

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** *(Isaiah 41: 17-20)*  
When the poor and needy seek water, and there is none, and their tongue is parched with thirst,  
**I the Lord will answer them, I the God of Israel will not forsake them.**  
I will open rivers on the bare heights, and fountains in the midst of the valleys;  
**I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.**  
I will put in the wilderness the cedar, the acacia, the myrtle, and the olive;  
I will set in the desert the cypress, the plane and the pine together,  
**So that all may see and know, all may consider and understand,**  
That the hand of the Lord has done this,  
**The Holy One of Israel has created it.**

**THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**  
**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo.**  
**Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear,**  
**and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.**  
**Set us free from a past that we cannot change;**  
**open to us a future in which we can be changed;**  
**and grant us grace to grow more and more in Your likeness and image,**  
**through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.**

THE SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION FOR OUR INDIVIDUAL SIN

**THE DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**  
Believe the good news!  
God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world,  
but in order that the world might be saved through him.   --John 3:17  
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.  
**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

THE FIRST READING: Psalm 65 (Pew Bible NT pg. 527)

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE LESSON: Romans 8: 18-25 (Pew Bible NT pg. 158)

THE SERMON: “Still Waiting for Help to Come”

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.**

THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

**\*THE POSTLUDE**

*\*All Who Are Able Please Stand*

We are pleased to welcome our speaker, Mary Lin Hudson, Professor of Homiletics and Liturgics at Memphis Theological Seminary. She has taught preaching and worship there for over 30 years. She is originally from Dyer, TN where she was raised in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. She earned a BA from Bethel College, an MDiv from Memphis Theological Seminary, and a PhD from Vanderbilt University. She is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ.

*Thank you for leading our worship today.*

## 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

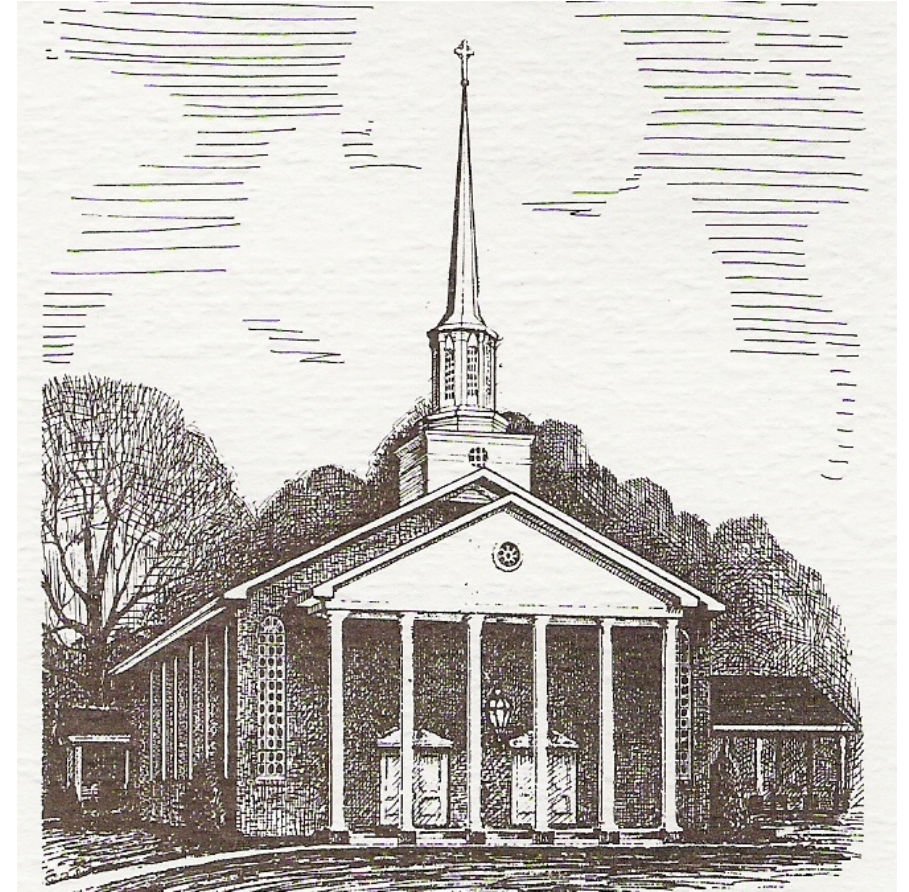
Rev. Dr. Jody Hill | Pastor

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](http://www.ripleypresbyterianchurch.com)

