



First Presbyterian Church

Tupelo, Mississippi

Morning Worship Service

August 9, 2020

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 A.M.

All the blessings we enjoy are Divine deposits, committed to our trust on this condition, that they should be dispensed for the benefit of our neighbors.—John Calvin

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

Now Let Us All Praise God and Sing

Gordon Young

WELCOME, CONCERNS, AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

From the comfort of our homes we gather to worship. Whether through printed word, or through the gift of technology we are a community. Here we seek connection to the Divine. Come, let us worship God, shown to us through the risen Christ.

PRAYER OF PRAISE

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 466

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

CALL OF CONFESSION

Leader: The Scriptures are full of stories of people just like us: men who grieved, women who questioned, siblings who did not get along, parents who chose favorites. God's word of grace is meant for people just like us. There is no need for pretense in this place. Let us go to God in prayer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

We come seeking God in mighty earthquakes.

We come listening for God in resounding thunder.

We come expecting God in sweeping victories.

Yet God is found in a baby's touch.

Yet God speaks in silence.

Yet God is found in the least of these.

Save us, O God, from our aimless wandering.

Save us, O God, from our idols.

Save us, O God, from our self-induced chaos.

God, in your mercy, Hear our prayer. (Pause for reflection and meditation) Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news of God's love for us; not in the earthquake, not in the storms, not in the mighty deeds but in the silence, in the gentle touch, in the quiet rain God says, again, "You are my Beloved. I love you."

LITANY OF FAREWELL

As we say farewell, we want you to know that we will miss you. We love you. We send you forth as a disciple of Jesus Christ and as an ambassador of friendship, spreading the love of God in your new surroundings. As you go, we admonish you with these words: Go in the spirit of Christ. Be steadfast in your devotion to him.

Go in peace. Go in love. Go in the spirit of Christ.

Know that your ministry with us has served the cause of Christ in this community. Well done, good and faithful servant!

Go in peace. Go in love. Go in the spirit of Christ.

May your deepening commitment to Christ become your starting point as you enter into a new relationship with another community, another congregation.

Go in peace. Go in love. Go in the spirit of Christ.

And always remember that even though we will be separated in space, our common love for Jesus Christ will find us together always in his spirit.

Go in peace. Go in love. Go in the spirit of Christ.

UNISON PRAYER

God of Abraham, the sojourner, you are also the God of modern travelers. As you traveled with Abraham and Sarah, go with Taylor Neal. Keep her faithful to you, in prayer, worship, and service, in the many new relationships before her. Bless her new home and her new environment. May our friendship with her endure, and may we ever be one in Christ's name. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT—BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Leader: This morning, we have backpacks to be carried to and from school by the children and youth attending schools throughout our community.

People: **These backpacks will contain school work, homework, books to read, school supplies and lunch boxes.**

Leader: Some days, so much stuff will fill these backpacks that the student may find it difficult to walk. Other days, they will be light and nearly empty.

People: **But on each and every day, these backpacks represent work required of the students so loved by our congregation.**

Leader: Let us bring our children and their teachers to God asking for God to bless them as we enter another school year. Let us pray together...

All: **Gracious God, we lift to you today, these students and teachers. They stand ready to receive your blessings, and they commit themselves to study and learning in the school year ahead. We ask your blessing on each of them.**

Further, we ask your blessing on these backpacks. They will hold the school work of each student and will be carried from home to school and back again. As these students carry these backpacks, may they be reminded of the love and care of this congregation that surrounds them each school day.

We pray as well for the teachers and administrators in our schools. May they also be sustained by your blessing. May they be reminded that this congregation embraces their call to teaching and learning and surrounds them with love and care as well. We pray in the name of Jesus who we seek to follow day by day. Amen.

ANTHEM

Come, Come Ye Saints

arr. Mack Wilberg

THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:25-33

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Each Day by Faith

Rev. Dr. Olin McBride

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

Go now, proclaiming to all how much Jesus has done for you. Be as one with each other in Christ. Wait for the Lord, and be ready to hear God's voice, even in the sounds of sheer silence.

And may God be your fortress; May Christ Jesus release you from all that torments you; And may the Holy Spirit give you light and truth to sustain you day and night.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
In the name of Christ. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Prelude in B-Flat Major

J.S. Bach

The Flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the glory of God and in memory of Bob Williford, beloved husband and father, by Bonnie and Denise Williford.

TV Broadcast of the Service is the following week on Christian Network Television at 9:00 a.m. Sunday; and at 8:00 p.m. Monday on Channel 4 Comcast, Channel 49 Dish and antennae, and Channel 20 MaxSouth. Service is also streaming on YouTube.com—search First Pres Tupelo. Also visit our website at www.firstprestupelo.org.

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Cancer Treatments: Judy Armentrout, Aimee McDonald Burrow, Bill Deas, Julie Seiler

Homebound: Bernice Baker, Jerry Burkett, Bobbye Carsten

College Students: Kelby Cobb, Emma Counce, Leland Counce

THIS WEEK AT FPC

Sunday, August 9

10:00 A.M. Worship Service,
streaming on YouTube

Monday, August 10

7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts,
Stuart Garden

Tuesday, August 11

9:00 A.M. T'ai Chi Chih,
Stuart Garden

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Olin's sermons, from March 15 (the first Sunday of online worship) through April 12 (Easter Sunday) are now available.** Simply call church office or send an email to churchsecretary@firstprestupelo.org to request a copy of *Conversations During COVID-19: Sermons During a Time of Pandemic*.
- **Join us Sunday, August 16** for our *Easter in August* service.

STEWARSHIP UPDATE

Weekly Budget \$16,960
YTD Income Received \$586,649

YTD Budgeted Income \$587,961
Amount Received 8/2/20 \$14,452