

Morning Worship Service

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 18, 2022

9:00 & 11:00 A.M.

The purpose of this sermon will be to encourage the congregation to be good stewards of the time, talents, and treasure God has placed in our care.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* Dale Wood

INTROIT *How Can I Keep From Singing?* Robert Lowry
arr. Alan Bullard

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 105:1-6

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name, make known His deeds among the peoples.

People: Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; tell of all His wonderful works.

Leader: Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

People: Seek the Lord and His strength; seek His presence continually.

Leader: Remember the wonderful works He has done, His miracles, and the judgments He uttered, O offspring of His servant Abraham, children of Jacob, His chosen ones.

People: Come, let us worship God as we give thanks to the Lord and call upon His name.

HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 482 *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

PRAYER OF APPROACH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER
Leader: Almighty God, who pours out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and supplication; Deliver us, when we draw near to You, from coldness of heart and wanderings of minds, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship You in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who encouraged his disciples to pray, and who taught us this prayer we raise up with one voice praying...

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.

CALL TO CONFESSiON

Sisters and brothers, all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. We did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but we have received a spirit of adoption. Let us then confess our sin with the freedom of children who know how deeply they are loved.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSiON

God of our salvation, in Christ Jesus You show us Your fullness of grace, beauty, and truth. Yet we are distracted by many things, while we neglect the one thing needful – to know Christ and to love and serve him. Forgive us for turning away from the One through whom You seek and save the lost. Pour out Your Spirit upon us that we may know Christ more fully and be made ambassadors of the good news that, in Christ, You give the world a sure hope. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Apostle Paul writes, “If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in Your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” John writes, “If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” Friends, be comforted in knowing in Christ Jesus our sins have been forgiven. 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.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

ANTHem

The Ninety and Nine

Craig Courtney

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Luke 16:1-15](#)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

A Stewardship Sermon

Rev. Dr. Taylor Todd

UNISON PROFESSION OF FAITH

The good news of the Gospel is that the triune God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – creates, redeems, sustains, rules, and transforms all things and all people. This one living God, the Scriptures say, liberated the people of Israel from oppression and covenanted to be their God. By the power of the Spirit, this one living God is incarnate in Jesus Christ, who came to live in the world, die for the world, and be raised again to new life. The Gospel of Jesus Christ announces the nearness of God’s kingdom, bringing good news to all who are

impoverished, sight to all who are blind, freedom to all who are oppressed, and proclaiming the Lord's favor upon all creation. (The Foundations of Presbyterian Polity, F-1.01, paragraph A)

HYMN OF AFFIRMATION NO. 171

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING

What an honor and privilege it is to come before God and offer to Him our various gifts and offerings. As we do so, let us give with a generous and cheerful heart.

OFFERTORY

O God, Thou Faithful God

Max Reger

*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

Fostered by Your tender care and secure in the haven of Your redeeming love, we are emboldened to approach You, O God, with our offering this morning. May it be used to bring refuge to the aimless, deliverance to the captives, and protection to all who call on Your name. For we bring them in Christ's name, our source of salvation. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 387 *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Rigaudon

Andre Campra

*Congregation standing as able.

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP AND WORK

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

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, SEPTEMBER 19

11:30 A.M. Friends Lunch, Weezie's

2:30 P.M. CASA

5:00 P.M. Steering Committee

6:00 P.M. Session Meeting

7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

9:00 A.M. T'ai Chi Chih
10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting
2:30 P.M. CASA
4:30 P.M. FPC provides supper for Salvation Army
7:00 P.M. A.A. Meeting

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

2:30 P.M. CASA
3:00 P.M. Mah Jongg, Stewart Clayton Room
5:30 P.M. Supper, Fellowship Hall
6:00 P.M. Adults, Faithbuilders & Youth
7:00 P.M. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

8:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast, Hilton Garden Inn
2:30 P.M. CASA

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

12:00 P.M. A.A. Meeting
2:30 P.M. CASA

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

Large print bulletins and hymnals are available from the ushers. You may also view the bulletin by visiting our website at www.firstprestupelo.org. See the "Bulletin" link at the top of the homepage.

The Flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the glory of God and in memory of Annie Ruth England, Grace Hall, and Jan and Charles Kirk.

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).

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.

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 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. Taylor Todd, Dr. Bob Taylor, Dr. Ray Harris

Liturgist: 9:00-Lori Dickerson; 11:00-Andy Crotwell

Greeters: 9:00-Edna Sue & George White, Nancy Brown & Jimmy Milam

11:00-Teresa & Kirk Biddle, Judy Billups, Judy Thomas

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us this Wednesday for "AMA!" This is your chance to "Ask Me Anything" as our very own Taylor Todd takes the hot seat and answers questions that you have wondered about for years (or maybe not quite so long!). You are invited to submit your questions through email at mcduffieme18@gmail.com, text at 662-871-2046, or anonymously by writing them on a paper and leaving it in Melissa's box in the office. Question topics can include faith, theology, the Bible, and anything in between. There is no such thing as a stupid question and nothing is "off limits!" Hope to see you then!

Supper begins at 5:30 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday. The menu: Chicken Spaghetti, Chicken Tenders, Homestyle Green Beans, Cheesy Potato Casserole, Sautéed Vegetable Medley, Rolls, Full Salad Bar, Fresh Fruit, Lemon Crunch, Strawberry Shortcake, Chocolate Delight, 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.

The State Hospital is looking for used books to stock the patient library. If you have any books that you have previously perused and placed on that dusty shelf, please bring them to Melissa's office at the church or call Lori Dickerson at (662) 213-0005, and she will pick them up.

We are providing supper at the Salvation Army from 4:30 P.M. until 5:00 P.M. on Tuesday, September 20. We need some additional desserts for this meal! Please bring brownies, cookies or cakes to the church kitchen before 4:00 P.M. on that day. This is a great volunteer opportunity!

SAVE THE DATE! Fall Festival returns to FPC on Wednesday, October 26, from 5:30 until 7:00 P.M. Family fun for all ages, with a cake walk, games, and a costume contest. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be served!

We need cakes! All types of cakes are needed for the Fall Festival. If you are able to contribute a cake, please see the signup information on the bulletin board near the kitchen.

Meals on Wheels is having a yard sale from Wednesday, September 28 through Friday, September 30 at Traceway Manor in Tupelo. If you would like to donate items or if you would like more information, please call Ashley McDaniel at 662-231-1614.

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

Cancer Treatments: Mollie Gratz, Sam Pace, Julie Seiler
Homebound: Grace Stamps, Annette Thornton, Bob Batte
College Students: Jon Timothy Posey, Ross Reeder, Lilee Rose
Service Members: Patrick Hastings, Andrew Ray

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Weekly Budget: \$16,837	Amount Received 9/11/22: \$5,172
YTD Budgeted Income: \$689,096	YTD Income Received: \$696,788

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 9:00 A.M.: 42 11:00 A.M.: 88

THE SESSION

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

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
Charles Reece

Class of 2025
Richard Hastings
Trey Leeke
Lucy Nash
Chris Rogers
Mary Stubbs
Glenn Thomas
Presly Wallace

First Presbyterian Church Staff

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

MISSION FUNDRAISER: *Family Photography Weekend*

Faith Riley Photography Mini Sessions
Friday & Saturday, September 23 & 24 • \$100

Proceeds go to Good Samaritan Free Clinic

Participants sign up for 15-minute slots at the home of Bill & Doyce Deas, 645 Highland Circle, 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.



[Register Here for a Photo Session!](#)

ASK me ANYTHING

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