

J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)



Rev. Cassie Alston, Pastor

Jennifer Sanders, Director of Music Ministry

Glenn Sanders, Choir Director

Corner of Third and Delaware Streets

110 Third Street

McComb, Mississippi 39648

(601) 684-4189



J. J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

First Sunday of Christmas

December 29, 2024 • 10:30 AM

Gathering

Prelude

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

arr. Gina Sprunger

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Cassie Alston

Introit

O Come, Let Us Adore Him

ADESTE FIDELES

Call to Worship

Col. 3:15, 16

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

Let the word of God dwell richly in you.

Opening Prayer

Holy God, you wonderfully created and more wonderfully restored the dignity of human nature. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of Jesus Christ who came to share our humanity, and who now lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Litany for Christmas

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.

Glorify to God in the highest!

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

Glorify to God in the highest!

For a child has been born for us, a Son has been given to us.

Glorify to God in the highest!

He is Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Glorify to God in the highest!

To us is born in the city of David a Savior, the Messiah, the Lord.

Glorify to God in the highest!

And the Word became flesh and lived among us.

Glory to God in the highest!

Christ is born! Give him glory! Christ has come down from heaven! Receive him! Christ is now on earth! Exalt him! O you nations, praise him in joy, for he has been glorified! **Amen.**

***Hymn No. 152**

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

Call to Confession

1 Tim. 1:14-15

The grace of God overflows for us through Jesus Christ who came into the world to save sinners. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

God of wonder, you surround us with signs of your glory and surprise us with your presence, yet we often miss the marvels you place before us. Forgive our dullness and make us alert to the ways you make yourself known, that we might be witnesses to your good news and proclaim your extravagant love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

In Jesus Christ God saved us, not because of any good works that we have done, but according to God's mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. People of God, rejoice! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God!**

Summary of the Law

John 13:34

Hear the teaching of Christ: I give you a new commandment, **that you love one another as I have loved you.**

Word

Anthem

All Is Well
Linda Miller, alto

M.W. Smith and W. Kirkpatrick

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. **Amen.**

Scripture: *Luke 2:41-52*

Sermon

Growing in Grace

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. 161**

Once in Royal David's City

IRBY

The Invitation to the Offering

Col. 2:16-17

With grateful hearts, let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God, in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the father through him.

Offertory

Carol of Joy

arr. Jay Rouse

***Hymn No. 809**

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

Doxology

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Col. 3:14

Loving God, we give you thanks for Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Receive the gifts we offer in union with Christ's gift for us. Clothe us with compassion, kindness, humility, and patience, that we may be Christ for others in his name. 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. 157 (vv. 2,3)** *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!*

IN DULCI JUBILO

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child

arr. Cindy Berry

**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.

Communion and MICA next week

In gratitude and joyful hope, we make our pledges for 2025!

The Lord has done great things for us! In joy and gratitude for all the good things that God has provided us, both individually and as a community of believers in this church, we make our pledges. Thank you to everyone who has made their pledge for 2025! If you have not yet pledged, you are invited to place your pledge form in the offering plate when passed or to send it to the church office. Thank you for contributing to God's work in and through J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church!

Record from Last Sunday

Attendance: 68

Offering: \$7,367.00

Upcoming Events

| | | |
|---------------------|----------|--|
| Today, 12/29 | 4:00 PM | Prayer Group (1503 Vermont Ave.) |
| Wednesday, 1/1/2025 | | <i>Church office closed for New Year's Day</i> |
| Thursday, 1/2 | 5:00 PM | Knutty Knitters (Ewell Martin Room) |
| Saturday, 1/4 | 9:00 AM | Session Retreat (Fellowship Hall) |
| Sunday, 1/5 | 9:00 AM | Breakfast (Ewell Martin Room) |
| | 9:30 AM | Sunday School |
| | 10:30 AM | Worship: Epiphany (Communion) |

The Session

Rev. Cassie Alston, moderator

Class of 2024

Melisa DeCoux
Christian Education

Suzi Drummond
Government

Whitney Rawlings
Worship

Class of 2025

Tommy Brock
Property

Linda Miller
Congregational Care

Noggin Wild
Clerk of Session

Class of 2026

Sam Daniel
Fellowship & Evangelism

Robbie DeCoux
Missions

Sarah Ross
Finance & Stewardship

For Reflection

Consider Jesus as an adolescent, causing his parents to worry about him. Jesus asks his parents, “Why were you searching for me?” If you were a parent of Jesus, how would you answer that question? How do you answer that question for yourself?

Household Prayer: Morning

Lord Jesus, as you listened to your teachers, may I also, this day, listen to others with care and grace, and receive whatever wisdom they may offer. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Loving God, you know every struggle that I have faced this day; let me sleep in peace, confident in your great love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

Sundays

Breakfast: 9:00 AM

Sunday School: 9:30 AM

Worship: 10:30 AM

Rev. Cassie Alston, Pastor

Jennifer Sanders, Director of Music Ministry

Glenn Sanders, Choir Director

110 Third Street

P. O. Box 774

McComb, MS 39648 • (601) 684-4189

Email jjwhitememorial@gmail.com

Web www.jjwhitememorial.org

Facebook JJWhiteMPC