

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
<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)

Kyrie Eleison

Americal 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.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn, and the second staff, starting with a measure rest and the number '5', contains the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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

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 for give 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

HOLY MANNA

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens

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.

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.

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



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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 McMurphy, 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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