

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - (from "A Declaration of Faith") (unison)**
We are certain that Jesus lives. He lives as God with us, touching all of human life with the presence of God. He lives as one of us with God. Because he shares our humanity and has bound us to himself in love, we have an advocate in the innermost life of God. We declare that Jesus is Lord. His resurrection is a decisive victory over the powers that deform and destroy human life. His lordship is hidden. The world appears to be dominated by people and systems that do not acknowledge his rule. But his lordship is real. It demands our loyalty and sets us free from the fear of all lesser lords who threaten us. We maintain that ultimate sovereignty now belongs to Jesus Christ in every sphere of life. Jesus is Lord' He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING *(Collectors asked to come forward)*
When Jesus sent his disciples on their mission, he told them, "Freely. You have received, freely give." Surely the same applies to us as followers of Jesus today. We are who we are, and we have what we have because of God's grace freely given in Jesus Christ. With grateful hearts, let us present our tithes and offerings. *You may give online @ fupcc.org, mail your gifts to the church office, 406 N. College Street, 28202, or give to the officers as they pass the collection plate. Remember, all we have, and all we are, belong to God. Let us give with a cheerful heart. Amen*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SELECTION
"When I Rose This Morning" by The Mississippi Mass Choir

*DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION
Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the undeserved blessings you give us. Most of all, we thank and praise you for your indescribable gift of your Son Jesus Christ. Give us grateful hearts and willing lives so we may follow our Lord where he leads us and serve our Lord as he calls us. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #384 (AA).....*"Can't Nobody Do Me Like Jesus"*

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**..... **Rev. Delton H. Farmer**
Now may the Lord of peace give you peace at all times and in all ways. The Lord be with all of you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

RESPONSE*"Three-Fold AMEN"*

POSTUDE

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, June 29, 2025

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Reverend Delton H. Farmer, Pastor

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"Helping Others See Jesus' Grace In Me"

Order of Worship

Third Sunday After Pentecost (Proper 8)

**Congregation Stands/Rise in spirit*

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***INTROIT #644 AA)** "Alleluia"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: Jesus said, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people."

PEOPLE: Lord, help us follow where you lead.

LEADER: Jesus said, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

PEOPLE: Lord, help us put you first and follow you.

LEADER: Jesus said, "Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also."

PEOPLE: Lord, help us follow you that we may serve you.

LEADER: The peace of Christ be with all of you.

ALL: And also with you. Let us worship God.

***OPENING HYMN #590 (AA)** "We're Marching To Zion"

* PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION (*Unison*)

This is the Lord's Day, and we come with purpose to worship You, O God! We praise You for the joy of gathered worship — for the songs, the prayers, the Word, and the power of Your presence among us. You've been our help in ages past, our strength today, and our hope for tomorrow. You are worthy of all the glory! Thank You for the sacred beauty of worship where joy and struggle meet at the altar, where truth is preached, and where souls are revived. Call us closer, Lord out of comfort and into compassion, out of fear and into faith. We give you honor and praise for this day. Amen

CALL TO CONFESSION

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Eternal God, you claimed us as your own in our baptisms and called us to be your covenant people. We confess we do not live as people created in your image, nor do we lead lives worthy of the calling to which we have been called. Jesus still calls, "Follow me" and we offer excuses because we can't do that. Jesus calls us to new life in the Spirit, and we cling to our old habits and tired traditions. Gracious God, forgive our sins. Open our ears and hearts to hear Jesus's call and give us grace and strength to respond in faith and love. In Jesus's name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear and believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*GLORIA PATRI

SPECIAL SELECTION "Changed" by Tramaine Haskins

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION..... Rev. Delton H. Farmer

Almighty God, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. As we hear your Word read and proclaimed this day, may our hearts be enlightened and our spirits strengthened that we may be more faithful followers of Jesus, the Word made flesh. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS Rev. Delton H. Farmer

OLD TESTAMENT: 1 Kings 19: 15-16, 19-21

NEW TESTAMENT: Galatians 5:1, 13-25

SERMON Rev. Delton H. Farmer

"The Deception of the Flesh: May the Spirit Rule"

INVITATIONAL HYMN #499 (AA).....

"Since Jesus Came Into My Heart"

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP
THE LORD'S PRAYER/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE