



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!

February 5, 2017
8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
5th 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

The God of Abraham Praise

Richard Proulx

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Minute for Mission Souper Bowl of Caring

Song of Gathering

LLANFAIR

**Come, behold! the feast of heaven Alleluia!
has to mortal flesh been given. Alleluia!
Hear the Word of God declared: Alleluia!
"Come! the banquet is prepared." Alleluia!**

Call to Worship

Psalm 100:1-3

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
**Worship the Lord with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.**
Know that the Lord is God.
**It is he that made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**

*Hymn 488

The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

O God, we confess our reluctance to extend your grace to those outside our circle of sameness. We claim one baptism, but we support divisions in Christ's body. We celebrate the Lord's Supper, but we act as if we own the table. Forgive our arrogant faith and restore us to the humility that marks those who claim Jesus as Lord and Savior.

*Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

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

Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad.

Children, Pre-K through grade 2, are invited to come forward to lead the Call to Worship at the 11:00 a.m. service. Afterwards, they will depart for Children's Church held in the Godly Play Rooms.

Latecomers may be seated.

*Those who are able may stand.

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Congregational Response**

CELTIC ALLELUIA

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

***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

Hymn 321 was originally in the Unitarian Hymns of the Spirit, 1864, edited by two Samuels (Longfellow and Johnson). The hymn was headed "Prayer for Inspiration," and is a prayer for truth to dawn, love to glow, power to fill, and right to reign – instead of the usual address to the Holy Spirit as part of the Trinity.

Congregational Prayer for Illumination Hymn 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 1 Corinthians 12:4-11, page 1048

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

Second Lesson John 17:20-26, page 987

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

Sermon One Is the Onliest Number Dr. Bruce Lancaster

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

8:45 a.m. Service of Installation

There are different gifts,
but it is the same spirit who gives them.
There are different ways of serving God,
but it is the same Lord who is served.
God works through different people in different ways,
but it is the same God who achieves his purpose through them all.
Each one is given a gift by the Spirit,
to use it for the common good.
Together we are the body of Christ,
and individually members of Christ.

Presentation of the Candidate to be Installed Lawton Stephens

Questions for the Ruling Elder

Questions for the Congregation

Do we, the members of First Presbyterian Church, accept this individual as a Ruling Elder, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? **We do.**

Do we agree to pray for him, to encourage him, to respect his decisions, and to follow as he guides us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church? **We do.**

Installation Prayer

Declaration of Installation

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

8:45 a.m. Offertory Improvisation on LET US BREAK BREAD

John Coble

11:00 a.m. Offertory Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Harold W. 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 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

Sacrament of Holy Communion

***Hymn 513** Let Us Break Bread Together LET US BREAK BREAD

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

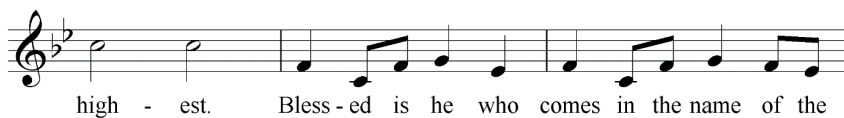
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

"...with all the company of heaven and earth we praise your holy name singing:"



"...Great is the mystery of faith:"



The African American spiritual Let Us Break Bread Together quite possibly reflects the circumstances of slaves attending early morning communion services in colonial Anglican churches, but its combination of hope ("rising sun") and supplication ("Lord, have mercy") speaks to many worshippers' experience.

The musical setting of the communion liturgy will be sung at 11:00 a.m. only.

“...all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, forever and ever.”



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.

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

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

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 16

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

Breaking of the Bread and Giving of the Cup

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

***Hymn 316**

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

TRENTHAM

***Benediction**

***Congregational Response**

AR HYD Y NOS

Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.

Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.

Here my Spirit's power filled you;

here my tender comfort stilled you.

Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

***Postlude**

Come, God Creator, Holy Ghost

Johann Sebastian Bach

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

To pick up your child from Children's Church after the 11:00 a.m. service, please go through the Atrium to Fellowship Hall. A Children's Church teacher will meet you there.

A special word of welcome to our guests: thank you for joining us for worship this morning. Please fill out the fellowship pad so that we may be in touch. We are delighted you are here and look forward to seeing you again.

HISTORY COMMITTEE MEETING

February 7, 5:00 p.m.

December 25, 2020 will be the 200th anniversary of our church. The history committee has already begun its research. There are various areas of interest as we work toward a year of celebration, including a possible outreach project. Please join us in the Staff Conference Room if you wish to be involved in this exciting endeavor.

SESSION RETREAT

February 10-11

Please be in prayer for the Session, including our newly ordained and installed Ruling Elders, as they begin their year together at the annual Session Retreat this weekend. We appreciate their work on our behalf.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

February 26, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Please help save up to three lives by donating blood. Reserve an appointment online at redcrossblood.org. You may also sign up in the Atrium starting today, or by contacting the church office at 706-543-4338 or frontdesk@firstpresathens.org.

IHN TRAINING

February 26, 2:00 p.m.

Interfaith Hospitality Network will be offering orientation and training classes at First Baptist Church. If you would like to attend, please RSVP with Patty Whiten at pattywhiten@windstream.net or Michelle Clendenen-Shaw at michelle.shaw@usan.com.

NOTES ON THE SERVICE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Liturgists:

8:45 a.m.

Carol Strickland

11:00 a.m.

