



J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 16, 2023 • 10:30 AM

Gathering

Welcome and announcements

Whitney Rawlings

Prelude

We Fall Down

Chris Tomlin

Introit

There is a Redeemer

arr. Benjamin Harlan

***Call to worship**

Blessed be the God of our savior, Jesus Christ!

God has given us a new birth in the living hope of the resurrection.

God has given us an inheritance that is imperishable and unfading.

In this we rejoice, even when we suffer trials.

For although we have not seen Jesus, we love him; and although we have not seen him, we believe in him.

For the outcome of our faith is the salvation of our souls.

***Hymn no. 612**

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

Call to confession

God has made known to us in deeds of power, signs, and wonders, and will not abandon us if we confess the truth about our lives.

Prayer of confession

God, you have made known to us the ways of life. Yet, too often, we put other things above you and turn away from the ways of life and toward the ways of death. Forgive us and guide us back into your presence, that we may know the fulness of joy. Amen.

Declaration of forgiveness

My friends, God is our refuge and will not abandon us. In Jesus Christ, we are reconciled to God. That is a promise of peace and joy; share that peace with one another. **Thanks be to God!**

The Word

Anthem

The Gift of Love

arr. Hal Hopson

Prayer for illumination

Guiding God, send your Holy Spirit upon the reading of your Word that it may serve to show us the path of life and lead us into your presence where there is fulness of joy. **Amen.**

Scriptures: *Exodus 17:1-7; Romans 5:1-11*

Sermon

WE

the Reverend Joe Pack Arnold

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Apostles' Creed

Hymnal, p. 14

***Gloria Patri**

Glory Be to the Father

Hymn no. 805

***Hymn no. 112**

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

ST. AGNES

Invitation to offering

Sisters and brothers, we have no good apart from God. Therefore let us keep God at the forefront of our minds and give generously from all that we have been given, that others may also receive from the fulness of God.

Offertory

It Is Well with My Soul

arr. John Turner

***Doxology**

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Hymn no. 809

***Prayer of thanksgiving**

Generous God, you are our portion and our cup. In you our hearts are glad, our souls rejoice, and our bodies rest. Bless and multiply our offerings and pledges that they may bring the joy of your presence more deeply into the world. **Amen.**

Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

Sending

***Hymn no. 227**

Rock of Ages, Clef for Me

TOPLADY

Charge and blessing

Trust and love the Christ you cannot see and let that bring you joy, for that faith will bring the salvation of your soul.

May the God who loves and resurrects us give you a goodly portion of the Holy Spirit and new birth into a living hope.

Postlude

He Is Exalted

arr. Tom Gerou and Victor Labenske

Announcements

Record from last week (04/09/23) Attendance • 109

Offering • \$8,805

This week at J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian

Monday	5:30 PM	Pastor Nominating Committee
Tuesday	5:00 PM	Choir rehearsal
Wednesday	7:15 AM	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)

Upcoming events

Sunday, 4/23	Led by the Rev. Chris Richardson; Session meeting at 2:00 PM
Wednesday, 4/26	Potluck dinner at 5:30 PM to celebrate April and 90+ birthdays (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday, 4/30	Led by the Rev. Dr. John Dudley; Congregational meeting following service
Sunday, 5/7	Led by the Rev. Chris Richardson
Sunday, 5/14	Led by the Rev. Chris Richardson
Sunday, 5/21	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 Joe Pack Arnold

Joe Pack Arnold is a native of Leland, MS, with roots in the southern part of the state, where his mother was born and lived for many years. A graduate of Rhodes College and Columbia Seminary, he also completed a residency in Clinical Pastoral Education. He has served churches in AL, GA, NC, and MS. Since 1977 he has also worked in mental health and addiction treatment as Psychiatric Chaplain, Administrator, and Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor in ID, AZ, SC, and MS. Retiring in 2009, he continues to work part-time as a Spiritual Coordinator at Pine Grove in Hattiesburg and is moderator of the session at Pineview Presbyterian Church.

Welcome to guest pianist

Hailing from McComb, Beverly Miller has a multi-generational heritage of being deeply involved with local churches and has 30+ years of personal experience as a church pianist. She also serves as pianist for weddings, funerals, and holiday events as well as teaching students weekly. Having music ingrained in her heart and knowing first-hand how transformative it can be for others leads Beverly to regularly serve others by sharing her talents. Welcome, Beverly, and thank you!

Congregational meeting

A congregational meeting will be held on **Sunday, April 30**, immediately following the morning worship service. The purpose of the meeting for the Session to present the church budget for 2023. The Reverend Dr. John Dudley will moderate.

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

We are foreigners and strangers in your sight, as were all our ancestors. Our days on earth are like a shadow, without hope. Lord our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a temple for your Holy Name comes from your hand, and all of it belongs to you. (1 Chronicles 29:15-16). Please speak with Dennis Ross, 2023 Stewardship chairman, with any questions or concerns.

Session

Watkins "Noggin" Wild, Clerk of Session • Wayne Hutchison, Treasurer		
Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Dennis Ross	Melisa DeCoux	Tommy Brock
Randy White	Suzi Drummond	Linda Miller
Rusty Whittington	Whitney Rawlings	Noggin Wild

Sanctuary flowers

Today's sanctuary flowers are provided by Kathy Parker in gratitude for the steadfast faith, love, and fellowship of this congregation.

Lectionary readings and questions for reflection

The complete list of this week's scripture readings is: Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31. According to the gospel, Christ's wounds were not erased by the resurrection. In fact, he invites Thomas and the other disciples to touch his wounds to bring the disciples back to faith. How might we in the church use our wounds to help others come to faith?

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