



# J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

## BAPTISM OF THE LORD

January 8, 2023 • 10:30 AM

### Gathering

#### Welcome and announcements

#### Prelude

#### Introit

#### \*Call to worship

O sing to the Lord a new song;  
**sing to the Lord, all the earth!**

Sing to the Lord, bless his name.

**Tell of his salvation from day to day.**

Declare his glory among the nations,  
**his marvelous works among all the peoples!**

#### \*Hymn no. 29

*O Worship the King*

LYONS

#### Call to confession

Let us be bold and confess our sins, for God is gracious and always ready to forgive.

#### Prayer of confession

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us part of the body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves, separated from one another. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another. We allow the past to hold us captive. In your loving-kindness, have mercy on us, and free us from sin. Fulfill the promises of our baptism so that we may rise to new life, and live together in peace. Amen.

#### Declaration of forgiveness

God forgives all our sins and promises to bring us to everlasting life. **Thanks be to God!**

### The Word

#### Anthem

*The Gift of Love*

*American folk tune*

#### Prayer for illumination

O God, you speak to your people in all generations. As these words from Scripture are read, may it be to us as if the heavens are opening, and we see your Spirit descending on us like a dove, revealing your love for us as your daughters and sons. **Amen.**

**Scripture:** *Isaiah 42:1-9; 1 Peter 5:1-5; Matthew 3:13-17*

#### Sermon

*White Paraments on a Red-Letter Day*

*the Rev. Dr. John Dudley*

#### \*Affirmation of Faith

*The Apostles' Creed*

*Hymnal, p. 14*

#### \*Gloria Patri

*Glory Be to the Father*

*Hymn no. 805*

#### \*Hymn no. 115

*Fairest Lord Jesus*

CRUSADER'S HYMN

#### Ordination and installation of ruling elders

Tommy Brock

Linda Miller

Watkins "Noggin" Wild

#### Invitation to the offering

God gives us not only physical life but also life that is life indeed: life born of repentance, forgiveness, and resurrection. Therefore, with generous hearts, let us give back a portion of what has already been given to us in our baptismal covenant with God and with each other.

#### Offertory

*Jesus Shall Reign*

*arr. Cindy Berry*

#### \*Doxology

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

*Hymn no. 809*

#### \*Prayer of thanksgiving

Though we are least among the saints, o God, still you have given us the gift of your grace that we might share with others the boundless riches of Christ, and also the resources we hold in trust. Receive now, we ask, what we have given today. Use these offerings and use us for your plans and purposes. We pray in Christ's name. **Amen.**

#### Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

### Sending

#### \*Hymn no. 433

*Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life*

GERMANY

## Charge and blessing

God shows no partiality between people according to class, color, or country but accepts people of all backgrounds who love God and do what is right. Go in peace and do likewise. May the God who called Jesus “beloved” speak blessing to you, beloved sons and daughters, and empower you to bring that good news to others who still need to hear it.

## Postlude

*Wade in the Water*

*arr. Mark Hayes*

*\*Please stand as you are able*

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## Announcements

**Record from last week (01/01/23)**

*Attendance 43*

*Offering \$3,771*

## This Week at J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian

Tuesday 11:30 AM Presbyterian Women (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday 7:15 AM Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)

NOTE: **No** choir practice this week. Practice will resume on Tuesday, January 17, at 5:00 PM.

## Welcome to worship!

All who worship here are joyfully welcomed into our midst! To visitors, we offer a special hand of fellowship and invite you to join us again soon; please fill out the blue card in your pew and place in the offering plate.

## Welcome to the Reverend Dr. John Dudley

Rev. Dr. John Dudley has served as a Presbyterian minister for fifty years. For the past forty-six years he has carried out his ministry as a member of the Presbytery of Mississippi. In addition to his work as a pastor, he has taught mathematics at the University of Southern Mississippi for many years. John and his wife Cathy celebrated their fifty-sixth wedding anniversary last year.

## Vision 2023 (adopted by Session on December 11, 2022)

***Believe in Me and grow our church together in 2023.*** In 2023, we shall regularly reach out to inactive members, encouraging them to renew participation in the life of JJWMP. We shall also increase visibility through social media and community involvement that encourages others to join our membership. This will include promotion of church facilities as a destination for appropriate community events, with special emphasis on attracting young adults and youth. In doing so, we shall be widely recognized as a vibrant, welcoming church family that loves the Lord and one another. These initiatives will serve to grow membership and double attendance by year end, 2023.

## Reminder of God's call to stewardship

***Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms (1 Peter 4:10).*** Please submit your 2023 stewardship pledge card to the church office. Thank you to everyone who has already done so, as it greatly helps the church in planning the year's budget. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with Dennis Ross, 2023 Stewardship chairman.

## Meals for the hungry

J.J. White coordinates a program to provide meals to the hungry in our community. The participating churches are J.J. White Memorial, Centenary, and the Church of the Mediator. Please contact Melisa DeCoux, program director, if you can help.

## Session

The 2023 Session members are “Noggin” Wild (clerk of session), Tommy Brock, Melisa DeCoux, Suzi Drummond, Linda Miller, Whitney Rawlings, Dennis Ross, Randy White, and Rusty Whittington. Thank you, all Session members, for your faithful leadership of J.J. White, and also to the retiring class of 2020-22.

## Sanctuary flowers

Today's sanctuary flowers are provided by Wayne Hutchison in honor of Ally Allred, Vicki Craghead, Melisa DeCoux, and Sara Williams. The sign-up sheet for providing flowers in our sanctuary during 2023 is available on the front pew. If you have questions, please see Carol Rawlings.

## Presbyterian Women

All women are cordially invited to celebrate food, fellowship, and faith at 11:30 AM this Tuesday. Please contact Sarah Ross with any questions.

## New Bible study starting!

Everyone is invited to join a new read-through of the entire Bible in a year, with weekly reading plans and discussion. Please contact Robbie DeCoux at (601) 341-0314 if you are interested.

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## *J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church*

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