PRAYER LIST FOR IMMEDIATE NEEDS

Brent Henderson, Jimmy & Judy Hines Hopper, Scottye Stewart, Leon Bailey, Shirley McClain, Shirley Huddleston, Sherry Hill, Danny Wilbanks, Megan Roberts, Opal LaBarreare, Louise Miller, Lorenzo Medford, Gail Allensworth, Ali Rae Barkley, Frank Gay, Adrienne Phillips, Jamie Wall, Helen Beavers, Tate Daniel, Maxine Tomlinson, Elliott Bailey, Calvin Austin, Ticer Brown, Bradley Childs, Leah & Miles Harrell.

Our Deepest Sympathies to....

The family of David Lence

Our Homebound, Assisted Living & Nursing Home Residents

Jean Ketchum, Carolyn Caviness, Johnny Cappleman, Billie Pickens.

October Reminders at RPC...

October 10 | COMMUNION

October 11 | RPC/PW will meet at 10 am in the Gregg Center. This will be an organizational meeting to distribute Bible study materials and make plans for the future. All women of the congregation are welcome and encouraged to attend! (Proper Covid-19 protocols will be observed.)

October 12 | Presbytery (Fall Stated Meeting)

RPC Weekly Financial Update

RPC Weekly 2021 Budget: \$2,710.97 Offering Received 9/26/21: \$1,165.00

September Mission Focus: Pastor’s Discretionary Assistance Fund/TEPA

Goal: \$500 | Final Total Collected: \$600.00

October Mission Focus: Presbyterian Hunger Grant | Goal \$500

“Enslaving poverty in a world of abundance is an intolerable violation of God’s good creation.” -Book of Confessions, 9/46

Fighting hunger is at the heart of our Presbyterian understanding of mission. Jesus fed the hungry and told his disciples to do the same. We can make an impact on local hunger by contributing toward this mission to fund the Presbytery of St. Andrew Hunger Grant. These grant funds are vital toward applicants in our presbytery – our own Tippah County Good Samaritan Center has been a recipient several times over the past few years. Please join us in the fight against hunger in our community & our presbytery.

If you would like to donate toward The Cross of Christ project, you may direct it through Ripley Presbyterian Church. RPC will send these designated funds to The Peoples Bank where a special account is set up for this project. Total Collected as of 9/26/21: \$750.00

RIPLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ELDERS BY CLASS

Class of 2021 Norris Howell & Kenny Hill

Will Rotate Off Active Service January 2022

Class of 2022

Ann Wigington

Class of 2023

Benton Elliott

Jennifer Huddleston

Robert Goolsby

The Ripley PC/USA Officer Nominating Committee invites you to participate in the process of their work in the following ways: PRAY FOR THE COMMITTEE as it goes about its work. PRAY FOR OUR CONGREGATION. PRAY FOR THE ELDERS on our session. PRAYERFULLY identify active members you want the committee to consider and use this form to submit those names.

Your Suggestions for the Class of 2024

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Your Suggestion to fill the term (1 year) remaining for Class of 2022 due to the resignation of Elder Steve Wiley

3. \_\_\_\_\_

The deadline for submitting this form is OCTOBER 11, 2021.

The Officer Nominating Committee  
Session | Norris Howell, Kenny Hill  
PW | Elizabeth Elliott  
RPC Men | Price Elliott  
Choir | Pat Ledbetter