

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

Second Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025 • 10:30 AM

Gathering

Prelude *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* arr. Lloyd Larson

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Cassie Alston

Introit *There Is a Redeemer* Melody Green

***Call to Worship** *Ps. 27:1-4*

The LORD is my light and my salvation;

Whom then shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;

Of whom shall I be afraid?

One thing I ask of the LORD;

One thing I seek;

That I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;

To gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.

***Hymn No. 77** *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* LOBE DEN HERREN

***Opening Prayer** *Ps. 27:1, 5, 11, 14*

Lord God, our light and our salvation, you save all who seek refuge in you. Grant that we who know your salvation may walk always in your light, take courage in your faithfulness, and rejoice in your astounding goodness to us. **Amen.**

Call to Confession

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

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our offenses and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength, through Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Isa. 55:3

Listen, so that you may live: the steadfast love of the Lord never fails. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God!**

Summary of the Law

Matt. 22:37-40

Our Lord Jesus said:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.

This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it:

You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Word

Anthem

My Hiding Place

Tom Fettke

Prayer for Illumination

Merciful God, by the power of your Holy Spirit, open to us your word and your way. Help us to seek you and your truth and to hear the message you have for us today. **Amen.**

Scripture: *Psalm 27; Luke 13:31-35*

Sermon

Covered

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. 461

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

ABERYSTWYTH

The Invitation to the Offering

Rom. 6:13

Christ has given his life for us. Let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

Offertory

Abide With Me

arr. Carolyn Hamlin

with Mendelssohn's "Song Without Words," Op. 19, No. 1

*Hymn No. 809

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

Doxology

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

O God, we have beheld your goodness to us. Accept the offerings of our lives and the work of our hands. Use us for the sake of Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

... let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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. 78** *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* ST. ANNE

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* arr. John Innes

Congregational Meeting

**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.

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. Participants are invited to bring food donations for MICA. All are welcome!

The Bible study will be based on portions of *Meeting Jesus at the Table: A Lenten Study* by Cynthia M. Campbell and Christine Coy Fohr (Westminster John Know Press, 2023).

3/12	Dining Alfresco	John 6:1-14
3/19	The Welcome Table	Matthew 9:9-13
3/26	Dinner Interrupted	Luke 7:36-50
4/2	Excuses and Invitations	Luke 14:15-24
4/9	Not the Last Supper	Matthew 26:17-30; Luke 24:13-35

Congregational Meeting

There will be a congregational meeting immediately following worship. The purpose of this meeting is for the Session to present the 2025 budget to the congregation.

Easter Lilies

Forms for ordering Easter lilies are available at entrances to the sanctuary. If you would like to place Easter lilies in memory or honor of individuals or in celebration of a special event, please complete a form and place it in the offering plate or drop it by the church office. Lilies are \$18.00 each.

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!

Record from Last Sunday *Attendance: 63* Offering: \$1,931.00

Upcoming Events

Today, 3/16	11:45 AM	Congregational Meeting
Wednesday, 3/19	7:15 AM	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
	4:00 PM	Prayer Group (1503 Vermont Ave.)
	5:15 PM	Dinner and Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
Thursday, 3/20	10:30 AM	Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
	5:00 PM	Knotty Knitters (Ewell Martin Room)
Sunday, 3/23	9:00 AM	Breakfast (Ewell Martin Room)
	9:15 AM	Youth Sunday School (Youth Room)
	9:30 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Worship: Third Sunday in Lent

The Session

Rev. Cassie Alston, moderator

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:

In Luke 13:35 Jesus says, “And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’ To what sort of “seeing” does Jesus refer? Is Jesus calling for more than a verbal declaration that he is the Messiah? How might I live so that I become a testimony that Jesus is truly the one who comes in the name of God?”

Household Prayer: Morning

Dear God, I do not know all of the challenges that face me this day, but still I pray: If I should be tempted by desire for earthly gain, remind me of my citizenship in heaven. If I should be distracted by hunger, satisfy me with your Holy Spirit until I hunger no more. Let me walk in the way of Christ so that my life testifies in deed and word, “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.”

Household Prayer: Evening

Dear God, great is your mercy to me, even when I have not remembered you. Where I have strayed from your path, forgive my sins and show me the way to salvation. Grant me rest this night that I may rise refreshed in my commitment to the way of my Lord, Jesus Christ, in whose name I pray. Amen.

Worship Greeters

Thank you to today’s worship greeters Elise and John Paul Reeves, Jack and Collins.

Sanctuary Flowers

The sanctuary flowers are given by Rusty Whittington in honor of Carolyn and Charles Ray.

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

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Email jjwhitememorial@gmail.com • Web www.jjwhitememorial.org

Facebook JJWhiteMPC