



First
Presbyterian
Church

GREENWOOD, MISSISSIPPI

Prepare An Answer!

- September 3 Why Do We Have Communion? – I Cor. 11:23-29
September 10 Why Is Jesus the Only Way? – Acts 4:5-12
September 17 How Do We Know God Exists? – Jeremiah 9:23-24
September 24 Why Do We Have the Church? – Acts 2:38-47
October 15 Who Is the Holy Spirit? – John 14:16-26
October 22 Where Did the Bible Come From? – II Peter 1:16-21

Our new sermon series, “Prepare an Answer!” continues today. It is based on the verse from I Peter 3:15 which says, “But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 15, 2023

11:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

The time to begin preparing for worship is no later than the sounding of the chimes.

*The congregation is invited to stand.

**Seating of those arriving after worship has begun.

CHIMING

PRELUDE **Come, Christians, Join to Sing** arr. David Lasky

*CALL TO WORSHIP **Psalm 106:1-6** Dr. Andrew Chaney

One: "Praise the LORD! O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever.

**All: Who can utter the mighty doings of the LORD, or declare
All his praise?**

One: Happy are those who observe justice, who do righteousness
at all times.

**All: Remember me, O LORD, when you show favor to your people;
help me when you deliver them; that I may see the prosperity
of your chosen ones, that I may rejoice in the gladness of your
nation, that I may glory in your heritage."
Let us worship God together!**

HYMN 31 **Let Us with a Gladsome Mind MONKLAND

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

CONFESSION OF SIN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord, your Word tells us to conduct ourselves in a manner worthy
of the Gospel of Christ, but our lives are often a poor reflection of
who you are. We know we are to work together to further the
Gospel. Instead, we are distracted and too focused on our selfish
ambitions. You call us to be a community of believers who are
joined together by the joy of our salvation. Forgive us when we
fail to be the body of Christ together. May we know what it is to
be truly humble, to deny ourselves and to take up our cross to
follow you. We ask for your mercy and peace ...**

A TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE, No. 394, Stanza 4

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

**Laud and honor to the Father, Laud and honor to the Son,
Laud and honor to the Spirit, Ever three and ever one:
One in might and one in glory While unending ages run!**

31 Let Us with a Gladsome Mind

(Psalm 136)

1 Let us with a glad - some mind praise the
 2 God, with all - com - mand - ing might, filled the
 3 All things liv - ing God does feed; with full
 4 Let us with a glad - some mind praise the

Lord who is so kind:
 new - made world with light: for God's mer - cies
 mea - sure, meets their need:
 Lord who is so kind:

shall en - dure, ev - er faith - ful, ev - er sure.

These few stanzas are among the least florid of the two dozen that make up the rather flamboyant paraphrase of Psalm 136 written by the fifteen-year-old who would become one of the greatest English poets. It is set here to a sprightly tune with Moravian connections.

PROCLAIM THE WORD

EXPRESSIONS OF FELLOWSHIP AND DISCIPLESHIP

- ♦Minutes for Endowment Fund Elder Mike Sturdivant III, Chair
- ♦Installation of Presbyterian Women Officers for 2024

A TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

Elder Wade Litton

ANTHEM

Come Down, O Lord Divine

Wm. H. Harris

Come down, O Love divine, seek thou this soul of mine, and visit it with thine own ardor glowing; O Comforter draw near, within my heart appear, and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing. O let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn to dust and ashes in its heat consuming; and let thy glorious light shine ever on my sight, and clothe me round, the while my path illuming. Let holy charity mine outward vesture be, and lowliness become mine inner clothing: true lowliness of heart, which takes the humbler part, and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing. And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long, shall far outpass the pow'r of human telling; for none can guess its grace, till he become the place wherein the Holy Spirit makes his dwelling. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

John 14:16-26

SERMON

Prepare An Answer!

