



# First Presbyterian Church of Athens

*In response to God's grace, the mission of First Presbyterian Church is to create a community where people seek the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, rejoice in worship, and go forth sharing the love of Christ with Athens and the world!*

August 21, 2016  
8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

## GATHERING IN THE NAME OF GOD

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us. As we enter a holy space this morning, **please silence your cell phone**. The nursery is available downstairs during both services. Consult an usher if you need a personal hearing device, large-print bulletin or large-print hymnal.

### Greeting

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

### Prelude

*Aria*

Craig Phillips

*The congregation is invited to speak or sing the text in **bold** type.*

### Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

*Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad.*

### Rooted & Reaching Reflections

Allen Crowell

*Keep your roots deep in [Christ Jesus], build your lives on him, and become stronger in your faith, as you were taught. And be filled with thanksgiving.*

*Colossians 2:7 (Good News Bible)*

Allen Crowell is Chair of the Worship & Music Commission.

### Song of Gathering

Hymn 229, Stanza 1

**From all that dwell below the skies  
let the Creator's praise arise: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Let the Redeemer's name be sung  
through every land and every tongue.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### Call to Worship

Psalms 118:24

This is the day that the Lord has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

*Children, ages 4 through grade 2, are invited to come forward to lead the Call to Worship. Afterwards, they will depart for Children's Church in the Godly Play Room located in the Tinsley-Stern building.*

Today the children will begin leading us in our Call to Worship.

**\*Hymn 191** *God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength*

WINCHESTER OLD

*\*\*\*Latecomers may be seated.*

*\*Those who are able may stand.*

**\*Call to Confession**

**\*Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God,  
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.  
**We have failed to be an obedient church.**  
**We have not done your will,**  
we have broken your law,  
we have rebelled against your love.  
**We have not loved our neighbors,**  
and we have refused to hear the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray.  
Free us for joyful obedience;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**\*Silent Prayer**

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Congregational Response**

Hymn 579

**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, Amen.**

**\*Passing of the Peace**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.  
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*Worshippers may greet each other by saying, "The peace of Christ be with you,"  
and responding, "And also with you."*

*\*\*\*Latecomers may be seated.*

## HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

**Congregational Prayer for Illumination**

English Folk Song

**Eternal light, shine in my heart; eternal hope, lift up my eyes;**  
**eternal power, be my support; eternal wisdom make me wise.**

**First Lesson**

Psalm 69:1-2,13-18, page 520

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**11:00 a.m. Anthem**

*Be Still*

Rick Sowash

Be still and know that I am God.

**Second Lesson**

Matthew 8:23-25 page 886

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

*"The Lord's Prayer 7: Deliver Us"*

Carol Strickland

The anthem is a gentle setting of Psalm 46:10 by Rick Sowash, an author, composer, publisher, filmmaker and storyteller who lives in Cincinnati.

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

\*Hymn 379

*My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

SOLID ROCK

\*Affirmation of Faith

*"A New Creed" (1968)*

United Church of Canada

**We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.  
We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.  
We trust in God.  
We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's Presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.  
In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.  
We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.**

*My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* develops the imagery of Jesus' remark (Matthew 7:24-27) that those who believe in him and act on that belief are like someone who builds a house on a rock. The text is set to a tune created for it by a prolific 19th-century American composer and editor.

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (Ecum.)** Hymnal p. 16

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

**Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings**

*Every worshiper, young and old, is encouraged to offer a gift out of gratitude to God.*

**Offertory**

*When We Are in Deepest Need*

J. S. Bach

\*Doxology

Hymn 592

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*Prayer of Dedication

## SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

\*Hymn 562                      *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*                      MELITA

\*Benediction

\*Congregational Response

**Go with us, Lord, and guide the way  
through this and every coming day,  
that in your Spirit strong and true  
our lives may be our gift to you.**

Hymn 535

*Following worship, all  
are invited for a time of  
fellowship and refreshments  
in the Atrium.*

\*Postlude                      *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*                      Wayne L. Wold

*Texts and music for hymns and sung responses reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-714861*

**Nurseries for infants and toddlers** are available from 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., located next to the Children's Ministry Suite and are accessible down the stairs in the Atrium and through the glass doors.

**To pick up your child from Children's Church**, please go through the Atrium into Fellowship Hall. Turn right to enter the Tinsley-Stern building and up the stairs to the church library.

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**A special word of welcome to our guests.** Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. Please fill out the pew pad with as much contact information as you would like to share so that we may be in touch.

### WAYS TO SERVE FORMS

Have you seen the Rooted & Reaching Tree in the Atrium where we have many leaves representing church members who are ready to serve? If you haven't filled out your "Ways to Serve" form yet, it's not too late!

### COUPLES' SMALL GROUP ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING TODAY

Any couples interested in participating in a small group this fall, please meet Paula-Frances and Greg Price in Fellowship Hall after the 11:00 a.m. worship service today. Bring your calendar and ideas. Childcare will be provided.

### SENIOR ADULT SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

Join us as we celebrate our roots on Senior Adult Sunday next Sunday. Dr. John Kipp will preach at the 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. worship services. Everyone is invited to a reception following the 11:00 a.m. service in Fellowship Hall.

### DR. BRUCE LANCASTER'S FIRST SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Our new Interim Senior Pastor, Dr. Lancaster, begins his ministry with us September 8. He will be leading us in worship and preaching for the first time at both the 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services on Sunday, September 11.

### CHURCH PICNIC, SEPTEMBER 11 3:00 - 6:00 P.M., SANDY CREEK PARK

Join us as we welcome Dr. Bruce Lancaster and his wife Cathi to our church family. Enjoy an afternoon of fellowship, food, and fun for family and friends of all ages. Registration begins today in the atrium or you may register online at [FirstPresAthens.org](http://FirstPresAthens.org). \$7 per person, \$20 maximum per family

### WED@FIRST PROGRAMS BEGIN, SEPTEMBER 14

Dinner and programs for all ages kickoff September 14 with the youth group mission trip report, "Practicing Radical Hospitality" at 6:30 p.m. Watch for the full list of classes, including Dr. Lancaster's "Believing the Future" study, coming soon.

### IHN HOST WEEK, SEPTEMBER 25 - OCTOBER 2

Our next Interfaith Hospitality host week is September 25 - October 2. Please sign up today in the Atrium to help with set up, meals, laundry, driving, hosting or take down. You may also contact Terry Nestor ([terrynestor@hotmail.com](mailto:terrynestor@hotmail.com)) to volunteer or for questions. Thank you for your continued support of this ministry!

**PLEASE SEE [FIRSTPRESATHENS.ORG](http://FIRSTPRESATHENS.ORG) FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.**