



J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 29, 2023 • 10:30 AM

Gathering

Welcome and announcements

Carol Rawlings

Prelude *There's Something about that Name/Jesus, Name Above all Names (medley) Gaither/Hearn*

*Call to worship

What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God?

*Hymn no. 98

Majesty, Worship His Majesty

MAJESTY

Call to confession

Let us confess our sins, for the Holy One delights in blessing those who seek to walk with God.

Prayer of confession

God, we have not done what is blameless and right, nor spoken truth from the heart with love. We do not keep your word, and when we participate in gossip our words and deeds cause pain. Forgive us by the power of your mercy, that we might stand in the goodness of Christ and walk in the light of his love. Amen.

Declaration of forgiveness

Sisters and brothers, your sins are forgiven by the faith of Christ, who chose love over hatred and forgiveness over blame. Rejoice and be glad, for God's mercy is great; Jesus brings healing, justice, and peace. **Thanks be to God!**

The Word

Music

How Great Thou Art

arr. Lancaster/Foxx

Prayer for illumination

Holy God, your blessings are abundant, and your wisdom exceeds our grasp. Fill us with your Spirit as we hear your word this day, that we may be justice-seekers and peacemakers, sharing your life among those who are forgotten, weak or persecuted, and revealing to all your glory. **Amen.**

Scripture: *Micah 6:1-8*

Sermon

What is Required?

the Reverend Chris Richardson

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

Hymnal, p. 14

*Gloria Patri

Glory Be to the Father

Hymn no. 805

*Hymn no. 101

My Jesus, I Love Thee

GORDON

Invitation to the offering

With what shall we come before the Lord this day? We come with a love of justice and a passion for sharing Christ's love. Let us walk in humble gratitude, offering to God a portion of the gifts that God freely shares with us, gifts for the healing of the world.

Offertory

God is Love

Peterson

*Doxology

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Hymn no. 809

*Prayer of thanksgiving

We thank you, God, that you have blessed us with an abundance of gifts for the flourishing of your world. May this offering of our life and labor reveal your love as we seek to share your promised reign with all creation. **Amen.**

Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

Sending

*Hymn no. 309

Wonderful Words of Life

WORDS OF LIFE

Charge and blessing

In the spirit of the beatitudes, commit to leading a life of blessing, living in compassion, simplicity and peace.

May Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine brightly on your path as you walk the way of justice and peace. And the blessing of God – the Creator, Healer, and Giver of Life – bless you and keep you always.

Postlude

He Touched Me

Gaither

**Please stand as you are able*

Announcements

Record from last week (01/22/23)

Attendance • 52

Offering • \$2,440

This week at J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian

Wednesday

7:15 AM

Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)

NOTE: No choir rehearsal this week. Rehearsal resumes on Tuesday, February 7, at 5:00 PM.

Upcoming events

Sunday, 2/5	Scout Sunday , Troop 124; led by the Rev. Amy Finkelberg
Sunday, 2/12	Led by the Rev. Chris Richardson; Souper Bowl Sunday (Fellowship Hall)
Tuesday, 2/14	Presbyterian Women (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday, 2/19	Communion , led by the Rev. Chris Richardson; Session meeting
Wednesday, 2/22	Ash Wednesday
Sunday, 2/26	Girl Scout Sunday , J.J. White Girl Scouts; led by the Rev. Chris Richardson

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 Chris Richardson

Rev. Chris Richardson works part-time as a chaplain for Hospice Ministries and is an elder in full connection in the United Methodist Church. She is a graduate of Duke Divinity School. Chris has lived in Pike County since marrying husband Kevin in 2004. They have three children: Colin, Brooke, and Emma.

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 JJWMPC. 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

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you (Luke 6:38). Thank you to all who have already submitted 2023 pledge cards, greatly helping the church plan the year's budget. Please speak with Dennis Ross, 2023 Stewardship chairman, with any questions or concerns.

Tea party for the Moaks

Please join us for a tea party in honor of June and Carl Moak following worship today. Though sad for their departure, we happily celebrate the over half-century they have spent in our community.

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.

MICA needs

McComb Interdenominational Care Association (MICA) especially needs dried beans and spaghetti sauce to feed our community's hungry. Please bring contributions to the church or to MICA.

Donations for mission partner

At Souper Bowl Sunday (February 12), we will collect donations for our mission partner, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. PDA's motto *Out of Chaos, Hope* reminds us of the many needs from disaster survivors throughout the world. Seek God's presence on their behalf with your gifts and prayers.

Session

Watkins "Noggin" Wild, Clerk of Session • Wayne Hutchison, Treasurer

Class of 2023

Dennis Ross
Randy White
Rusty Whittington

Class of 2024

Melisa DeCoux
Suzi Drummond
Whitney Rawlings

Class of 2025

Tommy Brock
Linda Miller
Noggin Wild

Sanctuary flowers

Today's sanctuary flowers are provided by Sue Nunnery Reeves to the glory of God and in memory of Dr. Jack L. Nunnery and Col. Robert S. Reeves. The sign-up sheet for providing flowers in our sanctuary is available on the front pew. If you have questions, please see Carol Rawlings.

Lectionary readings and questions for reflection

The full list of this week's scripture readings includes: Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12. How do we live in a reality we cannot yet see? Where in the church's life of prayer and service do you see instances of God's justice, peace, and healing? Then give thanks, and ask God, *Where am I being called to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly in the ordinary course of my day?*

J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

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