

ATHENS FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Transfiguration Sunday

February 11, 2024

9:30 & 11:00 A.M.

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.

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THE FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

In loving memory of Barbara and Bob Carson by their family.

Transfiguration Sunday is the final summit of the Epiphany season—a culminating celebration of Jesus, the Light of the World, through Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany. Today, we celebrate Jesus' transfiguration on the mountain, where Peter, James, and John watched as the radiant Jesus spoke with the glorified Moses and Elijah.

On its final Sunday of the liturgical year, the Christ Candle holds a prominent place in worship today: representing the transfigured glory of Jesus Christ. While the Christ Candle is removed from the altar during Lent, the Paschal Candle takes its place on Easter morning, and the Christ Candle returns on the First Sunday of Advent.

GATHERING

The Prelude

“Fanfare” from *Three Pieces for Ceremony* | Michael McCabe

Raina Wood, Organist; Dr. Brandon Craswell, Geoff Wood, and Ed Bush, trumpet; Peter Riggs and Anthony Parrish, horn; Danny Alford, trombone; David Stone, euphonium; Hunter Kane, tuba; Camden Briggs, timpani; Ryan Ferguson, Director of Music

The Welcome and Opening Prayer

9:30 a.m. | Rev. Betsy Butler

11:00 a.m. | Rev. Natalee Dukes Hamby

PRAISE & THANKSGIVING

**The Processional of the Christ Light*

UMH 103 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" | ST. DENIO

**The Affirmation of Faith | "The Nicene Creed"*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in the one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**The Gloria Patri | UMH 70 | 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 | 9:30 a.m.

Sienna Keilani Guyer, daughter of Alia and Lath Guyer

Cullen Douglas Davidson, son of Lane and Justin Davidson

Children, children, 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. Children, children, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too

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

Gwendolyn Elizabeth Tucker, daughter of Nancy and Jackson Tucker

Gwen, Gwen, 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. Gwen, Gwen, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.

The Recognition of the Scouting Ministry | 11:00 a.m.

The Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer | Rev. Dr. Nancy Johnson

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

UMH 144 "This Is My Father's World" | TERRA BEATA

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 Offering and Offertory Anthem

"Gloria" from *Coronation Mass* | Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir with the Brass Ensemble and Soloists: Ava Bogarde, Audrey Vazquez, Marlee Van Mullekom, Demetreon Wells, Dellar Weldon, and Miller Vaughn

Translation from Latin: *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For You alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. 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 | 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

The Message | Rev. Jeremy Lawson

“Who’s Your Team?”

RESPONSE

**The Hymn of Response*

UMH 90 “Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones” | LASST UNS ERFREUEN
Verses 1, 2 and 4

**The Blessing*

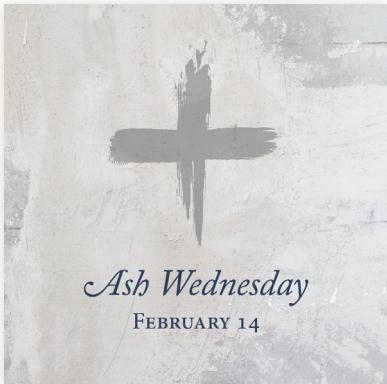
**The Choral Benediction* | John Rutter

**The Postlude*

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” | Timothy Albrecht

THE STEEPLE

February 11, 2024



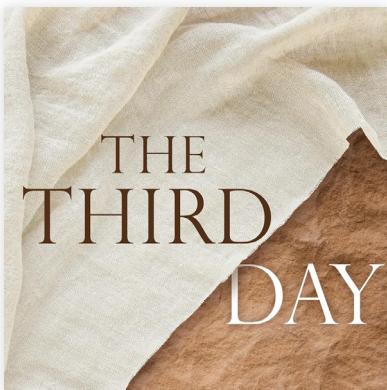
Ash Wednesday | February 14

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the holy season of Lent—a 40-day season of preparation for Easter by observing a period of fasting, reflection, and repentance. On this day, we mark the sign of the cross on ourselves as a remembrance of our mortality as we seek a more faithful life. “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. | Imposition of Ashes in the Sanctuary

Midday | Community Ash Wednesday Observances

6:30 p.m. | Evening Service in the Sanctuary



The Third Day | Churchwide Lenten Study

As we prepare to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, we invite you to join us for our churchwide Lenten study, *The Third Day: Living the Resurrection*, by Tom Berlin. This study traces events around Peter, Mary Magdalene, and Thomas and how the resurrection transforms their lives. **We are excited to offer this six-week study, beginning February 18 for Sunday school classes and February 21, for Bible studies, small groups, and individuals.** Books will be available for purchase for \$10. For more information, contact Cindy.

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

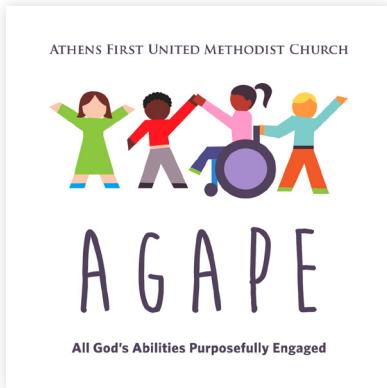


February 25 | Special Offering

A special offering will be taken on **Sunday, February 25**, for the North Georgia Housing and Homeless Council. This administrative agency of the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church was created to partner with and support churches and other organizations ministering to those experiencing poverty and homelessness. One hundred percent of your gift will go to church and community ministries serving people experiencing poverty and homelessness. A gift of any amount will help transform the lives of neighbors in need.

Elisabeth Bingenheimer, Executive Assistant to Senior Minister
elisabeth@athensfirstumc.org

Quick Links | This QR code will allow you to quickly access information for events, giving, prayer, and more.



AGAPE Adults

The AGAPE program (All God's Abilities Purposefully Engaged) has long been making a place at Athens First for our children and youth with disabilities. We are delighted now to begin planning events and programs for our participants who have moved beyond childhood. In the coming months, we will be exploring new ways for our adult participants to learn, grow, serve and just have fun. If you have a loved one who is an adult with a cognitive disability, and you would like to know more, please let us know. Reach out by email or call the church office.

Rev. Dr. Nancy Johnson, Associate Minister
nancy@athensfirstumc.org



Student Ministry | January Recap

January was a full and incredibly fun month! We took Route 56 Ice Skating and Youth headed to the Botanical Gardens for Disco Christmas Lights and dinner at the Stewart's. We held a Lock-In with bowling and Underground Church and milkshakes and we closed the month out with an amazing retreat with our Confirmants!

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

Devin Burns, Assistant Director of Student Ministry
devin@athensfirstumc.org

MEMBER NEWS

Sympathy

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Hunter Swafford who passed away on January 28.

WAYS TO GIVE

OFFERING PLATE



Fill out the envelope located in your pew.

ONLINE



Scan to be taken to Realm, our online giving platform.

TEXT



“AFUMCTTG”
to 73256

FINANCIAL REPORT

2024 Budget: \$3,712,076 | 2024 Giving: \$273,918 | January Goal: \$348,911

FOLLOW UP WITH A MINISTER

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

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

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

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

REQUEST PRAYER

Have a prayer request? Scan the QR code located in 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.

CCS #12591 • CCLI #1097880

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