



J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

PROPER 20 • 17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 24, 2023 • 10:30 AM

Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

Whitney Rawlings

Prelude

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

arr. Mark Hayes

Introit

Sanctuary

arr. Lloyd Larson

*Call to Worship

O give thanks to the Lord! The Lord hears the cries of the people.

Give thanks to the Lord.

The works of the Lord are great. Remember what God has done.

Give thanks to the Lord.

God has done miracles, and the Lord always remembers God's covenant.

Give thanks to the Lord. Glory and praise is due to the Lord!

*Hymn No. 87

His Name Is Wonderful

MIEIR

Call to Confession

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbors.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we have sought after things, but we have not sought after you. We have expected generosity, but we have not shown generosity. We have not been gracious or grateful. We have failed to remember all that you have done.

Forgive us and fill our hearts with gratitude. Help us to share our gifts and strengthen our legs so that we can run after you, O God. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

The Word

Anthem

The Gift of Love

arr. Hal Hopson

Prayer for Illumination

Let the wisdom of your Word rain down on us like manna and feed us, that we may be strengthened to do the work to which we are called, for the glory and honor of your name. **Amen.**

Scriptures: *Exodus 16:2-15; Matthew 20:1-16*

Sermon

Punching the Clock

the Rev. Joe Pack Arnold

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

Hymnal, p. 14

*Hymn No. 805 (Gloria Patri)

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX

*Hymn No. 520

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

TRUST IN JESUS

Invitation to the Offering

Great is God's mercy toward us. Let us offer a portion of what God has given with humble and grateful hearts.

Offertory

I'd Rather Have Jesus

arr. Mark Hayes

*Hymn No. 809 (Doxology)

Praise God from Whom All Blessings

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord, giver of all good gifts, thank you for the resources gathered here. Use these gifts for the advancement of your kingdom; in Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

*Hymn No. 569 (v. 1)

Living for Jesus a Life That Is True

LIVING

Sending

Charge and Blessing

Rest in the knowledge that God always provides. Therefore give and love with a generous heart, for this honors God, who is most generous and loving.

Beloved, may God continue to bless and keep you. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Postlude

To God Be the Glory

arr. Carol Tornquist

**Please stand as you are able*

Announcements

Record from Last Sunday

Attendance • 41

Offering • \$6,242

This Week at J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian

TODAY	After worship	Congregational meeting to elect elders
Monday	5:30 PM	Pastor Nominating Committee
Tuesday	5:00 PM	Choir rehearsal
Wednesday	7:15 AM	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
	5:30 PM	September birthday celebration (Fellowship Hall)

Upcoming Events

Sunday, 10/1	Led by the Rev. Chris Richardson, with Communion	<i>Exodus 16:16-31</i>
Tuesday, 10/3	AED demonstrations at 3:00, 4:00, and 5:00 PM	
Wednesday, 10/4	AED demonstrations at 3:00, 4:00, and 5:00 PM	
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; MICA collection	<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 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.

Congregational Meeting

Immediately after today's worship service, a Congregational Meeting will be held 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 this **Wednesday, September 27, at 5:30 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!

AED Demonstrations

You're invited to a free automated external defibrillator (AED) demonstration at the church, given by Dr. Robbie DeCoux and Bonnie Hudon on October 3rd and 4th. Demonstrations will begin at 3:00, 4:00, and 5:00 PM, each lasting 30-45 minutes; you only need to attend one session. Please call Stephanie in the church office to sign up for a date and time; no one will be turned away. (You'll get a reminder the evening before your scheduled time.) All are encouraged to attend, particularly the youth. If you have any questions, please call Bonnie Hudon at (601) 810-7100.

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

One might even say that Levi, who collects the tenth, paid the tenth through Abraham, because ... the law requires the ... priests to collect a tenth from the people (Hebrews 7:9-10). 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 Lee Williams in loving memory of Griffin Robert Williams.

Lectionary Readings and Questions for Reflection

The complete list of this week's scripture readings includes Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Philippians 1:21-30. In the Matthew passage read today, what is the landowner's motivation for paying the workers the same wages? When has God provided for you?

J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

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