The Worship of God

*Please stand as you are able. The congregation speaks the text in **bold** type. Large print hymnals are available in the Narthex. Please ask a member of our Welcome Team for assistance.

FLOWER DEDICATION
The flowers in the church are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Chester Witherington by Nancy Witherington, Blake Witherington, Leslie Muscarella, and Carole Lumpkin.

GATHERING

The Prelude
“Air” | Herbert Howells
Raina Wood, Organist

The Welcome and Opening Prayer | Rev. Dr. Nancy Johnson

The Choral Introit | H. Hamilton Smith
He shall rule from sea to sea, and from the river to the ends of the earth. All kings shall pay him homage. All nations shall serve him. Alleluia.
Sung by the Sanctuary Choir; Ryan Ferguson, Director of Music

PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

*The Processional Hymn
UMH 166 “All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine” | SINE NOMINE
The 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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at 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 Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Gloria Patri | MEINEKE

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Passing of the Peace

The Sacrament of Baptism | 11:00 a.m.

James Causey Ghesquiere, son of Lauren and Paul Ghesquiere

James, James, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too. We this day do all agree a child of God you’ll always be. James, James, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.

The Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer | Rev. Betsy Butler

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Hymn

TFWS 2222 “The Servant Song” | THE SERVANT SONG

Verses 1 – 4

During the singing of the hymn at 11:00 a.m., children Pre-K up to grade 4 are dismissed through the front, lectern side doors to attend Children’s Church. They can be picked up at the conclusion of worship in Hancock Hall.
The Offertory

The Offertory Anthem
“The Old Hundredth Psalm Tune” | Ralph Vaughan Williams
Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice; him serve with fear, his praise forth tell, come ye before him, and rejoice. The Lord, ye know, is God indeed, without our aid he did us make; we are his folk, he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take. O enter then his gates with praise, approach with joy his courts unto; praise, laud, and bless his name always, for it is seemly so to do. For why? The Lord our God is good; his mercy is forever sure; his truth at all times firmly stood. And shall from age to age endure. To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the God whom heaven and earth adore, from men and from the angel host be praise and glory evermore. Amen.

*The Doxology | UMH 94 | LASST UNS ERFREUEN
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PROCLAMATION

The Scripture Reading | Philippians 2:1-11

The Message | Rev. Jeremy Lawson
“Do No Harm”
RESPONSE

*The Hymn of Response
UMH 160 “Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart” | MARION

*The Blessing and Choral Benediction | John Rutter

*The Postlude
“Fugue in C Major” | Dietrich Buxtehude
Parent Small Groups

**Are My Kids on Track? | New Parent Connect & Grow Group**
We invite new moms and dads of babies through preschoolers to join the New Parents Connect and Grow Group for Are My Kids on Track? by Goff, Trevathan, and Thomas, beginning on Wednesday, August 16, at 6:15 p.m. in room 222.

**Motherhood Without All the Rules | Parenting with Purpose**
Calling all moms! Join Alyssa House and the Parenting with Purpose Group for Motherhood Without All the Rules by Maggie Combs, beginning with an orientation on Wednesday, August 16, at 6:15 p.m. in the John Wesley Parlor.

**Who is This Man? | Dad's Small Group**
Join David McKoy and the Dad's Small Group for Who Is This Man?: by John Ortberg, beginning with an orientation on Wednesday, August 16, at 6:15 p.m. in room 224.

To learn more and register, scan the QR code in the back of the bulletin.

Cindy McKoy, Director of Small Groups Ministry
cindy@athensfirstumc.org

Children's and Students Music Ministry

Children's Music Ministry for children ages 3 (by September 1, 2023) through Grade 4 starts Wednesday, August 16! Choirs meet from 5:00 - 5:45 p.m. Our theme this year is The Beatitudes: Blessings for a Joyful Journey!

Route 56 Music/Mission is for Grades 5-6 students and meets on Sunday evenings during Route 56 Connections. We start on Sunday, August 13, at 5:45 p.m. We sing and serve with several Music and Mission projects!

The Wesleyan Youth Choir begins on Sunday, August 13, at 4:30 p.m. For students in Grades 7 - 12. We sing in worship, in the community, and across the country on our annual summer Choir Tour.

Janis Maxwell, Director of Children's and Student Music Ministry
janis@athensfirstumc.org
Sunday Night Sneak Peek

Have you ever wondered what happens on a Sunday night in Student Ministry? Student Ministry invites all students in grades 5-12 to join us for a Sneak Peek Night on Sunday, August 13 from 5:45-7:30pm. This night will give everyone an opportunity to connect, see the Route 56 and Youth space, experience a mini Connections (5th and 6th) and mini Encounter (7th-12th), enjoy a meal together and play a few games!

Student Music Opportunities! Grades 7-12 are invited to join the Wesleyan Youth Choir at 4:30 for our first rehearsal of the season! Grades 5-6, I will see you during Connections for a sneak peek of what we do in music and missions! If you have an older sibling in youth choir, you are welcome to come at 4:30 and check in for "before" care in the gym.

Hannah Stubblefield, Director of Student Ministry
hannah@athensfirstumc.org

Janis Maxwell, Director of Children’s and Student Music Ministry
janis@athensfirstumc.org

Windows of Comfort | Organ Recital
Raina Wood, Organist

Sunday, August 20 - 3:00 p.m. | Sanctuary

Join Raina Wood, AFUMC Organist, for the kick-off of our 2023-2024 concert series and her first solo recital on the Quimby Sanctuary Organ! This afternoon program explores the twofold meaning of Windows of Comfort: from a set of pieces inspired by works of stained-glass artist, Louis Comfort Tiffany, to the way music offers to the soul “windows of comfort” for things of this world and beyond: through the sheer power and glory, intricacy, and delicacy—and just plain fun of it! Program to include works by Bossi, Locklair, Bedard, Schmidt, and Vierne. Reception in Hancock Hall following the recital.

Ryan Ferguson, Director of Music | ryan@athensfirstumc.org
MEMBER NEWS

Sympathy
Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Armand “Toby” Chapeau who passed away on July 31.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Budget for 2023: $3,635,506 | Given YTD: $1,801,286 | Goal for Aug: $266,527 | Received for Aug: $35,251

FOLLOW UP WITH A MINISTER

Betsy Butler | Associate Minister
betsy@athensfirstumc.org | 706-714-1559

Natalee Dukes Hamby | Associate Minister
natalee@athensfirstumc.org | 404-414-1701

Nancy Johnson | Associate Minister
nancy@athensfirstumc.org | 762-233-4761

Jeremy Lawson | Senior Minister
jeremy@athensfirstumc.org | 404-304-3574

REQUEST PRAYER

Have a prayer request? Scan the QR code located on your bulletin and select “Needing Prayer” to fill out a form to submit your prayer request. If you desire for the request to be shared with our Prayer Ministry team, please indicate that in your submission. Prayer requests can also be made directly via email prayer@athensfirstumc.org.