Dr. Andrew Chaney

5. Who Is the Holy Spirit?

PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN 286

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

TRENTHAM

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

Come Down, O Love Divine

arr. Marilyn Biery

*Doxology, No. 606

OLD 100TH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures, here below;
Praise Him, above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication and The Lord's Prayer

Elder Cathy Jennings

*HYMN 366

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRDOL

*CHARGE, BENEDICTION, AND CHORAL RESPONSE

*POSTLUDE

Fanfare and Recessional

Walker Baylor

286, Breathe on Me, Breath of God

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God; fill me with life a - new,
2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am whol - ly thine,
4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die,

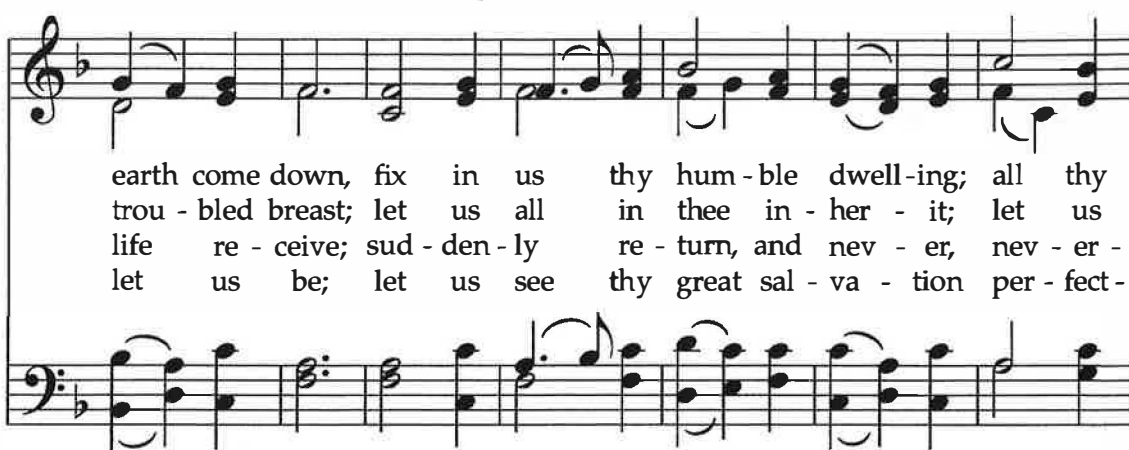
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.
un - til with thee I will one will, to do and to en - dure.
un - til this earth - ly part of me glows with thy fire di - vine.
but live with thee the per - fect life of thine e - ter - ni - ty.

In both Hebrew and Greek, the words for "spirit" can equally well be translated as "breath" or "wind," so it is very appropriate to address the Holy Spirit as the "Breath of God." This tune by an English organist has become the customary one in North American hymnals.

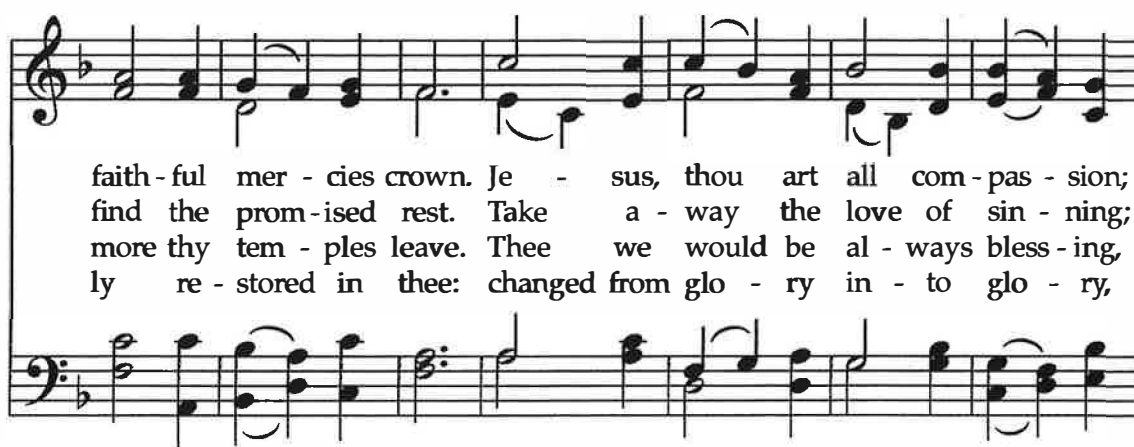
366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
 2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;
 find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means "delightful") gives us a foretaste of endless song.

