

Morning Worship Service

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

October 17, 2021

9:00 & 11:00 A.M.

Some things make us very uncomfortable. They really bother us. Today's gospel is one of those occasions in which we have to look at something very bothersome. We fail to live as God longs for us to live. All of us fall short. And yet, the cross makes it possible to live with hope and to take risks at being God's children.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE *Now Thank We All Our God* J. S. Bach/Fox

INTROIT *Alleluia* Cherub Choir
Do You Hear God's World Singing?

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Strength is commanding the wind and sea to obey,
Strength is wielding a slingshot in the face of a raging giant.
Strength is accepting vulnerability from inside the boat,
Strength is standing in solidarity with the powerless.
Strength is turning a cheek,
Strength is loving an enemy.
We come to worship a God who redefines our vision of strength.

MINUTE FOR MISSIONS - Operation Christmas Child Robin Faucette

PRAYER OF APPROACH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: In the beginning God created all things, and God saw that they were good.

At our beginning, God created us unique and irreplaceable,
loved and wanted by God,
known and treasured by God,
even before He created us.

In all our new beginnings, God creates something new
so we will seek God in the freshness of this morning,
in the laughter of friends, in the colors of creation,
and in this beautiful place.

Lord God, King of Creation, open our eyes to see your presence,
our souls to sense your presence, and our hearts to love your presence, ever here in your creation, and
ever beyond it in eternity.

We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ who taught us to pray saying...

Unison: 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. 356 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SPECIAL MUSIC *The Lord is My Light* Frances Allitson

CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: What if God paid us back in full for all the wrong we have done? *(Pause)*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

People: O Lord we seek your mercy...yet we ourselves look for payback when we are wronged.

We think it “only fair” and “what is right” when we retaliate and use harsh words and withdraw from relationship.

The forgiveness you offer on our account is larger than we can comprehend, still we withhold forgiveness and carry the grudge over petty items.

We are eager to do your judging. And the worst: we conspire our inner thoughts to secure your forgiveness while avoiding honest repentance.

Forgive us Lord for the sins we know in our hearts. Save us Lord from the sins we hide *(pause for reflection and self-examination).*

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and has not dealt with us according to our sins.

Instead, God has chosen the sacrifice of God's own son on our account.

It is because Jesus Christ pays the last full measure that our sins are forgiven.

This gift of forgiveness makes us able, with the power of Holy Spirit, to choose to forgive, renew and live again in right relationship with each other and with our God.

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People: 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.

ANTHEM *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* arr. Gilbert Martin

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Mark 10:2-16](#)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)

The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, 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 rose 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.

*CLOSING HYMN

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy (See insert)

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune

Michael McCabe

*Congregation standing as able.

- Before the service, speak to God.
- During the service, let God speak to you.
- After the service, speak to one another.

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, kindly turn off or silence cell phones and personal communication devices.

The Cherub Choir would like to thank Steve & Lucy Nash for their new tambourines.

The Flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the glory of God and in memory of Helen & Ray Aycock and Irma & Van Stubbs by Buddy, Mary, and Erin Stubbs.

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. However, all children are welcome in worship! If you excuse yourself and your child, you can hear the service over speakers in McFadden Hall (directly behind the Sanctuary).

Both the 9:00 and 11:00 A.M. services are 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. Dr. Olin McBride; Dr. Bob Taylor; Dr. Ray Harris

Liturgists: 9:00 A.M.: Trey Leeke
11:00 A.M.: Julie Gibens

Greeters: 9:00 A.M.: Lori Dickerson, Leslie Geoghegan, Sarah Young
11:00 A.M.: Susan Boone, Barbara McCullough, Holly Rogers

Please remember to dedicate your offering this morning. Field Thomas made the two beautiful offering plate stands which are placed in our Narthex. Please remember to dedicate your gift to First Presbyterian Church by placing your offering in one of the plates. Contributions may also be mailed to: FPC, P.O. Box 1725, Tupelo, MS 38802.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

It's Operation Christmas Child time! Please stop by the table outside the library and pick up your boxes; fill and return by November 7. If you need ideas or have questions, please contact Cindy Faucette (231-6827) or Jean Magee (231-6404). If you would like to contribute but cannot fill a box, please make a donation and the youth will gladly fill one for you.

