



J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

PROPER 16 • 13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 27, 2023 • 10:30 AM

Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

Whitney Rawlings

Prelude

Immortal, Invisible

arr. Hal Leonard

Introit

God Will Make a Way

Don Moen

*Call to Worship

You, who are many, are transformed to become one in Christ.

We, who are many, are called to worship God, the Three in One.

Let us worship God.

*Hymn No. 634

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

Call to Confession

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Confident in this ever-gracious, never-failing help, we come before the Lord, confessing ours in and seeking forgiveness.

Prayer of Confession

Forgiving God, we confess that we are conformed to this world.

We conform to this world's frantic pace, too hectic to notice all the blessings you provide.

We conform to this world's reckless waste, exploiting what you entrust to our care.

We conform to this world's shallow values, oblivious to the giftedness of people different from us.

We conform to this world's impatient attitudes, preferring the latest instead of the lasting.

Forgive our conformity and transform us, O God. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Word

Ministry in Music

Great is Thy Faithfulness

arr. Kenneth Friedrich

Sarah Ross, *clarinet*

Prayer for Illumination

God of revelation, mere flesh and blood cannot reveal divine truth; only your Spirit can give that gift. Be in my breath and voice, be in our ears and understanding, that through these words your Word may be known. **Amen.**

Scripture: *Exodus 1:8-2:10*

Sermon

God's Provisions

the Rev. Chris Richardson

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

Hymnal, p. 14

*Hymn No. 805

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX

*Hymn No. 702

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

ST. THOMAS

Invitation to the Offering

Brothers and sisters, present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God. As an act of worship, let us now return to God our offering.

Offertory

God, You're So Good

arr. Larry Shackley

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Almighty God, you took a baby from the Nile and used him to lead your people to the promised land. Take our offerings and use them for your people in this land and throughout your world. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

*Hymn No. 112

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

ST. AGNES

Sending

Charge and Blessing

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed to live as the body of Christ to the world.

May the Lord who made heaven and earth, the Christ who lived and died for all, and the Spirit who renews our minds and hearts abide with you and all God's people, now and forever.

Postlude

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

arr. Edward Hodges

**Please stand as you are able*

Announcements

Record from Last Sunday

Attendance • 45

Offering • \$2,325

This Week at J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian

Monday	5:30 PM	Pastor Nominating Committee
Tuesday	No choir rehearsal this week; rehearsal resumes on Tuesday, 9/5	
Wednesday	7:15 AM	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
	5:30 PM	August birthday celebration (Fellowship Hall)

Upcoming Events

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 to elect Elders to class of 2026

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.

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!

August Birthday Celebration

Please join us in a potluck birthday celebration this **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.

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

[God said] "Will a mere mortal rob God? But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?' In tithes and offerings.... Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house.... I will pour out so much blessing that there won't be enough room to store it" (Malachi 3:6-9).

Please speak with Dennis Ross, 2023 Stewardship chairman, with any questions about your tithes.

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 James and Carol Cato in honor of Eileen Cato on her 104th birthday.

Lectionary Readings and Questions for Reflection

The complete list of this week's scripture readings includes Exodus 1:8-2:10; Psalm 124; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20. When have you succeeded in resisting the forces that seek to conform us to the world? How has that felt like "spiritual worship"? What are the ways you most readily answer Jesus' question: "Who do you say that I am?"

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Email jjwhitememorial@gmail.com • Web www.jjwhitememorial.org • Facebook [JJWhiteMPC](https://www.facebook.com/JJWhiteMPC)

Church office open **Monday – Friday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**