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

WELCOME TO THIS HOUR OF WORSHIP

We hope that you will be made to feel welcome here and that you will find this service helpful to you in your Christian life. If you are a visitor, please know that we are glad for your presence here. Please help us to know you better by filling out the Friendship Register and then pass it to the person seated next to you. Take note with whom you are worshiping with and greet them warmly! Welcome one another to the Lord's House! Should you be interested in joining this congregation, please check the appropriate box on the Friendship Register and we will be in touch with you, or you may call the church office at (662) 453-4680. The Session meets periodically at 10:35 a.m. on Sunday to receive new members into our congregation.

A Nursery Is Available for children 3 years and younger in Room 103 in the Van Arnold Education Building located directly across the street from the Sanctuary.

Accessibility: Large print Bibles, hymnals, and hearing devices are available in the back of the Sanctuary. At the end of the service, please return these to the back tables.

Cell Phones and Photography: In order to maintain reverence during the service, please silence all cell phones and other communication devices and refrain from unauthorized photography or recordings.

Internet Broadcast: To watch the service live on a computer, tablet, or smart phone, go to www.firstgreenwood.net/video. Worship bulletins are available under the "Worship" tab on the website, as are archived services. You may also access the worship service live by going to the church's Facebook page.

Community Food Pantry: Please bring canned food and place it in the Food Pantry Collection Box near the handicap entrance.

Hospital Visitation: Please call the church office to let us know whether you are in the hospital or know of any church member in the hospital, since the hospital here no longer lists names of hospitalized persons on a public register.

Elder Cathy Jennings is the visitation elder for **October**.

Ushers for Today: Brett Canterbury, Emmie Daugherty, Alan Ellis, Lawson Gary, Johnny Jennings, and Sam Pigott

Security Detail: Don Brock and Floyd Melton III

Children's Church for 4- & 5-year-olds with Sam and Samantha Pigott

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, October 15, 2023

9:40 am Choristers Choir
10:00 am Sunday School
10:30 am Fellowship Time
11:00 am Worship/PW Installation
5:00 pm Youth/Parent Kickball at
Little Red Schoolhouse Park

Monday, October 16, 2023

5:00 pm Deacons Meeting
5:30 pm Session Meeting

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

9:30 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday October 18, 2023

12:00 pm Noon Bible Study
2:30 pm Liturgy
5:30 pm Youth Dinner
6:00 pm Youth Bible Study
6:00 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, October 19, 2023

6:45 am Men's Breakfast and
Bible Study

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Presbyterian Women being installed as officers this morning include: Mary Clyde Miller, Moderator; Rebekah Arant and Kelli Stainback, Vice-Moderators; Mary Neff Stewart, Secretary; Ashley Farmer, Treasurer; Lisa Cookston, Communicator. Those leading in other capacities, and being installed today, include: Laura Fincher, Mission Opportunities; Susan Gregory, Noon Circle Moderator.

PYF this evening – Youth vs. Parent Kickball Tournament at Little Red School House Park at 5:00 p.m. Dinner will be served after the game.

Covered Entrance/Parking Lot pledge cards are available at the back of the sanctuary for anyone who did not receive one in the mail last week.

Stewardship News: You will receive a letter in the mail this week from Elder Clifton Thach who is chairing this year's stewardship campaign. A copy of the Proposed 2024 Budget will be included. **Stewardship Dedication Sunday is November 12.** You will receive soon in the mail a pledge card and a Time and Talent Survey for you to present as part of worship on November 12.

