



First Presbyterian Church PC (U.S.A.)
Starkville, Mississippi
November 8, 2020
23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Order of Worship

Prelude *Seek Ye First*

Greeting (From Psalm 78:3-4)

One: That which we have heard and known,

All: And what those before us have told,

One: We will not hide from our children,

All: But will recount to generations to come

The power of the Lord, and all God's wonderful deeds!

Hymn *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

O God, our Help in ages past, Our Hope for years to come,
Our Shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal Home.

Before the hills in order stood, Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.

Prayer of Confession

We confess O God that we have had other gods before You. We have worshiped our own image; how we look to other people. We have sought worldly idols of success and wealth. We have followed the commandments of the world to put ourselves first and to help others only if it benefits us. Forgive us for following the false idols of the world, O God. Forgive us for worshiping our own image. Forgive us for not coming before You in humility, knowing that we have done wrong. Help us to repent, to turn away from the ways of the world, and to seek You and Your ways. In the name of Christ, who will come again into our lives and into our world in a new way ... (Silent confession may be offered)

Blessing/Assurance

One: God's steadfast love endures forever. There is no place we can go where God's love cannot find us. There is nothing we can do that God's love cannot redeem us. God's love is eternal, so surrender yourself to God. God's faithfulness endures forever, so give yourself up to God. Know God's love, and go and love others.

All: Amen.

Scripture Joshua 24:1-3, 14-25

Affirmation of Faith

The Apostle's 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, dead, 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 shall 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.

Sermon

“Stuck in the Middle with You”

Rev. Ron McDougald

Special Music

Find Us Faithful

Lynette McDougald

Pastoral Prayer/The Lord's Prayer

Postlude *Near to the Heart of God*

PRAYER LIST:

Here are the most recent additions: **Ellen Goodman** (Upcoming surgery on hand); **Hurricane damage in Honduras**; **Family of Leon Mathis**; **Family of Jim McDougald** (Ron's uncle who died on November 3rd in Rockingham, NC); **Prayers for our nation, for unity and peace**; **Teachers, Students and their families** at all levels of education as they adjust to learning in this time of COVID 19. Please keep these and all those on the list below in your prayers.

If you would like to add a request or removal to our list, please contact Nancy Bryson (324-6320 or nancybryson68@gmail.com) or Rev. Ron McDougald (601-942-8040 or chaplain.mcdougald@gmail.com)

McKay Bartlett

David & Margaret Earnest

Wil Howie

Jeff O'Rourke

Josephine Zitta

Kimberly Briggs

Audrey Gammill

Susan Scales Huffman

Bettye Seepe

Shari Brooks

Charlotte Green

Jetta Kuykendall

Clyde Williams

Please be in constant prayer for those suffering with COVID 19, and those who care for them, those with addictions, homelessness, loneliness, hunger, mental illness, the unemployed, prisoners and the poor.

SUSPENSION OF 'FACE TO FACE' SERVICES. Out of an abundance of caution, and with love and care for our community and congregation, we continue to suspend all face to face services (worship, social, choir, etc.) for the immediate future. The Session reviews this decision at each stated meeting. **Our next meeting is Thursday, December 3rd.** Please contact any Elder or Ron, if you have questions or comments

NEW PROPERTY UPDATE: 'HANDS WANTED/NEEDED'. We are now 'in' our new property! As expected, there is needed cleaning, painting and some renovations to prepare it as our place for worship, study, fellowship and as a base for mission to the community. Members of the Property Committee, along with several other volunteers from our church family have been cleaning, pulling out, painting, etc. every day since last Friday. A 'transformation' is taking place, but there is still much work to do. First, we want/need volunteers. No special skills required, just a commitment of time, large or small. Just drop by 280 Linden Circle (across Louisville Street from Starkville High School). Committee members will be working Monday-Friday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM on various projects, inside and out. If you need more information contact any member of the Property Committee: Andrew Gaston, Sara Green, John McWhorter or Maria Prather. Second, if you would like to make a financial donation to the Capital Fund (from which this project is being funded) contact Charles Bryson or Pat Colwick!

IN PERSON WORSHIP SURVEY COMING. The Session has approved a 'survey' to be distributed by mail and email late next week to the congregation and friends. This survey will be the primary way for us to get your feedback on when and how we might resume 'In Person' worship and activities. Take time to fill out and return/reply. Hard copies will be mailed and backed up by email no later than Friday, November 12th. Please contact any Elder or Ron if you do not receive a copy.

Session

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