

MAY 16, 2021

MORNING WORSHIP

10:30 A.M.

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

GREETING THE GATHERED: The Love of Jesus Christ be with you!
ALL: And also with you!

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *The Prelude marks the beginning of worship.
Please observe silence as the Prelude begins.*

THE CALL TO WORSHIP
Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.
For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.
---Psalm 47: 1& 2

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION:
**We confess that we have sacrificed Your goodness for material goods.
We have meditated on our problems instead of meditating on Your promises.
We have shunned Your faithful love by seeking solace in sinful places.
We humbly seek Your mercy, O Lord.
Please forgive our rebellion and ignorance, our wayward hearts and loose tongues.
Restore us, O Lord, to the joy of Your salvation and make us willing to obey You.
Amen.**

THE SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION FOR OUR INDIVIDUAL SIN

THE DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS
What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us?
God, who did not withhold the Beloved Son, but gave him up for all of us.
Will God not also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God’s elect?
It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised,
who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. -- Romans 8: 31-34

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

THE FIRST READING: Ephesians 1: 15-23

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE LESSON: Luke 24: 44-53

THE SERMON: “The Ascension of the Lord”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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, 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.**

RECOGNITION OF 2021 GRADUATES

THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*THE POSTLUDE

PRAYER LIST FOR IMMEDIATE NEEDS
Ali Rae Barkley, Clint & Alexis Stubbs & baby boy Hayes, David Quinn, Lane Hill Young, Frank Gay, Jodi Rush (MTS seminary), Adrienne Phillips (wife of Pastor Nick Phillips), Jamie Wall, Helen Beavers, *Mary John Dill, Judy Hines Hopper, Lynn Daniel Mynatt, Tate Daniel, Leon Bailey, Maxine Tomlinson, Elliott Bailey, Danny Wilbanks, Calvin Austin, Ticer Brown, Bradley Childs, Anne Elliott, Leah & Miles Harrell.

**Updated address for Mary John Dill:
Pontotoc Health & Rehabilitation Center
278 Eighth St. Pontotoc, MS 38863*

Our Homebound, Assisted Living & Nursing Home Residents
Jean Ketchum, Carolyn Caviness, Johnny Cappleman, Billie Pickens.

RPC Weekly Financial Update
RPC Weekly 2021 Budget: \$2,710.97 Offering Received 5/09/21: \$1,383.00.

May Mission Focus | Tippah County Good Samaritan Center
Goal: \$500 | Total Received as of 5/09/21: \$400.00

WELCOME & INVITATION

This church welcomes you, no matter who you are,
where you come from, or why you are here.

We are Christ's people,
and this is Christ's place with its doors open wide.

If you are passing through, Godspeed;
if you are looking for a home, stay here;
if you need instruction, learn from us as we learn from you.
We invite visitors to join us, but most of all, to return often.

We are so glad you are here.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: The RPC Office is open Monday through Wednesday,
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM, & Thursday, 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