Wednesday Night Suppers Are Back! Be sure to join church friends and our visitors at 5:30 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, October 20. Our menu: Chicken and Dressing, Cranberry Sauce & Gravy, Chicken Tenders, Homestyle Green Beans, Sweet Potato Casserole, Homemade Rolls, Congealed Raspberry Salad, Fresh Fruit, Individual Salads, Chocolate Chunk Cookies, Ice Cream, Banana Pudding, Pumpkin Cake, Chocolate Texas Sheet Cake. Sign up by Noon on Tuesday by using the [link](#) in our Friday newsletter, calling the church office at 662-842-5681, or emailing frontdesk@firstprestupelo.org.

New Wednesday Night Study! Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 P.M. as we continue Adam Hamilton's study, Words of Life: Jesus and the Promise of the Ten Commandments Today. **Masks are encouraged for all ages.** All programs conclude at 7:00 P.M.

Don't miss your opportunity to have beautiful family photos taken by a professional photographer! Faith Riley Photography will be at the Thomas Barn on Jackson Street on October 29-30 to take beautiful photos of family groups amid a scenic, fall landscape. All sessions are \$75, and proceeds go to the Good Samaritan Family Clinic. Sign up for a mini-session at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080A4CACAC2FABFC1-photography>.

Please support Sanctuary Hospice through Celebration Village's Virtual Bakery! The bakery has been an important part of Celebration Village's fundraising each year; in fact, the 2019 CV Bakery brought in \$10,000. There will be no in-person bakery this year, but anyone may continue to support this worthwhile project with a monetary contribution. Simply contribute what you would have spent baking a cake or what you have spent previously on baked goods. There are two ways to donate: Mail checks to CV Bakery, P.O. Box 2177, Tupelo, MS 38803, or visit www.sanctuaryhospice.org, click "Donate" and add CV Bakery in notes.

The Outreach/Missions Committee invites you to participate in Habitat's FaithBuild 2021. This is a coordinated effort with several area churches to build a house for a local family. For more information, contact Chauncey Godwin at 662-791-9345 or email hbhtupelo@bellsouth.net.

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Cancer Treatments: Aimee McDonald Burrow, Sam Pace, Julie Seiler, Mike Thomas

Homebound: Bobbye Carsten, Carolyn Gaston, Hugh Luckett

College Students: Eli Martin, John Robert Martin, Retta Maxwell

Christian Sympathy is extended to the family of Larry Herman, who died October 10 in North Carolina. He was the father of Michael Herman.

Christian Sympathy is extended to the family Lori Purcell Burwell, who died October 7 in Virginia. She was a former member of FPC.

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

In-Person Worship Services: 9:00 - 39 11:00 - 90 YouTube Streaming Service Views as of 10/14/2021: 153

The Session

Rev. Dr. Olin McBride, Moderator
Clerk of the Session, Lisa Nichols

Class of 2022

Steve Bryson
Anne Marie Littrell
Pete McMurry
Mary Pace
Buddy Stubbs
Virginia Tolivar
David Williams

Class of 2023

Kirk Biddle
Susan Boone
Amy Fagan
Mitzi Moore
Aubrey Patterson, Jr.
Grayson Robbins
Debra Robison

Class of 2024

Kim Burleson
Cindy Faucette
Leslie Geoghegan
Michael Gratz, Jr.
Chauncey Godwin
Alice Rogers
Mike Thomas

First Presbyterian Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Olin McBride, Pastor
Rev. Dr. Ron Richardson, Parish Associate for Pastoral Care
Melissa McDuffie, Director of Youth and Christian Education
Heather Crotwell, Children's Church Director
Dr. Bob Taylor, Director of Music
Dr. Ray Harris, Organist
Seth Shelnut, Audio/Visual Technician
Danielle Frerer Ratliff, Director of Elementary and Youth Choirs
Nannette Comer, Church Librarian
Margaret Anne Murphey, Music Librarian
Helen Curtis, Church Secretary
Kay Stanford, Financial Secretary
Debbie Merritt, Receptionist
Eddie Baker, Maintenance Superintendent
Joyce Richardson, Housekeeper
Rev. M. McCoy Franklin, Pastor Emeritus

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Frederick William Faber

Julius Rontgen

There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy like the wide - ness of the sea.
For the love of God is broad - er than the meas - ures of the mind.
There is plen - ti - ful re - demp - tion in the blood that has been shed.

