



J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

PROPER 15 • 12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 20, 2023 • 10:30 AM

Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

Tommy Brock

Prelude

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

arr. Tedd Smith

Introit

God Will Make a Way

Don Moen

*Call to Worship

God has forgiven us and drawn us close, **reconciling us through Jesus Christ**, who has lavished upon us **the fulness of the blessed Holy Spirit**.

With glad and grateful hearts, **praise the Lord!**

*Hymn No. 95 (vv. 1, 2, 4, 5)

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

CORONATION

Call to Confession

Let us confess our sins without fear to the One who yearns to embrace us, forgive us, protect us, and bless us.

Prayer of Confession

Have mercy on us, Lord Jesus; we are tormented! Our lives have been disrupted by the devil and by our own devilish desires and evil exploits. We are dismayed at your presence, anguished by the awful fallout of our own failures. We cannot take back what we have said or undo what we have done or atone for the agony we have caused. We are haunted by the past, plagued by the present, and fearful of the future. We shrink away from your gaze as strangers outside your circle of blessing.

Yet the faith you have planted in us reaches out for your favor, returns to your presence, and hungers for your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Word

Anthem

Bread of the World in Mercy Broken

LET US BREAK BREAD

Prayer for Illumination

Merciful Savior, your suffering has saved our lives, secured our future, and restored us to relationship with God. Remove the shame and fear that cause us to cower in your presence. By the power of your Spirit, open our eyes and hearts to your Word of love, mercy, healing, and blessing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Scripture: *Matthew 15:21-28*

Sermon

Crumbs

the Rev. Chris Richardson

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

Hymnal, p. 14

*Hymn No. 805

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX

*Hymn No. 776

Let Us Break Bread Together

LET US BREAK BREAD

†The sacrament of Holy Communion

Communion Insert

Invitation to the Offering

Christ has provided for us from his own table of blessings. Anointing and abundance overflows! Let us offer our gifts together from the bounty he has given.

Offertory

Something Beautiful

arr. Fred Bock

*Hymn No. 745 (vv. 1, 5)

Jesus Shall Reign

DUKE STREET

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious Lord, you have given us more mercy than we could imagine and more blessings than we deserve. Receive now these gifts as tokens of our gratitude to you, that your mercy may be multiplied and yours blessings abound to embrace all those in need. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Sending

Charge and Blessing

The gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. God has gifted you with forgiveness and graced you with reconciliation. Go now and share God's gifts with the distressed and estranged. Christ has called you close to him and healed you from torment. Go now and call others to receive Christ's mercy and healing.

The God who forgives, reconciles, heals, and blesses is with you today and forevermore.

Postlude

The Family of God

arr. Fred Bock

*Please stand as you are able

†Gluten-free communion bread available

Announcements

Record from Last Sunday

Attendance • 37

Offering • \$2,526

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, 8/27	Led by the Rev. Chris Richardson; MICA food collection	
Wednesday, 8/30	August birthday celebration at 5:30 PM	
Sunday, 9/3	Led by the Rev. Chris Richardson	
Sunday, 9/10	Led by the Rev. Chris Richardson	
Tuesday, 9/12	Women's Bible Study (PW), <i>Sacred Encounters</i> lesson 2 at 11:30 AM	
Sunday, 9/17	Led by the Rev. Chris Richardson	
Sunday, 9/24	Led by the Rev. Joe Pack Arnold; MICA collection, Congregational meeting	

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. 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.

August Birthday Celebration

Please join us in a potluck birthday celebration on **Wednesday, August 30**, at 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We will honor those with August birthdays, including Eileen Cato on the very special occasion of her 104th! The church will provide bread, salad, punch, and birthday cake; please bring your favorite appetizer/hors d'oeuvre (and a friend!) to share. Enjoy a light bite in a bright night!

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

Speak to the Levites and say to them: "When you receive from the Israelites the tithe I give you as your inheritance, you must present a tenth of that tithe as the Lord's offering" (Numbers 18:26). Please speak with Dennis Ross, 2023 Stewardship chairman, with any questions about your tithes or offerings.

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 Deb Richardson in loving memory of Bill Richardson.

Lectionary Readings and Questions for Reflection

The complete list of this week's scripture readings includes Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133; Romans 11:1-2a, 2-32; Matthew 15:10-28. Why do you think Jesus resister the Canaanite woman's request? How does this fit with your idea of Jesus' mercy and love? What changed his mind? How does this influence your faith in God? How can you use Jesus' example in your relationships to others around you?