



J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

PROPER 19 • 16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 17, 2023 • 10:30 AM

Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Whitney Rawlings

arr. Mark Hayes

Introit

Sanctuary

arr. Lloyd Larson

*Call to Worship

Give praise to God!

Praise the Lord, for it is God who saves.

It is God who forgives; it is God who delivers.

Give thanks and praise to the Lord!

*Hymn No. 20 (vv. 1, 3)

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

ODE TO JOY

Call to Confession

Let us confess our sins to God who forgives and saves.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious and loving God, you lived for us – we have not lived for you. You have forgiven us – we have not forgiven others. You have loved us – we have not loved ourselves nor have we loved one another.

Take pity on us and forgive us, God. Help us to forgive. Help us to live for you. Help us to love through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Word

Anthem

I Stand Amazed in the Presence

arr. Stan Pethel

Prayer for Illumination

Holy God, your Word is strong and leads our feet to your holy dwelling place. Strengthen and guide us with your Word through the power of your Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Scripture: *Exodus 14:19-31*

Sermon

Between a Rock and a Hard Place

the Rev. Chris Richardson

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

Hymnal, p. 14

*Hymn No. 805 (Gloria Patri)

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX

*Hymn No. 92 (vv. 1, 4)

Crown Him with Many Crowns

DIADEMATA

†The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Communion Insert

Invitation to the Offering

God is unfailing in blessing and love. With thankful hearts, let us offer up to God a portion of what God has given us.

Offertory

How Great Is Our God

arr. Bill Wolaver

*Hymn No. 809 (Doxology)

Praise God from Whom All Blessings

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

O God, we thank you for these gifts. Multiply them, and enable the work of love and the righteousness of your kingdom in the world. We thank and praise you. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

*Hymn No. 509 (vv. 1, 2, 4)

O, How I Love Jesus

O, HOW I LOVE JESUS

Sending

Charge and Blessing

Walk in the strength and confidence that God guides your feet. Therefore live for God – show mercy and love one another.

May the God who protects and defends keep you in safety, mercy, and love. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit..

Postlude

He Is Exalted

arr. Mark Hayes

*Please stand as you are able

†Gluten-free communion bread available

Announcements

Record from Last Sunday

Attendance • 51

Offering • \$2,315

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, 9/24	Led by the Rev. Joe Pack Arnold; MICA collection, Congregational meeting	
Wednesday, 9/27	September birthday celebration (5:30 PM, Fellowship Hall)	
Sunday, 10/1	Led by the Rev. Chris Richardson, with Communion	<i>Exodus 16:2-15</i>
Sunday, 10/8	Led by the Rev. Chris Richardson	<i>Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20</i>
Tuesday, 10/10	Women's Bible Study (PW), <i>Sacred Encounters</i> , lesson 3	
Sunday, 10/15	Led by the Rev. Chris Richardson	<i>Exodus 32:1-14</i>
Sunday, 10/22	Led by the Rev. Chris Richardson	<i>Exodus 33:12-23</i>
Wednesday, 10/25	October birthday celebration	
Sunday, 10/29	Led by the Rev. Chris Richardson	<i>Deuteronomy 34:1-12</i>

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.

Congregational Meeting

Next Sunday, **September 24, 2023**, a Congregational Meeting will be held immediately following the morning worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to elect three Elders to serve on our Session through 2026. The Elder Nominating Committee has proposed a slate of nominees: Sam Daniel, Robbie DeCoux, and Sarah Ross.

September Birthdays Celebration

Please join us on **Wednesday, September 27, at 5:00 PM** in the Fellowship Hall to celebrate September birthdays. This month's theme is Mexican fiesta. The church will provide tacos and fajitas; please bring a dessert to share. ¡Feliz cumpleaños!

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

Now the law requires the descendants of Levi who become priests to collect a tenth from the people (Hebrews 7:5). 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 Stacey Moak in honor of his mother, Jeanie Moak, and his aunt, Sylvia Harris.

Lectionary Readings and Questions for Reflection

The complete list of this week's scripture readings includes Exodus 14:19-31; Psalm 114; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35. ***Forgiveness is a hard thing.*** When has someone forgiven you? Is there someone you need to forgive or ask forgiveness from?

J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

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