5

There's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice that is more than li - ber - ty.
And the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly - kind.
There is joy for all the mem - bers in the sor - rows of the Head.

9

There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in hea - ven.
But we make His love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own.
If our lives were but more sim - ple we should take Him at His word.

13

There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.
And we mag - ni - fy His strict - ness with a zeal He will not own.
And our lives would be all glad - ness in the joy of Christ our Lord.

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP AND WORK

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

9:00 A.M. Worship Service, Sanctuary and streaming on YouTube
10:00 A.M. Sunday School
11:00 A.M. Worship Service, Sanctuary and streaming on YouTube
5:30 P.M. Youth

MONDAY, OCTOBER 18

2:30 P.M. Mah-Jongg, Library
6:00 P.M. Session Meeting
7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19

9:00 A.M. T'ai Chi Chih
10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting
7:00 P.M. A.A. Meeting

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20

5:10 P.M. Tower Ringers
5:30 P.M. Supper in the Fellowship Hall
6:00 P.M. Faithbuilders & Youth
 Adam Hamilton study, Fellowship Hall
7:00 P.M. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21

7:30 A.M. Men's Breakfast, Holiday Inn

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22

12:00 P.M. A.A. Meeting



Operation Christmas Child

OCC BOXES ARE AVAILABLE

It's Operation Christmas Child time! Please stop by the table outside the library and pick up your boxes; fill and return by November 7. If you need ideas or have questions, please contact Cindy Faucette (231-6827) or Jean Magee (231-6404) If you would like to contribute but cannot fill a box, please make a donation and the youth will gladly fill one for you. **Be an early shopper!** The items listed below are great gifts. Please consider buying extras - keep items for a Shoebox to fill at home and extras to be placed in the large box outside the Church Library. Our Youth enjoy filling boxes at Church! Suggested Items: *Comb/Hairbrush, Rain Poncho, Socks, Small Flashlight with Batteries, Tee-shirts, Sidewalk Chalk, Small Fan with Batteries, Whistle, Yo-Yo, Ball (deflated) with Pump, Baseball Cap/Glove, Slinky, Paddle Ball, Headbands/Hair Ties, Stuffed Animals, Small Baby Doll, Necklace/Play Jewelry, Jump Rope, Scotch Tape/Colored Tape.*

IT'S BACK!

Join your friends for



Wednesdays at 5:30 pm

Fellowship Hall

\$6/plate

Be sure to make a reservation!

Call the church office @ 662-842-5681 OR email frontdesk@firstprestupelo.org

All Programs for Faithbuilders, Youth, & Adults begin at 6:00 pm

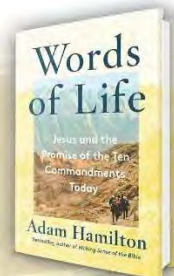
Can't wait to see YOU Wednesday Night!

New Wednesday Night Study!

6:00 PM

Fellowship Hall

**Unpack the
Ten Commandments
for today!**



What if the Ten Commandments were not just a set of ancient rules, but a guide to experiencing the good life today? Nearly everyone has heard of the Ten Commandments. These ten ancient "words" were given to us by a loving God who longed to set safe boundaries, create order out of chaos, help communities live peacefully, and protect us—often from ourselves. In *Words of Life*, best-selling author Adam Hamilton brings modern eyes to the most important set of ethics in history. He considers the commandments in their historical context, considering the meaning of each commandment in Hebrew, unpacking how Jesus reinterpreted them, and showing how every "thou shalt not" was intended to point to a life-giving "thou shalt." He also explores how the latest research in science and psychology illuminates these commandments, rightly understood, as a way of ordering one's life beautifully in the present day. In a culture marked by workaholicism, materialism, and social media-driven envy, God has given us a time-tested path that leads to gratitude, confidence, and peace.

JOIN US WEDNESDAY NIGHT at 6:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall, as we begin this new study for adults. No book is necessary, as this is a series of video lessons. If you wish to purchase a book for the study, they are available at Reed's Guntree Bookstore, [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com/dp/0830828000) or [Barnes & Noble](https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/words-of-life-adam-hamilton/9780830828000).

