

**J. J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church
McComb, Mississippi
The Service for the Lord's Day
Sunday, October 31, 2021, 11:00 am
Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
Reformation Sunday**

A Thought Before Worship

We gather to celebrate our heritage in faith today and to be both reformed and transformed by God's Living and Holy Word.

Welcome and Announcements

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude **"The Church's One Foundation"** **Berry**

***Call to Worship**

We gather to worship God and God alone!

To God alone be glory!

We gather as people who are Reformed and always Reforming,

Proclaiming the cornerstones of our faith.

We hold fast to Scripture alone, Christ alone,

Faith alone, grace alone, and glory always to God alone!

Let us worship God!

***Prayer for the Day**

Gracious and Loving God, our sole hope of salvation, teach us to put our trust in you, for you are our help. Teach us the paths of righteousness, and turn us from the ways of the wicked. Let us be signs that those who love you do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. We will forever give you praise through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***Hymn 43** **"A Mighty Fortress is Our God!"**

A Reading from the Psalter: Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help

it when the morning dawns. The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Come, behold the works of the Lord; see what desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. "Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in all the earth."

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

A Call to Confession

We believe that if we confess our sin, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive us our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Trusting in God's great mercy, let us confess our sin against God and against one another.

A Prayer of Confession

God of grace and mercy, we often say, and we try to believe, that we love you with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our strength, and with all our strength, but when we are honest about our lives, we confess that our hearts are weighed down by concerns that are not your concerns. We neglect the care of our souls. You rarely cross our minds, and our strength is depleted by things that have nothing to do with who you call us to be and what you call us to do. Forgive our sin, O God. Cleanse us. Renew us. Reform us. Make us ever new. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the One who died to set us free. Amen.

Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Friends, hear the Good News: We may not always keep our promises to God, but God's promises to us never fail. Rejoice and give thanks because In Jesus Christ, our sin is forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

Now may the peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you!

We Hear God's Word

A Prayer for Guidance as We Hear God's Word

Readings from God's Word

Old Testament: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Epistles: Romans 3:19-28

Sermon

"No Distinction"

the Rev. Bob Phelps

***An Affirmation of Faith from a Brief Statement of Faith for Presbyterians**

We trust in God the Holy Spirit everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church. Thanks be to God!

The *Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen! Amen!

***Hymn 502 “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”**

Offertory Sentence

Because we trust in the faithfulness and generosity of God, now we have opportunity to give generously to the work and ministry of the Church in the world. Let us give from grateful and generous hearts.

Offertory “Grace Greater Than Our Sin” McDonald

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him all creatures here below. Praise him above ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Prayers of the People --- Our Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

We Go in God’s Name

***Hymn 46 “My Tribute”**

***Benediction**

Now let us go from this place knowing that the love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit go with us, guiding us, carrying us, and reforming us today, tomorrow, and always.

***Charge**

Go in peace. Love and serve the Lord! Amen.

Postlude

“Trust and Obey”

Stewart

Welcome to Worship!

We are happy to welcome all who worship with us in the sanctuary today. We also welcome those who join us online and in print. We are especially glad to welcome visitors. Please join us again soon!

Church Picnic Thanks

Thanks to members of the Congregational Care and Fellowship Committee and all who helped make the Church Picnic at Percy Quin Park such a good time of worship and fellowship last Sunday.

Congregational Meeting Today

The Session has called a congregational meeting for today at the conclusion of the worship service. The purpose of the meeting is twofold:

1. We will hear a report from the Elder Nominating Committee and elect elders to serve terms from 2022-2024. The Committee will place in nomination the names of Melisa DeCoux, Suzi Drummond, and Whitney Rawlings. The Book of Order allows for additional nominations from the floor. Elders Ally Allred, Andrew DeCoux, and Wayne Hutchison will complete their terms at the end of this year. Please express appreciation to all of these for their faithful service.
2. We will also vote to dissolve the pastoral relationship between Bob and our Church. He will be retiring at the end of December.

Help Us Feed Kids at Higgins

Your gifts of food are making a difference in the lives of children at Higgins School. Every weekend, several kids at Higgins receive a pack of food to get them through the weekend. We are in need of juice boxes and main course options (beanie weenies, mac and cheese, beefaroni etc. in single serving containers) to replenish our stock. See Melisa DeCoux for more information about how you can help. Thanks to the PW for their help in assembling food bags.

This Week at J. J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

Today: 9:00 am Breakfast in the Ewell Martin Room
 9:30 am Sunday School
 10:30 am Worship
 11:30 am Congregational Meeting

Wednesday: 7:15 am Men's Prayer Breakfast
 5:15 pm Supper
 6:00 pm Bible Study
 Lies My Preacher Told Me (Chapters 8 and 9)
 6:30 pm Choir rehearsal

Thursday: 10:30 am Bible Study—Gospel of John

Last Week's Record

10-24--21 Attendance----- 55 here; 76 views on Facebook
Offering, 10-24-21:-----\$3076.00

November Brings Opportunities to Feed on Tuesday Nights

We will be coordinating meals for the hungry of our community with other downtown churches on Tuesday nights during November, December, January, and February. We will serve on the third Tuesday of those months. See Melisa DeCoux to see how you can help with this important ministry. We are in partnership with Centenary United Methodist, First Christian, Church of the Mediator Episcopal and St. Al's Catholic congregations.

Chicken on a Stick for Missions

On Friday, November 19, we will be selling chicken on a stick as Mission Fundraiser. All proceeds will go to our Mission Partners. Tickets are \$8.00 each and are available from any of the Hutchison crew. You can pick up your chicken on a stick at Pike National Bank, Main Branch, on Rawls Drive between 10am and 2 pm on that Friday. See Melisa DeCoux or SaraBeth Hutchison for more information or for tickets.

**Choir rehearsal resumes this Wednesday. New singers are welcome.
Christmas music is in the air!**