RPC Staff

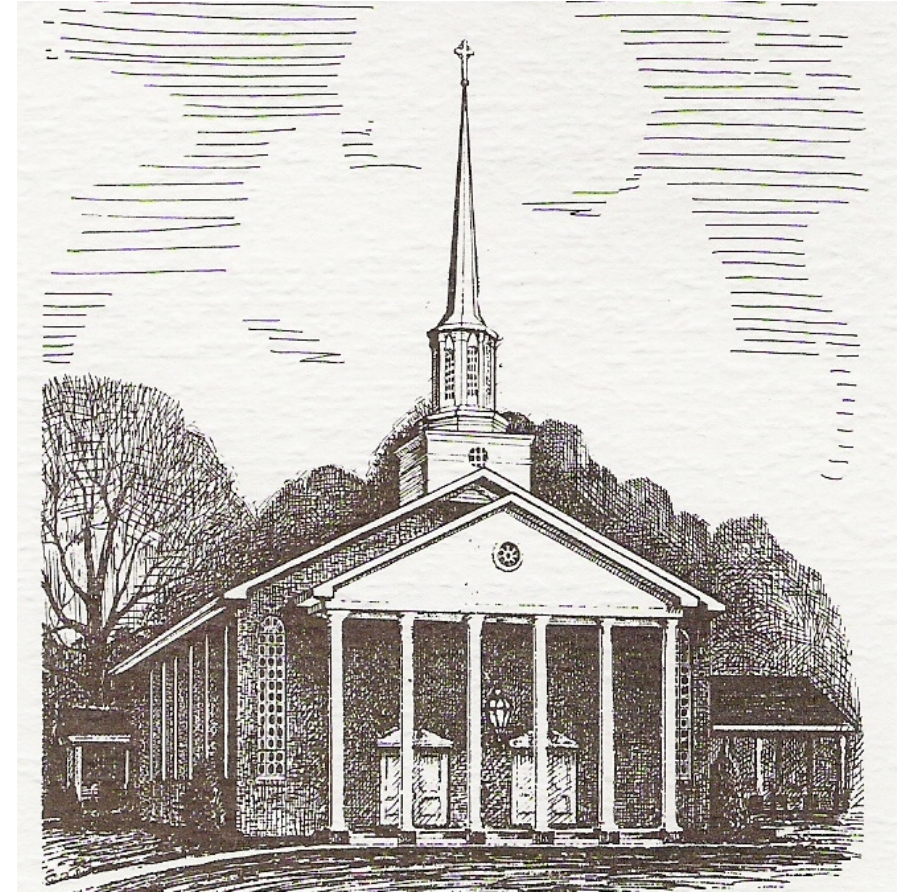
Rev. Dr. Jody Hill | Pastor

Jennifer Huddleston | Choir Director

B.J. Horton | Christian Education Director

Lynn Hill | Administrator & Pianist

Scan with your smart phone for our Website & Virtual Tour



RIPLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Heart for Christ & Community Since 1837

Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

Rev. Dr. Jody Hill | Pastor

Phone: 662-837-3765 (Office)

Mail: P.O. Box 556 Ripley, MS 38663

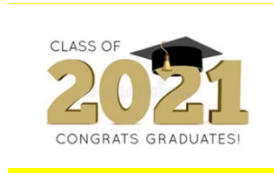
302 West Cooper Street

www.ripleypresbyterianchurch.com

Congratulations

Congratulations to Clint & Alexis Stubbs on the birth of their son, Michael Hayes Stubbs! Hayes was born May 10, 2021 at 7:32 p.m., weighing 7 lbs 1oz and 19 inches long. Proud grandparents are Nick & Cheryl Willis and Mark & Linda Stubbs.

Congratulations to Grace-Anne Elliott Brown & Andrew Brown who were married at Ripley Presbyterian Church on Saturday, May 15, 2021! What a joy it is when God brings two people together in Holy matrimony. We know that God has great and wonderful things in store for the two of you and wish you only the best that life has to offer.



RPC Senior Recognition Sunday | *Class of 2021*

Luke Hill, son of Rev. Dr. Jody & Monya Hill, is a 2021 graduate of Corinth high school. He was selected as a member of the school's Hall of Fame. He earned the Star Student award and his AICE Diploma with merit as accredited by the University Cambridge in England. He was a four-year letterman in varsity athletics. This fall, he will begin his education at The University of Mississippi where he will study Biomedical Engineering as a member of the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honor's College.

May 23 | COMMUNION

May 23, 2021 | A Congregational Meeting will be held to elect elders for the Class of 2023. The Nominating Committee respectfully submits the following nominees:
Elder Class of 2023 | Jennifer Huddleston, Benton Elliott, & Robert Goolsby.

Please note: The RPC Office will be closed from May 18 through approximately May 31st. Admin. Lynn Hill will be home recovering from surgery. Please contact Rev. Hill or any of your Elders should the need arise. Thank you for your understanding.

Prayer for Graduates— *written by Steve Fry*

In Psalm 127 we are told that the young are like arrows in the hands of a warrior. The OT records the story of an ancient king who was summoned by a prophet to shoot an arrow. He did so, and that arrow was called the arrow of the Lord's Victory.

Before us today, Lord, are arrows of Your Victory. These are young men and women you have formed and gifted for such an hour as this.

For though these are days like the prophet Isaiah described – days of uncertainty, when thick darkness covers the people – we also know that they are days of incredible opportunity.

May each one of these men and women fly as an arrow of truth to a society often muddled about right and wrong; as an arrow of compassion to the unloved and unwanted; as an arrow of light pointing to a day when the Lord Jesus will reign over the earth.

I pray that they would know the 'hope of their calling' and, like Timothy, stir up the gift within them. That when in the course of things they are tempted to lose heart they would know that they are indeed arrows of Your Victory. That they are not consigned to a random existence, but—

Called to be Your mouthpiece,

penetrating a distracted and weary world with the wonder of Your wisdom.

Called to be an extension of Your hand of grace

to the many they will touch who have never known what grace feels like.

Called to run in shoes of peace,

bearing the Good News that Jesus has made a way for people to know God.

Grant them the gift of faith – a faith that will illumine every season of hardship and darkness.

Grant them a love for Your Word, a heart for prayer, a song of praise and a sensitive ear to your Spirit.

For they will encounter many crossroads in life; not just crossroads of career – but much more importantly crossroads of character.

Times when they will have to decide whether or not to take the path that most glorifies You – even if it means being less successful or lesser known in the eyes of others.

In these days of easily discarded relationships, help each of them know what it means to be a faithful friend, husband, wife, father or mother.

In these days that seem so frantic, help each of them to know Your peace which passes all understanding.

In these days when they will most surely navigate through seas of change and even crisis, help them forge anchors of wisdom out of every disappointment.

And then give them a heart to pass that wisdom on to their children.

And may they never lack in passion for You. Grant them a spirit that pursues You above all else.

For at the end of the day, we know that it is not about making our mark, but pressing on to Your mark, that prize for which Paul himself strained – the moment when the Master says, "Well done" and the 'forever' we will have of knowing You face-to-face. Amen.