WEDNESDAY NIGHT KIDS

**FAITHBUILDERS AT FPC
6:00 P.M.**

Ages 3 through Kindergarten
Cherub Choir and Activities

Teachers for music and activities are Leslie Geoghegan, Beth Anne Ellzey, and Kathy Wallace.

Grades 1-5
Faithbuilders

Music teachers are Danielle Ratliff and Brittany Rogers.
Activities teachers are Heather Crotwell and Corey Littrell.

Help Needed



**First Presbyterian Church
in Tupelo is hiring
nursery workers.**

**Contact Melissa at
(662) 842-5681 or stop by
400 West Jefferson, Tupelo
for more information.**



**Must be 18 years
of age**

Hurricane Relief

Following the impacts of Hurricane Ida and in anticipation of future natural disasters, FPC's Missions Committee hopes that you will join us in supporting relief efforts. See below for the ways you can get involved.

COLLECT supplies

Cleanup Buckets

Assemble complete cleanup kits according to the instructions at <https://pda.pcusa.org/page/kits/#bucket>

Individual Items

Some specific items are also needed to finish assembling buckets at the warehouse:

- Laundry detergent
- Sturdy non-latex dish gloves
- Disinfectant cleaner (no spray bottles or aerosol)
- Work gloves
- Dish soap
- Heavy duty black trash bags

Mississippi Disaster Fund

A St. Andrew Presbytery fund designated for use in the State of Mississippi. Give online at https://www.paypal.com/donate?token=QR7Bpz4ZQqkivKMRyF9FAPzb_TgK-VcAvDTG1246xmialkkYpPYYY3QAxdrCyoFJTH4VMXBZIW2jXwY

Or mail to:

24 CR 231, Oxford, MS 38655 with "MS Disaster Fund" in the memo line.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Support our denomination's nationwide hurricane relief efforts by giving online, by phone, or by mail. Find all the details at <https://bit.ly/3yfv8ck>

Bring buckets and other donations to the Presbytery meeting at Camp Hopewell on OCTOBER 12

or drop them off at the Presbytery office by OCTOBER 19

MISSION FUNDRAISER: Family Photography Weekend

Faith Riley Photography Mini Sessions
Friday & Saturday, October 29-30 • \$75

Proceeds go to Good Samaritan Free Clinic

Participants sign up for 15-minute slots
at The Thomas Barn on Jackson Street and receive
a portfolio of 10-15 pictures to choose from.
Sitting fee includes 3 PDF images.

An estimated 2-3 week
turn around on the
images will allow families
to use the photographs
for Christmas cards
or order prints for
Christmas gifts.

Church members,
friends and family are
invited to participate.



FaithBuild
2021



Northeast Mississippi
Habitat
for Humanity®

Tuesdays or Saturdays
7:30 am - 2:30 pm
1114 Evelyn Dr. Tupelo

Register at
nemshabitat.com/get-involved
662.842.4675

SIGN UP TO
VOLUNTEER



First
Presbyterian
Church

putting
God's love
into action



Meet Future Homeowner, Lisa Richey

Lisa Richey is the proud mother of 2 daughters and 1 granddaughter. Daughter Shari, is an LPN at Cedars and also studying to be a Registered Nurse. Her daughter, Jasmine, is a 1st year medical school student at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson. Her granddaughter, Gabby, is a 6th grader at Guntown Middle School.

Lisa has been with the Hardee's Restaurant Company for nearly 19 years and is the Assistant Manager at the Verona location, working the 4am-3pm shift. She and her family currently live with her mother. The FaithBuild 2021 build will be home to Lisa, Shari and Gabby.

A friend told Lisa about NEMS Habitat for Humanity's homeownership program and after applying twice, she was finally accepted. Lisa diligently participated in financial education courses, homeownership workshops, and completed 200 sweat equity hours by helping to build homes for other homeowners in the program. She is so excited to finally see the preparation work being done on her property and to own a home of her very own at an affordable mortgage.

To her FaithBuild 2021 sponsors and volunteers, Lisa says "This home will be a true blessing. Thank you for making this commitment to my family. I can't wait for that first night in my very own home and the peaceful sleep I'll have!"