

Morning Worship Service

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 20, 2022

9:00 & 11:00 A.M.

The purpose of this sermon is to consider Jesus' radical command to his disciples to love our enemies, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who abuse you.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNs AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Fred Bock

INTROIT

Now Let Us All Praise God and Sing

Gordon Young

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us.

People: Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the peoples praise thee.

Leader: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for God judges the people with equity and guides the nations upon the earth.

People: Let the peoples praise thee, O God; let all the peoples praise thee. Come, let us worship God in spirit and truth.

*HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 263

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

PRAYER OF APPROACH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: O God of compassion: lead us to love our enemies. We are such children of flesh that we love only those who love us. Show us the better way of Your kingdom and Spirit, through Jesus our Lord, who gave his life for many and 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.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Leader: Jesus invites us all to, "Come to me, all you who labor and are heavily burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Let us ask God to forgive us. Join me as we pray,

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Heavenly Father, we confess before You the willfulness of our hearts, and the shortcomings of our lives. Forgive us the pain and hurt we have caused others by our shortness of temper and sharpness of tongue. Forgive us our quickness to judge and our slowness to understand, our quickness to anger and our hesitancy to forgive. Forgive us our lack of concern for the needs of others, and our intense desire and love for material things. Pardon us of all sins we pray, and enable us to walk in new paths of light and love through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the Good News! For our faith in Him, Christ will transform our lives to reflect the hope and glory of His promised new life. Friends believe and proclaim, in word and deed, the Good News!

People: 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.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Melissa McDuffie

ANTHEM

Arise, O God, and Shine

arr. Mack Wilberg

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Luke 6:27-38](#)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Kingdom Principles

Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)

The Apostles’ 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 388

O Jesus, I Have Promised

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Albin Whitworth

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 Flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Rachel Cranes, Ruth Sandifer, and Blanche Strain.

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.

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, you can hear the service over speakers in McFadden Hall (directly behind the Sanctuary).

The service is live streamed and available for viewing on YouTube.com by those unable to be with us this morning. Search [firstprestupelo](http://firstprestupelo.org). We also invite you to visit our website at www.firstprestupelo.org.

Leading the Worship Service Today: Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd, Melissa McDuffie, Dr. Bob Taylor, Dr. Ray Harris

Liturgist: 9:00-Trey Leeke; 11:00-Andy Crotwell

Greeters: 9:00- Jimmy Crockett, Judy Griffie

11:00-Robin & Cindy Faucette, Vivian Fleming

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

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today we welcome to our pulpit The Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd, our stated supply pastor. Dr. Todd did his undergraduate studies at Rhodes College, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Religion. He attended Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia, where he earned a Doctor of Ministry degree.

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting to be held Sunday, February 27, at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. The meeting will be held to conduct the following business: 1) Annual Congregational Meeting with committee reports; 2) Elect the Slate of Elders for the Class of 2025: Chris Rogers, Richard Hastings, Glenn Thomas, Mary Stubbs, Lucy Nash, Presly Wallace, and Trey Leeke; 3) Elect the Elder Nominating Committee that will be comprised of three session members and four at-large members from the congregation (Please have prior approval from the person(s) you nominate that they will serve.); 4) Dissolve the Pastoral Relationship with Rev. Dr. Olin W. McBride and First Presbyterian Church, Tupelo, MS effective Friday, February 25, 2022.—*Lisa Nichols, Clerk of Session*

Be sure to join church friends and our visitors at 5:30 P.M. for supper in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, February 23. The menu: Presly's Pulled Smoked Pork, Baked Beans, Finney's Potato Salad, Chicken Tenders, Homestyle Green Beans, Corn on the Cob, Corn Spoon Bread, Rolls, Full Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Lemon Crunch, Chocolate Delight, Pound Cake with Strawberries, Chocolate Chip Cookies, and Ice Cream. Sign up by Noon on Wednesday by using the link in Friday's newsletter, calling the church office at 662-842-5681, or emailing frontdesk@firstprestupelo.org.

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Cancer Treatments: Sam Pace, Julie Seiler, Mike Thomas

Homebound: Bob Batte, Mike Black, Bobbye Carsten

College Students: Emma Kantack, Bennett Mark, Eli Martin

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

9:00 A.M.: 42

11:00 A.M.: 92

STEWARSHIP UPDATE

Weekly Budget: \$16,837

YTD Budgeted Income: \$153,132

Amount Received 2/13/22: \$9,128

YTD Income Received: \$312,958

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP AND WORK

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20

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, FEBRUARY 21

11:30 A.M. Friends' Lunch, Weezie's
2:30 P.M. Mah-Jongg, Library
6:00 P.M. Session Meeting
7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

5:30 P.M. Supper, Fellowship Hall
6:00 P.M. Adam Hamilton study for adults
Faithbuilders
Youth

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

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

THE SESSION

Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd, Moderator
Clerk of the Session, Lisa Nichols

Class of 2022

Steve Bryson
Anne Marie Littrell
Pete McMurry
Mary Pace
Buddy Stubbs
Virginia Toliver
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. Taylor Todd, Stated Supply 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