

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

Transfiguration of the Lord

March 2, 2025 • 10:30 AM

Gathering

Prelude

Majesty

arr. Mark Hayes

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Cassie Alston

Introit

This Is Holy Ground

Christopher Beatty

*Call to Worship

2 Cor. 4:6

As God spoke, calling light out of darkness,
God's glory shines in the face of Jesus Christ.

*Hymn No. 2

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

NICAEA

*Opening Prayer

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah; and in the voice from the cloud you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us, with Christ, heirs of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Litany for Transfiguration of the Lord

Blessed is the Lord our God, who revealed the law to Moses.

The Lord our God is holy!

Blessed is the Lord our God, who has spoken through the prophets.

The Lord our God is holy!

Blessed is the Lord our God, who came to us in Jesus Christ,

The Lord our God is holy!

The one who spoke and called light out of darkness now shines in our hearts.

The Lord our God is holy!

The one who comes and does not keep silence now speaks in our midst.

The Lord our God is holy!

Great God of dazzling beauty and overshadowing majesty, in Jesus Christ, your beloved, we glimpse the image of your glory. Teach us to listen to him so that we may hear your voice and follow your holy way; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Call to Confession

Luke 8:17

Jesus said: Nothing is hidden that will not be disclosed, nor is anything secret that will not come to light. Trusting in God’s grace, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

God of compassion, in Jesus Christ you reveal the light of your glory, but we turn away, distracted by our own plans. We confess that we speak when we should listen, and act when we should wait. Forgive our aimless enthusiasm. Grant us wisdom to live in your light and to follow in the way of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

The one who calls light out of darkness now shines in our hearts to reveal the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. In the name of 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

Be Thou My Vision

arr. Richard Shephard

Prayer for Illumination

God of shining splendor, your voice makes the earth tremble in wonder. Overshadow us with your Spirit so that we may hear your Word and live as faithful disciples and covenant people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: *Exodus 34:29-35*

Gospel Reading: *Luke 9:28-36*

Sermon

That’s Different!

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. 562**

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

DIX

†The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to God's Table

This is the joyful feast of the people of God! People will come from north and south and from east and west to sit at table in the kingdom of God.

According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.

This is the Lord's Table. Our Savior invites all those who trust him to share the feast that he has prepared.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks and praise to God.

It is always right and our greatest joy to give God thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, Eternal God. You set the sun to brighten the day and the moon and stars to illumine the night. You lead us by the light of your truth into the way of righteousness and peace.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son. In his face, we glimpse your glory. In his life, we see your love. In his rising from the grave, we behold the promise of eternal light. Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising as we await the day of his coming. With thanksgiving we offer ourselves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice dedicated to your service.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast, united in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world. Illumine our lives, O God, with the radiance of Christ's love, that we may live for you and love as he loved. Give us strength to serve you faithfully until the promised day of resurrection, when with the redeemed of all ages we will feast with you at your table in glory. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

As our Savior taught us, we are bold to pray:

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.

Breaking of the Bread

The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, saying: This is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord, until he comes again in glory.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

Communion of God's People

Prayer After Communion

We give you thanks, Lord Jesus Christ, for the gifts of grace we have received from your hand. Now send us forth to reflect your light, proclaiming your saving death and resurrection until you come again in glory. **Amen.**

The Invitation to the Offering

Let us return to God the offerings of our life and the gifts of the earth.

Offertory

Fairest Lord Jesus

arr. Dan Forrest

*Hymn No. 809

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

Doxology

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy are you, O Lord! We praise your great and awesome name. Use us, and these our gifts, in your service, to establish justice and righteousness, all for the good of your people and the glory of your eternal realm. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Sending

*Hymn No. 539

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

HOUSTON

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

arr. Larry Shackley

***Please stand as you are able.**

†Gluten-free communion bread available

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 Collection

Today we celebrate Communion and collect donations for the food pantry at McComb Interdenominational Care Association (MICA). MICA provides critical nutrition to hungry individuals and families in Pike County. From the Lord's Table, we are sent to feed others as we have been fed. Thanks be to God

Ash Wednesday Service: March 5, 2025 at 6:00 PM!

Lent 2025 begins this Wednesday, March 5. Please make plans to begin this year's Lenten journey by participating in the Ash Wednesday Service, including the imposition of ashes, this Wednesday at 6:00 PM. Lent is a time of repentance and growth in faith through prayer, spiritual discipline, and self-examination in preparation for the commemoration of the dying and rising of the Lord Jesus Christ. May we draw closer to Christ and each other during this meaningful season.

Wednesday Nights During Lent: Dinner and Bible Study

The Fellowship Committee and Rev. Alston will be hosting Wednesday night meals and a Lenten Bible study, Meeting Jesus at the Table, beginning Wednesday, March 12 through April 9, 5:15-6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!

Congregational Meeting

A congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, March 16, immediately following the worship service. The purpose of this meeting is for the Session to present the 2025 budget to the congregation.

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Please join us at 10:30 AM on Thursdays in the Fellowship Hall as we read and discuss the Gospel of Luke. All are welcome!

Prayer Groups

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

Wednesdays at 4:00 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.)

New Youth Sunday School and Confirmation Class

All middle and high school-aged youth are invited to a new, 12-week Sunday school study! We'll meet Sundays from 9:15-10:00 AM. The class will be led by Rev. Alston and volunteers from the congregation and will prepare those who wish to make a public profession of faith to be Confirmed in May. All youth, including those already Confirmed, are invited and encouraged to participate! "Drop-ins" are welcome!

Record from Last Sunday Attendance: 51 Offering: \$2,149.00

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, 3/4	4:00 PM	Tuesday Night Meals for the Hungry
Wednesday, 3/5	7:15 AM	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
	4:00 PM	Prayer Group (1503 Vermont Ave.)
	6:00 PM	Ash Wednesday Service
Thursday, 3/6	9:00 AM	Prayer Group (919 N. James St.)
	10:30 AM	Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
	5:00 PM	Knutty Knitters (Ewell Martin Room)
Sunday, 3/9	9:00 AM	Breakfast (Ewell Martin Room)
	9:15 AM	Youth Sunday School (Youth Room)
	9:30 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Worship: First Sunday in Lent
	11:45 AM	Session Meeting (Ewell Martin Room)

The Session

<i>Rev. Cassie Alston, moderator</i>		
Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
Tommy Brock <i>Property</i>	Sam Daniel <i>Finance & Stewardship</i>	Harrell Ables <i>Christian Ed. & Evangelism</i>
Linda Miller <i>Congregational Care</i>	Robbie DeCoux <i>Missions</i>	Susan White <i>Fellowship</i>
Noggin Wild <i>Clerk of Session</i>	Sarah Ross <i>Government</i>	Lee Williams <i>Worship</i>

Questions for Reflection:

Look at Luke 9:35: "This is my Son, my Chosen, listen to him!" Where have you heard words like these before in the Gospels? (Hint: see Luke 3:22) Where have you heard words like these in your own life? When have you had a strong sense of being chosen, claimed, and called by God?

Household Prayer: Morning

Lord Jesus Christ, as morning dawns, be our light in this new day. Let our lives reflect your glory, our words show forth your goodness, and our actions shine with your grace; in your holy name we pray. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Lord Jesus Christ, as evening comes, be our light and hope in darkness. Draw near to us in grace, surround us with your presence, and fill us with your peace; in your holy name we pray. Amen.

Worship Greeters

Thank you to today's worship greeters Joanna and Nicky Barr, Greta and Ridge.

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Sundays

Breakfast: 9:00 AM • Sunday School: 9:30 AM • Worship: 10:30 AM

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