



# 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 22, 2016  
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.  
Scottish Reformation Sunday

## GATHERING IN THE NAME OF GOD

### Bagpipe Prelude

**\*Procession**      *Highland Cathedral*      Traditional piping tune  
*As the procession enters the Sanctuary, the Congregation will rise. Being thus assembled, the minister shall solemnly say, "Let us worship God!"*

**\*Hymn No. 420**      *God of Grace and God of Glory*      CWM RHONDDA  
\*\*\*Latecomers may be seated.

### Call to Worship

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
who made heaven and earth.

**People: O come, let us worship and bow down;  
let us kneel before the Lord our maker,  
for he is our God;  
we are the people of his pasture,  
and the sheep of his hand.**

11:00 a.m. Introduction of Honored Guests

Prayers for Elected and Appointed Officials

### Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God, we are unworthy to come into your presence because of our many sins. If you dealt with us as we deserve we would not deserve any grace or mercy from you. We have sinned against you, O Lord, and we have offended you. And yet, O Lord, as we acknowledge our sins and offenses, so also do we acknowledge you to be a merciful God and a loving and favorable Father to all who turn to you. We humbly ask you, for the sake of Christ your son, to show mercy to us and forgive us all our offense.**      *continued on next page*

\*Those who are able may stand.

This service is adapted from an early Scottish worship serviced used by John Knox.

The stirring hymn *God of Grace and God of Glory*, used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930, was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

This prayer is adapted from John Knox's Liturgy of 1560.

**Forgive the sins of our youth and the sins of our old age. By your Spirit, O God, take possession of our hearts that, not only the actions of our life, but also the words of our mouth, and the smallest thoughts of our mind, may be guided and governed by you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Almighty God, who freely pardons all who repent and turn to Him, now fulfill in every contrite heart the promise of redeeming grace; remitting all our sins, and cleansing us from an evil conscience; through the perfect sacrifice of Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

The traditional liturgical word "Alleluia" literally means "praise God." The music for this Celtic response was composed by Fintan O'Carroll in 1981.

### **\*Congregational Response**

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

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

### **\*8:45 Affirmation of Faith (see below)**

#### **\*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."*

### **11:00 a.m. Sacrament of Baptism**

Receiving the sacrament of baptism are:

Wallace Brownell Michalek, the son of Chris Michalek and  
Isabelle Wallace

William Henley Cook, the son of Jay and Lauren Cook

#### **\*Question to Congregation**

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

**\*Affirmation of Faith** *The Scots Confession of 1560, Chapter 1*

**We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom alone we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust. Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible; one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**Baptism Hymn No. 498** *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise* KINGDOM

*The Scots Confession* was written in four days by six ministers, one being John Knox. It was ratified by the Scottish Parliament in 1560.

## 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.

## Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

### HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

**Congregational Prayer for Illumination** Hymn No. 396, stanza 1  
**O for a closer walk with God, a calm and heavenly frame,  
a light to shine upon the road that leads me to the Lamb!**

**First Lesson** Psalm 8, page 482  
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**\*8:45 a.m. Hymn No. 269** *O God of Bethel, by Whose Hand* DUNDEE

**11:00 a.m. Anthem** *To God Be the Glory* arr. George Bayley  
Scottish Tune: *Leaving of Lismore*

To God, be the glory, all glory in the highest  
and peace to God's people who dwell here below.  
Our heavenly Father, our Lord, and our Sovereign,  
to you, the Almighty, our praises bestow.  
We worship and adore you, we bow before you  
with grateful thanksgiving, our song let us raise.  
All glory and honor and glad adoration  
to God in the highest hosanna and praise.  
Lord Jesus, the only begotten of the Father,  
we praise and we bless you, the Son and the Lamb.  
The sin of the world you have taken upon you,  
have mercy upon us, the Great I Am.  
For holy, you meet us, yet lowly you greet us,  
the Lord in the highest, the Holy One.  
All glory to the Father, the Son, and the Spirit,  
from ages everlasting, the Three in One.

**Second Lesson** Romans 5:1-11, page 1029  
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** *499 Years Later – Thank You Martin Luther* Dr. Doak  
Text: Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with  
God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained  
access to this grace in which we stand. Romans 5:1 – 2a

### RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

**\*Hymn No. 280** *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* AMAZING GRACE

**Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer**  
... forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. . . .

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

The anthem is a setting of the *Gloria* text in English. It is set to the Scottish tune "Leaving of Lismore." The arranger, George Bayley, studied at The New England Conservatory of Music in Boston and the University of Michigan. Bayley loved Scottish and Celtic music, and created many arrangements of tunes from that tradition. Bayley passed away March 30, 2016.

As was his custom, the author of *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* wrote this hymn to accompany his sermon on 1 Chronicles 17:16-17, preached on January 1, 1773; he called it "Faith's Review and Expectation." Much of its current popularity comes from this now-familiar tune, an association that began in 1835.

