

Morning Worship Service

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 10, 2021

9:00 & 11:00 A.M.

"Sticks and stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me." Is that true?

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE

Arioso

J. S. Bach

INTROIT

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Joseph Barnby

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Inspired by James 3, Mark 9:33-37)

Leader: We come here today not because we are clever,
but because God welcomes the slow learners.

**People: We come here not because we are wise,
but because God loves us in spite of our folly.**

Leader: We come knowing that the greatest persons will be found
among those who humbly serve like Jesus did
and that the brightest ideas and the deepest truth will come
from those who see themselves as little children in Christ's school.

**People: O Lord, open up our mind and our hearts
and enable our lives to declare your praise.**

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

Haley Ray

PRAYER OF APPROACH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Christ Jesus, we come into your presence from many different places.

We come with songs of joy and shouts of gratitude.

We come carrying heavy burdens and sighs of suffering.

As you welcome us into your house, lift our burdens and receive our praise.

Salt us with your grace and flavor us with your mercy.

Bind us together, that we may be at peace with one another
and be strengthened to go forth in service to the world.

We pray in the name of your Son our Savior, 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.**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Leader: We've tried to stop, haven't we? All the foolishness which causes us to stumble, all the mistakes which hurt others, all the words of peace we might speak, but don't. Let us join our voices as we open our souls to that tender Heart who longs to forgive us, praying,

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

People: When sin and death hover around us like famished vultures,

you fill us with new strength so they cannot feed on us;

when our bitterness clamps tight around our heart with its steel-like teeth, you pry us loose with your scarred hands so we might walk in faith with you;

when we stack our hurts one on top of another like kindling wood, ready to set the match of our anger to the pile, you pour your spirit of forgiveness upon them until they are soaked so thoroughly, nothing can ignite them.

Our help, our hope, our life, our peace are truly found in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. (Pause for reflection and meditation) Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The good news is this:
God loves the world so much as to make it a fit place to live;
God loves us so much as to reshape us into people of faith.

People: Like a cup of cold water, forgiveness revives us, restores us, gives us new life. Thanks be to God, we are 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.

ANTHEM

It is Well With My Soul

arr. Bob Krogstad

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[James 3:1-12](#)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Four-Way Test

Rev. Dr. Olin McBride

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 NO. 357

O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Psalm 19

Benedetto Marcello

*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.

Nursery care is available for newborns through 4-year-olds. Please ask an usher for directions to the nursery if you are visiting for the first time.

After the children's sermon, pre-kindergarteners through second graders 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 Flowers are placed in the sanctuary today to the glory of God and in memory of Frances and Ernest Joyner by Frances and Dan Brasfield.

Please remember to dedicate your offering this morning. Field Thomas made two beautiful offering plate stands that 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.

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.: Rud Robison

Greeters: 9:00 A.M.: Bill Dickerson, Edna Sue White, George White

11:00 A.M.: Judy Billups, Judy Thomas, Bonnie Williford

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.

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP AND WORK

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10

- 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](#)
12:00 P.M. P & G Meeting, Session Room
5:30 P.M. Youth

MONDAY, OCTOBER 11

- 9:30 A.M. Circle 2, Fellowship Hall
2:30 P.M. Mah-Jongg, Library
5:00 P.M. Administrative Committee, McFadden Hall
5:15 P.M. Christian Education Committee, Session Room
Congregational Care Committee, Guatemala Room
5:30 P.M. Outreach/Missions Committee, Jr. High Room
Worship Committee, Bolton Brotherhood Room (110)
6:30 P.M. Fellowship Committee, Sheffield Room (111)
7:00 P.M. Boy Scouts

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12

- 9:00 A.M. T'ai Chi Chih
9:30 A.M. St. Andrew Presbytery Meeting, Camp Hopewell
12:00 P.M. Circle 4, Fellowship Hall
7:00 P.M. A.A. Meeting

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13

- 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 14

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

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15

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

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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. We hope to complete the house by mid-November. For more information, contact Chauncey Godwin at 662-791-9345 or email hbhtupelo@bellsouth.net.

The Fall Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of St. Andrew begins at 9:30 A.M. on Tuesday, October 12 at Camp Hopewell.

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.

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, professional 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>.

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 13. Our menu: Connie's Chicken Tenders, Chicken & Wild Rice Casserole, Homestyle Green Beans, Sautéed Vegetables, Orange Congealed Salad, Homemade Rolls, Fresh Fruit, Individual Salads, Chocolate Chunk Cookies, Ice Cream, Chocolate Chip Pound Cake, and Lemon Crunch. 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.

Wednesday Night program information: Cherubs (3-year-olds through Kindergarten), Faithbuilders (1st through 5th grade) and Youth all begin at 6:00 P.M. Everyone else—join us in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 P.M. as we begin 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.

PRAYERS FOR THIS WEEK

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

Homebound: Annette Thornton, Bob Batte, Mike Black

College Students: Carli Hillhouse, Emma Kantack, Bennett Mark

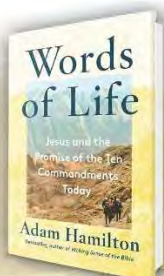
ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

In-Person Worship Services: 9:00 - 42 11:00 - 84

YouTube Streaming Service Views as of 10/7/2021: 76

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 Gumtree Bookstore, [Amazon](#) or [Barnes & Noble](#).

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=QR7Bpz4ZQqklvKMRyF9FEAPzb_Tgk-VcAvDTG1246xmtalkkYpPYY3QAxdrcYofJTH4VMXB2IW2jxwI
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

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 Bureson
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



FaithBuild
2021

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!"

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!

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.

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.