Deacons Meeting, Monday, October 16, at 5:00 p.m. in the Session Room.

Session Meeting, Monday, October 16, at 5:30 p.m. in Shuler Hall. Officers are reminded to bring with them copies of the agenda and financial statements that were emailed last week.

Staff Meeting, Tuesday, October 17, at 9:30 a.m.

Noon Bible Study meets Wednesday, October 18, at 12:00 p.m. in the Church Parlor. Dr. Chaney will be leading the study on II Peter 1:16-21. Bring your own lunch. Coffee and water are provided by the church. Enjoy fellowship with one another from 12:00 – 12:15 p.m. at which time the Bible study will begin.

Men's Breakfast and Bible Study meets Thursday, October 19, at 6:45 a.m. in the Church Parlor. Dr. Chaney will be leading the study on II Peter 1:16-21. All men of the church are invited to attend.

Church Picnic next Sunday, October 22, at 4:00 p.m. at the Meltons', 711 and 801 Robert E. Lee Drive. Boat rides on the Tallahatchie River. Inflatables for children to enjoy. The church will supply fried chicken and pizza, the congregation is asked to bring food accordingly: A-J salad, K-R side, S-Z dessert. Food will be served at 5:00 p.m.

All Saints Day/Memorial Remembrance, Sunday, October 29. We will recognize and remember all from this congregation that have entered the Church Triumphant since this time last year.

Welcome to the Table will be held on Sunday, November 5, at 10:30 a.m. in the Church Parlor. Children who are in the 1st grade, or older children who have not participated before, may gather around the table to learn about the sacrament of the Lord's Supper with Dr. Chaney. They will meet with the Session that morning, and then receive their first communion during worship that morning.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

300 Main Street • P. O. Box 485
Greenwood, Mississippi 38935
Phone (662) 453-4680
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Website: www.firstgreenwood.net
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Senior Pastor	Dr. Andrew Chaney
Pastor Emeritus	Dr. Rusty Douglas
Director of Music & Organist	Rev. Ray Smithee
Director of Youth Ministries	Whitney Avritt
Director of Christian Education	Kelli Stainback
Kindergarten Director	Caroline Strawbridge
Financial Secretary	Annette McDonald
Custodian	Charles Covington
Custodian	Lonnie Love
Clerk of Session	Richard Oakes
Board of Deacons	Rebekah Arant
Church Treasurer	Mark Vemer
Presbyterian Women	Eleanor Braswell
Endowment Committee	Mike Sturdivant III

Foreign Missionaries/Missions We Support:

Shapoor Ahmadi, Operation Promise
Liverpool, England Persian Church & Outreach Ministries
Bill Holland, Ahava Ministries
Bill and Bette Bryant Crisis Nursery, Lusaka, Zambia
Cistern Project of the Yucatan
Amos Yam, San Pablo Theological Seminary, Merida, Yucatan
Potter and Clay Ministries of Haiti,
Jordan Walker (MSU), Rebecca Gasson (Ole Miss)
Presbyterian Church of Aleppo, Turkey
Ivan Rusyn, Ukraine Evangelical Seminary

SESSION

CLASS OF 2024	CLASS OF 2025	CLASS OF 2026
Jim Bowen	Susan Beckham	Dallas Baker
Sherry Clark	Taylor Calhoun	Alan Barger
Todd Fincher	Chuck Conditt	Miller King
Mary Haley Flautt	Jimmy Lott	Reese Pillow
Pat Gullede	Moss Melton	John Stewart III
Cathy Jennings	Richard Oakes	Ryan Strawbridge

DEACONS

CLASS OF 2024	CLASS OF 2025	CLASS OF 2026
Lina Elfert	Rebekah Arant	Christie Beattie
Lynn Riales	Karla Bowen	Emmie Daugherty
Randy Tackett	Zach Luke	Sam Pigott



Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO)