

J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)



Rev. Cassie Alston, Pastor
Corner of Third and Delaware Streets
110 Third Street
McComb, Mississippi 39648
(601) 684-4189



J. J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 22, 2024 • 10:30 AM

Gathering

Prelude *Because He Lives* Bill and Gloria Gaither

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Cassie Alston

Introit *Come Down, Lord* Stan Pethel

Call to Worship *Mark 9:35-37; Ps. 34:3*

The last are first in the realm of God;
the least are welcomed in Jesus' name.
O praise the Lord with me.
let us exalt God's name together.

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, you created the heavens and the earth, and humankind in your image. Teach us to discern your hand in all your works and to serve you with reverence and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

***Hymn No. 523** *Trust and Obey* TRUST AND OBEY

Call to Confession *Col. 2:12*

We come before God not as despised sinners, but as beloved children. With the confidence of children of God, let us humbly confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been,

help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God!**

Word

Anthem

Be Still and Know

arr. Jack Schrader

Prayer for Illumination

Pour out your Holy Spirit, O God, and prepare our hearts to accept your word. Silence in us any voice but your own, that hearing, we may also obey your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Scripture: *Mark 9:30-37*

Sermon

Who Is the Greatest?

Rev. Cassie Alston

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he will come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Hymn No. 805

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX

Gloria Patri

*Hymn No. 519

It Is Well with My Soul

VILLE DU HAVRE

The Invitation to the Offering

Like the child Jesus held, we live and move and have our being inside the circle of his arms. Let us open our hearts so that our tithes and offerings bring others, as well, into that circle.

Offertory

Near to the Heart of God

MCAFEE

*Hymn No. 809

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDRETH

Doxology

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

We thank you for the wealth you shower on us daily, O Lord, and we witness the marvelous goodness that comes from you. Transform these gifts into signs of welcome for all who are touched by their use. Transform us into people who bless others throughout each day, in Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People and The 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. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Sending

*Hymn No. 517 (vv. 1,2,4)

The Solid Rock

SOLID ROCK

*Charge and Benediction

Go now into the world in peace, have courage, hold fast to that which is good, render to no one evil for evil; support the weak; help the suffering; honor all people; loving and serving the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. The blessings of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you all, now and forever. Amen.

Postlude

How Great Thou Art

arr. Lloyd Larson

**Please stand as you are able.*

Announcements

Welcome to worship!

All who worship here are joyfully welcomed into our midst! To our visitors, we offer a special welcome and invite you to join us again soon. Please fill out the blue card in your pew and place it in the offering plate when passed.

Congregational Meeting following worship

A congregational meeting of J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church will be held today immediately following the service. The purpose of the meeting is to elect three Elders for the term 2025-2027. The Elder Nominating Committee will provide a slate of three nominees to the congregation: Harrell Ables, Susan White, and Lee Williams. Thanks to the nominees for their willingness to serve. Nominations may also be made from the floor.

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Please join us on Thursdays at 10:30 AM in the Ewell Martin Room as we read and discuss God's word to us in Scripture. We are studying *The Gospel of Luke*. All are welcome!

Let's pray together!

You are invited to gather with church family and friends for prayer. Two prayer groups will meet weekly, and gatherings will last no more than an hour. Please come to the gathering that fits your schedule, and let's go to God in prayer.

Sundays at 5:00 PM at the home of Nancy and Harrell Ables (1503 Vermont Ave.)

Thursdays at 9:00 AM at the home of Suzi and John Drummond (919 N. James St.)

Record from Last Sunday Attendance: 67 Offering: \$3437.00

Upcoming Events at J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian

Today	After worship 5:00 PM	Congregational meeting to elect Elders Prayer Group (1503 Vermont Ave.)
Wednesday, 9/25	7:15 AM	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
Thursday, 9/26	9:00 AM 10:30 AM	Prayer Group (919 N. James St.) Bible Study (Ewell Martin Room)
	5:00 PM	Knutty Knitters (Ewell Martin Room)
Sunday, 9/29	9:00 AM 9:30 AM 10:30 AM	Breakfast (Ewell Martin Room) Sunday School Worship: Reception of New Members

The Session

<i>Rev. Cassie Alston, moderator</i>		
Class of 2024 Melisa DeCoux <i>Christian Education</i>	Class of 2025 Tommy Brock <i>Property</i>	Class of 2026 Sam Daniel <i>Fellowship & Evangelism</i>
Suzi Drummond <i>Government</i>	Linda Miller <i>Congregational Care</i>	Robbie DeCoux <i>Missions</i>
Whitney Rawlings <i>Worship</i>	Noggin Wild <i>Clerk of Session</i>	Sarah Ross <i>Finance & Stewardship</i>

Questions for Reflection

Give yourself some moments each day in the coming week to sit quietly with your eyes closed. Visualize Jesus kneeling down, opening his arms, and bringing you close to his heart. Let yourself be a little child who is welcomed. What do you notice?

Household Prayer: Morning

Gracious God, you give life, and, in your Word, it is beautiful. Thank you for this new day. In each coming hour, help me to see beneath the ever-present difficulties and superficial joys into the mysteries that you have set out for your people. Guide me toward those I meet today in a way that welcomes them and, in turn, grants me welcome, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

This day is nearly over, Merciful God, and I am tired. I have been unable to do all that I had hoped; I have done some things that I would take back if I could. Forgive me for my failures. Bring me into the warmth and security of your embrace now and fill me with new vision so that I may rest and rise to meet tomorrow with vigor, in the name of Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

(Long, Kimberly Bracken, ed. *Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion, Liturgies for Year B, vol. 1.* Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2014, p. 180)

Sanctuary Flowers

Today's sanctuary flowers are given in loving memory of Griffin Robert Williams by Stephen and Lee Williams.

J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

Sundays

Breakfast: 9:00 AM

Sunday School: 9:30 AM

Worship: 10:30 AM

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P. O. Box 774

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(601) 684-4189

Church Office Open Monday – Friday

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

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