amanda Davis at 615-604-0709. Your support and generosity are deeply appreciated and will help make this VBS “Road Trip” a fantastic journey for everyone involved!

**FPC's Wednesday night programming has ended for Spring, 2025** and will resume in the fall! We anticipate great programs, wonderful food, and fun fellowship! Join us!

**Our weekly Bible study resumes Monday, June 2, at 11:00 A.M.** We will continue meeting in the Bolton/Sistahood Room, and the study sessions will take place on Monday mornings. This group enjoys engaging discussions and fellowship and is open to everyone. We look forward to seeing YOU!

THE CHURCH  
AT WORSHIP AND WORK

SUNDAY, MAY 18

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

MONDAY, MAY 19

2:45 P.M. CASA, Gym

TUESDAY, MAY 20

9:00 A.M. T'ai Chi Chih  
10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting  
2:30 P.M. Cooking for Salvation Army, Kitchen  
2:45 P.M. CASA, Gym  
7:00 P.M. A.A. Meeting

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

2:45 P.M. CASA, Gym  
3:00 P.M. Mah-Jongg, Library  
5:05 P.M. Tower Ringers  
7:00 P.M. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, MAY 22

8:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast, Hilton Garden Inn  
2:45 P.M. CASA, Gym  
6:00 P.M. Session Meeting

FRIDAY, MAY 23

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

**HELP US FEED THE HUNGRY!**

OUR CHURCH PROVIDES SUPPER FOR THE SALVATION ARMY  
ON THE THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

**TUESDAY, MAY 20**

IS OUR MAY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

We will be cooking the side  
items in the church kitchen  
starting at 2:30 p.m.  
This a great opportunity to  
reach out to our less fortunate  
brothers and sisters.  
Outreach/Mission Committee



**VOLUNTEER  
DRIVERS NEEDED**



For More Information:  
Call: 662-840-0787  
400 W Jefferson Street-Tupelo



**SUBSCRIBE**  
To Our Newsletter



## THE SESSION

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

### 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

### CLASS OF 2027

Heather Crotwell  
Amanda Davis  
Beth Anne Ellzey  
Mac Godwin  
Mary Margaret Gratz  
Debra Robison  
Liz Rose

## 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  
John Buchman, Audio/Visual Technician  
Claire Leeke, Director of Elementary and Youth Choirs  
Dr. Kathy McMurry, Treasurer  
Cindy Faucette, Church Librarian  
Helen Curtis, 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

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