

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

Third Sunday of Easter

May 4, 2025 • 10:30 AM

Gathering

Prelude

Jesus Shall Reign

arr. Cindy Berry

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Father, I Adore You

arr. Benjamin Harlan

***Call to Worship**

Rev. 5:1

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain.

Blessing and honor and glory to God!

***Hymn No. 108**

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

MADRID

***Opening Prayer**

Living Lord, you meet us in unexpected places and surprise us with the abundance of your love. Feed us by your Word and fill us with your Spirit so that we may follow you this day, and always; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. **Amen.**

Call to Confession

Ps. 30:3

When your soul is suffering in silence, call out to the Lord our God, who heals our brokenness, who lifts us up from the pit and restores our lives. Trusting in God's saving grace, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

Lord God, in the light of your glory, we see the evil we have done, the suffering we have caused, the good we have refused, and the truth we have denied. Heal us of our sin, wash us in your mercy, and feed us with your

grace, so that we may follow your way and tell the good news of the gospel.
Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Ps. 30:11

Rise up from the dust! Cast off the shroud of sorrow and put on the joy of the Lord. 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.

Recognition of Seniors

Words of Scripture: *Jeremiah 29:11; Proverbs 3:5-6* Rev. Cassie Alston

Words of the Congregation

We give thanks for you. We celebrate your accomplishments. We stand beside you in prayer and encouragement. May God's Word continue to light your path. May you continue to follow Jesus in every step you take. May you trust in God's steadfast and unfailing love all the days of your life.

Presentation of Gifts The Covenant Life Class and The Seekers Class

Prayer of Blessing Rev. Cassie Alston

Gracious God, you have blessed us through the lives of these young people. As they step into new beginnings, fill them with courage and hope. Surround them with your Spirit, that they may know your love wherever they go. Root them in faith, build them up in love, and send them forth in peace, that their lives may be a testimony to your grace and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Word

Anthem

Open My Eyes, That I May See arr. Benjamin Harlan

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: *John 21:1-19*

Homily

Breakfast on the Beach

Rev. Cassie Alston

***Hymn No. 805**

Glory Be to the Father

GREATOREX

Gloria Patri

Confirmation of Burke Williams

Presentation

Elder Robbie DeCoux

On behalf of the session, I present Burke Williams for reaffirmation of the baptismal covenant. Burke now desires to profess his faith publicly and to be received as an active member of this congregation.

Rev. Cassie Alston

Burke, we rejoice that you now desire to declare your faith and to share with us in our common ministry. In Baptism, you were joined to Christ and made a member of his body. In the community of the people of God, you have learned of God's purpose for you and for all creation. You are a citizen with the saints and a member of the household of God, built upon the foundation of apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.

Profession of Faith

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? (*Burke: I do.*)

Who is your Lord and Savior? (*Burke: Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.*)

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his word and showing his love? (*Burke: I will, with God's help.*)

Will you devote yourself to the church's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers? (*Burke: I will, with God's help.*)

***Affirmation of Faith**

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.

Prayer

Gracious God, by water and the Spirit you claimed us as your own, cleansing us from sin, and giving us new life. You made us members of your body, the church, calling us to be your servants in the world. Renew in Burke the covenant you made in his baptism. Continue the good work you have begun in him. Send him forth by the power of your Spirit to love and serve you with joy, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Laying on of Hands

(All Ruling Elders are invited to come forward for the laying on of hands.)

O Lord, uphold Burke by your Holy Spirit. Daily increase in him your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Welcome

Rev. Cassie Alston

***Hymn No. 568** *Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated*

HENDON

†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.

Praise to you, O God, for all your works. You created the world and called it good and made us in your image to live together in love.

You made a covenant with us, and even when we turned from you, you remained ever faithful. Therefore, with all creation we sing your praise.

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.

Thank you, O God, for sending us your Son. He lived among us and told your story. He healed the sick and welcomed sinners. He shared our pain and died our death, then rose to new life that we might live, and all creation be restored.

Remembering your boundless love revealed to us in Jesus Christ, we break bread and share the cup, giving ourselves to you to live for him in joy and praise. Great is the mystery of faith:

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 they may be for us the body and blood of Christ and that we may be his body for the world. By your Spirit unite us with Christ and one another until we feast with him and with all your saints in your eternal realm of justice and peace.

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

Holy God, giver of wine and bread, send us from your table in confidence that we are your own children, born of your Spirit, fed at your table, filled with your grace, sent to speak your truth and offer your love to the world in Christ's name. Amen.

The Invitation to the Offering

John 21:15-17

Jesus calls us to feed his lambs and tend his sheep. Let us show and share his love through the offering of our lives.

Offertory

More Love to Thee, O Christ

arr. Mark Hayes

*Hymn No. 809

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

Doxology

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy God, receive these gifts of thanksgiving and praise and use them for your glory and the good of your people; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen and reigning Lord we pray. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Sending

*Hymn No. 532

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

He Leadeth Me

arr. Greg Howlett

***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 in the offering plate when passed.

Confirmation of Burke Williams

We rejoice and give thanks to God for the Confirmation of Faith of Burke Williams! During worship, Burke will reaffirm his baptismal vows and publicly profess his faith. He will be received with joy as an active member of J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Recognition of Seniors

Today we honor and give thanks to God for our High School Seniors: Wyatt Dyess, Natalie Simo, and Lydia Williams. We also celebrate and give thanks for our university graduate Lily Warshauer. Congratulations and blessings, 2025 graduates!

Cookout on the Green

The fellowship committee is hosting a cookout on Wednesday, May 14, on the green space across from the Fellowship Hall. We will be serving hamburgers and hotdogs. Please plan to bring a side dish or dessert. A sign-up sheet is on the front pew, or you can call the church office. We will have fun activities for young and old (cornhole toss, badminton and croquet)! Also, plan to bring a lawn chair, and bring a friend. Hope to see you there!

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: 48 Offering: \$2,006..00

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, 5/7	7:15 AM	Men's Prayer Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
	4:00 PM	Prayer Group (1503 Vermont Ave.)
Thursday, 5/8	9:00 AM	Prayer Group (919 N. James)
	10:30 AM	Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
	5:00 PM	Knutty Knitters (Ewell Martin Room)
Sunday, 5/11	9:00 AM	Breakfast (Ewell Martin Room)
	9:30 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Worship

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:

Jesus chose Peter, who had denied him in his hour of need, to tend his sheep and build his church. He chose Paul, who had persecuted Jesus' followers, to proclaim the good news of the gospel. Can anything separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ? What has Jesus chosen and called you to do?

Household Prayer: Morning

Lord Jesus Christ, as you met your disciples just after daybreak on the beach, meet us at the dawning of this new day. As you filled their nets with fish, fill our lives with love and grace, more than we can ask or imagine. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Gracious God, we praise you for the blessing of this day and the promise of tomorrow. Be our helper as the night falls and our joy when the morning comes, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Worship Greeters

Thank you to today's worship greeters Melisa and Andrew DeCoux.

J.J. White Memorial Presbyterian Church

Sundays *Breakfast:* 9:00 AM

Sunday School: 9:30 AM

Worship: 10:30 AM

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Director**

110 Third Street • P. O. Box 774 • McComb, MS 39648 • (601) 684-4189

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

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