



J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

PROPER 28 • 25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 19, 2023 • 10:30 AM

Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

Whitney Rawlings

Prelude

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

arr. Mark Hayes

Introit

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

GIVE THANKS

*Call to Worship

Clothe yourselves with faith and love;

Be confident in your salvation in Christ Jesus.

The Lord is with us!

Let us worship God. Amen!

*Hymn No. 381 (vv. 1, 2, 4)

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

Call to Confession

God has not destined us for wrath, but for salvation in Jesus, who died for us. Confident in God's mercies, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you have shown us the ways of justice and nurtured us with love. Even so, we have not lived according to your will. When we are oppressed or unjustly accused, we cling to fear and forget to trust in your deliverance. When we are giddy with power and abuse the rights of others, we hold tight to our privilege and forget your laws.

Have mercy on us, Lord, for we are weak and prone to disobedience. Hear our confession, and respond to us with kindness, that we might turn to you again, walk in the light, and live in equity and peace; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

The Word

Anthem

A Thanksgiving Garden

Joseph M. Martin

Prayer for Illumination

Shine your light on your Word, O Lord; by your Spirit let us see your wonder. For your justice outruns our sense of fairness; your love overwhelms our deepest affections. Open our eyes, unstop our ears, and show us your most excellent way; for Jesus' sake. **Amen.**

Scripture: *Matthew 25:14-30; Psalm 90:1-8, 12*

Sermon

God's Talent Show

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. 353

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

†The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Communion Insert

Invitation to the Offering

God has entrusted us with a variety of gifts; let us return to the Lord a generous measure of our bounty with thanksgiving and praise.

Offertory

This Is My Father's World

arr. Dan Forrest

*Hymn No. 809 (Doxology)

Praise God from Whom All Blessings

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

For all that you are and all that you do, we give you thanks, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. We wait in hope for the coming of your realm and offer these gifts to further your kingdom on earth; in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

*Hymn No. 374 (vv. 1, 3)

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

Sending

Charge and Blessing

Encourage one another and build each other up, faithfully working together for the kingdom of God, as we await the day of Christ's coming.

May the God of creation work wonders in you by the power of the Holy Spirit, until we enter together the joy of our Master. Amen.

Postlude

Thankful

arr. Cindy Berry

*Please stand as you are able

†Gluten-free communion bread available

Announcements

Record from Last Sunday

Attendance • 51

Offering • \$3,942

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, 11/26	Led by the Rev. Jill Buckley; MICA food pantry collection	
Sunday, 12/3	Led by the Rev. Chris Richardson	<i>Mark 13:24-37</i>
Sunday, 12/10	Led by the Rev. Amy Finkelberg	
Tuesday, 12/12	Women's Bible Study (PW), special Christmas message @ 11:30 AM	
Sunday, 12/17	Led by the Rev. Chris Richardson	<i>Luke 1:26-38</i>
Sunday, 12/24	Led by the Rev. Chris Richardson; 10:30 AM and 6:00 PM services, both with Communion	<i>Luke 1:46-55</i>
Sunday, 12/31	Led by the Rev. Barron Banks; Congregational Meeting - installation of Elders 2026 class	

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.

Poinsettias for Advent

Following our usual tradition, during Advent we will display poinsettias in the church sanctuary. If you would like to honor someone, the poinsettia order forms are available. The deadline for ordering is December 4.

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

Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs (1 Timothy 6:9-10). Please speak with Dennis Ross, 2023 Stewardship chairman, with any questions about your tithes or offerings.

Session

Rev. Joan Gandy, Moderator • Watkins "Noggin" Wild, Clerk of Session • Wayne Hutchison, Treasurer		
Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Dennis Ross, <i>Stewardship</i>	Melisa DeCoux, <i>Christian Education</i>	Tommy Brock, <i>Fellowship/ Evangelism</i>
Randy White, <i>Property</i>	Suzi Drummond, <i>Government</i>	Linda Miller, <i>Congregational Care</i>
Rusty Whittington, <i>Mission</i>	Whitney Rawlings, <i>Worship</i>	Noggin Wild

Sanctuary Flowers

Today's sanctuary flowers are provided by Robbie and Andrea DeCoux to the glory of God and in loving memory of Libby Simo.

Lectionary Readings and Questions for Reflection

The complete list of this week's scripture includes Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30. If we believe in the kingdom to come, we need not fear, in life or in death. How does that change the way we live?

J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

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