



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!

May 15, 2016
8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Day of Pentecost

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

Feria Pentecostes

Camille Saint-Saëns

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad.

Minute for Mission

Pentecost Offering

8:45 a.m. Keith Oelke

11:00 a.m. Bertis Downs

Song of Gathering

Veni Sancte Spiritus

Jacques Berthier

(Holy Spirit, Come to Us)



Call to Worship

Leader: How wonderful are God's works! In wisdom God made them all.

People: The sea, the creeping things, all living things both great and small show forth the glory of God.

Leader: May the glory of God endure forever.

People: We will sing praise to God as long as we live.

Leader: Come, let us worship God.

Like many other chants from the ecumenical monastic community at Taizé, France, this brief text "Veni Sancte Spiritus" ("Come, Holy Spirit") is intended for repeated singing by the congregation, sometimes with a choir or soloist singing a longer related text. These refrains often use Latin to avoid connection with any particular nation.

*Those who are able may stand.

Addressing the first two stanzas to the singers of *O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!* and the last three to God, this free paraphrase of Psalm 104 recasts the psalmist's imagery with baroque verve. Though it was first published in England, the tune has been more popular in North America than there.

***Hymn No. 476** *O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!* LYONS
*****Latecomers may be seated.*

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Almighty God, you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community of faith. We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of grace, speak the good news of your love, or live as a people made one in Christ.

Have mercy on us, O God. Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit and fill us with a flaming desire to be your faithful people, doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Congregational Response** Hymn No. 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.

***8:45 a.m. Affirmation of Faith** *The Apostles' Creed* Hymnal, p.14

***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.*

11:00 a.m. Sacrament of Baptism

Receiving the sacrament of baptism are Lane and Jennings Holloway, children of Jay and Joy Holloway.

***Question to Congregation**

Do we, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Lane and Jennings by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging them to know and follow Christ? Do we? **We do.**

***Affirmation of Faith** *The Apostles' Creed* Hymnal, p.14

11:00 a.m. A Time for Young Children

Children, age four through grade two, may come forward for a message and then leave for Children's Church located in the Children's Ministry Suite. To pick up your child after the service, please go through the Atrium and down the stairs.

Children's Church is a special time for our youngest members to learn scripture through song, art, and play.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Congregational Prayer for Illumination Hymn No. 321, Stanza 1
**Holy Spirit, truth divine, dawn upon this soul of mine;
Word of God, and inward light, wake my spirit, clear my sight.**

First Lesson Psalm 104:24-34, 35b, page 544
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***8:45 a.m. Hymn No. 126** *Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove* ST. AGNES

11:00 a.m. Anthem *Come Thou, Lord, Creator Spirit* Jeffrey H. Rickard
Come thou, Lord, Creator Spirit, tune the humble heart to thee.
From the flame of love now kindle flame in spirits born for thee.
Thou the father of thy children; thou the orb of liberty.
Thou the treasure we do cherish; thou our hope and destiny.
Come thou, Lord, in all thy splendor, let the wall of temple ring.
Seraphs' cry allow to render clear the anthem we would sing.
Thou so mighty, now recover for thyself thy majesty.
Thou, so gentle, now deliver for thyself thy people free.

Second Lesson Acts 2:1-21, page 994
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *The Early Days of the Church* Dr. Doak
Text: When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all gathered
in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound
like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the whole house
where they were sitting. Acts 2:1-2

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

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

8:45 a.m. Offertory *Come Down, O Love Divine* Wilbur Held

11:00 a.m. Offertory *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether* Harold Friedell
Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly in thy name,
two or three are met together, thou art in the midst of them:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Touch we now thy garment's hem.
As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,
then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia! Alleluia! So knit thou our friendship up.
All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of thee,
that by caring, helping, giving, we may true disciples be.
Alleluia! Alleluia! We will serve thee faithfully.

***Doxology** Hymn No. 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**

In contrast to many hymns to the Holy Spirit, *Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove* is notable for being in the plural, a valuable reminder that the Holy Spirit has been bestowed on the whole Church, not just on a few individuals. The tune was composed for "Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee."

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal p. 16

. . . forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. . . .

Breaking of the Bread and Giving of the Cup

Communion of the People

8:45 a.m.— Communion will be served by intinction. Please come forward as the clergy direct.

11:00 a.m.— Please partake as you are served. The cup in the center of each plate contains gluten-free bread.

Prayer after Communion

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

*Hymn No. 130

Let Every Christian Pray

LAUDES DOMINI

*Benediction

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

*Congregational Response

Hymn No. 128, Stanza 4

**O Spirit, sent from heaven on that day long ago,
rekindle faith among us in all life's ebb and flow.**

**O give us ears to listen and tongues aflame with praise,
so folk of every nation glad songs of joy shall raise.**

*Postlude

Come God, Creator, Holy Spirit

J. S. Bach

The postlude is a setting of the Lutheran chorale version of our Hymn 125. The text, originally written in Latin in the 9th century, has had long and active use, both for Pentecost and for ordinations. Though created for an older hymn, the original plainchant tune has set this text from earliest days.