Carol Strickland, Isabelle Seward

Acolytes:

11:00 a.m. Lane Holloway, Chase MacMillan

Readers:

8:45 a.m. Sandy Boyles

11:00 a.m. Leslie Trier

USHERS

8:45 a.m. James Dove (head),
David Cole, David Mendenhall

11:00 a.m. Joe Hermanowicz (head),
Stephen Covington, Michael Earl,
Erika Hermanowicz, Margaret Johansen,
Jacki Macker, Cash Morris

GREETERS

8:45 a.m. Jim Boyles, Sandy Boyles,
June De Nadai, Diane Hartzell

11:00 a.m. Martha Elmore, Susan Landrum,
Jo Carol Nessel-Sale

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Bob Bostrom, Nancy Bostrom

ELDERS AT THE DOOR

8:45 a.m. Terry Nestor

11:00 a.m. Christine Register, Arlene Shirley,
Harry Shuford, Richard Stone

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

When the heart gives, the hands open.
– Ugandan proverb

FLOWERS

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary to
the glory of God.

TO AID IN WORSHIP

If you need to leave the sanctuary during
the service, the Atrium is equipped with
video and sound for your worship needs.

Available in the narthex or from an usher:

- **Personal hearing receivers** are available
and usable anywhere in the sanctuary
- **Large-print** hymnals, Bibles, bulletins
and hymnsheets
- **Sermons** from the previous six weeks

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Prayer requests can be submitted by phone
to the church office, (706)543-4338, through
the Prayer Request link on our church
website (www.firstpresathens.org)
or on the prayer cards in the pew pads.

New Member Class

If you are interested in learning more about First Presbyterian Church and becoming a
member, we invite you to attend our New Member class.

Sunday, February 12, 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Informational class led by Dr. Bruce Lancaster, Staff Conference Room, light supper included

Sunday, February 19, 4:00 p.m.

New Member Tea, home of Fran & Richard Lane, prospective members received by the Session

Sunday, February 26, 11:00 a.m.

Worship Service, new members introduced to the congregation

If you are interested in attending, please contact the church office at 706-543-4338.

The Wayne F. Middendorf Memorial Concert Series
presents

The University of Georgia's University Chorus performing

Eternal Light: A Requiem
by Howard Goodall

Tuesday, February 28, 8:00 p.m., Sanctuary

SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Sunday School Classes are available for all ages and meet 9:45-10:40 a.m. Sunday
Sunday School Greeter this week: Steve Whiten**

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN

Children's Ministry Suite • Infants - 5th Grade

Infants • Nursery Infant Room

Room Lead: Rita Raines

Toddlers - Preschoolers • Nursery Playroom

Nursery Coordinator: Wendi Finch

Our toddler and preschooler curriculum is Group Publishing's Play-n-Worship. It is filled with music, activities, and storyboards that encourage little ones to interact with Bible stories.

Children's Sunday Morning Music: Garland Ryder

Our Pre-Kindergarten through 2nd graders begin most Sunday mornings in the Children's Ministry Suite with fun music and movement before heading into their Sunday School rooms.

Pre-Kindergarten - Kindergarten • Room 127

Teachers: Jennifer Castleman, Karen Cobb,

Mary Smith, Dan Trier

1st Grade - 2nd Grade • Room 126

Teachers: Jennifer Abbott, Don DeMaria,

Madie Fischetti, Matt Jones

Our 4 Year-Olds through 2nd Graders will be using Spark Lectionary Curriculum. Every Sunday, our children will explore their Bibles, enjoy fun activities, sing, pray, and grow in faith together.

3rd Grade - 4th Grade • Room 125

5th Grade • Room 124

The 3rd, 4th, and 5th Graders will be introduced to our new Godly Play curriculum. Godly Play encourages children to explore their faith through story, helps them gain religious language and grows their spiritual experience through wonder and play.

Teachers: Natalie Bishop, Jody Cory, Greta Covington, Susan Ferguson, Denise Laboon

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

Christian Issues • Room 310

Study of the book, The Story of Scripture: the Unfolding Drama of the Bible, by Robbie Fox Castleman from the LifeGuide Bible Series.

Coordinator: Sandy Boyles

Connections • Room 303

Study of the book, Making Sense of the Bible, by Adam Hamilton.

Led by: Margaret Davis, Jay Holloway, Carol Strickland

Inquirers • Moses Waddel Room

Thoughtful introspection and lively group discussion covering contemporary issues and daily Christian living.

- February 5 - Paula Frances Price will share about her work as campus minister with Greek InterVarsity.

- February 12 - We will meet with the children in

Fellowship Hall to learn more about Godly Play.

Facilitators: Carl Bergmann, Carla Buss

New Voices • Room 302

Study of the book, Searching for Sunday, by Rachel Held Evans.

Led by: Lewis Hudgins, Erik Ness, Christine Register

W. D. Hooper • Room 309

Will begin with the Gospel of John with other books of the New Testament to follow.

Led by: Richard Stone

Wayne F. Middendorf Men's Bible Class

Bride's Room, Tinsley Stern

Saga of Jacob from Genesis.

Teacher: John Kipp

Women's Bible Class • Room 301

Will conclude our study of the Gospel of Luke with 1 Thessalonians to follow.

Teacher: Wanda Wilcox

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR YOUTH

6th - 12th Grade • The PIT

This year we will connect with God in multiple ways: fellowship, breaking bread together, service projects, small group study of scripture, and Godly Play. Through these different spiritual disciplines, we hope to come to know God and each other on a deeper level.

Led by: Kim Ness and Alyssa Standard

Wednesday@First

Faith and Politics: What's a Christian to Do? Led by Dr. Bruce Lancaster

February 8 - Church and State: Can faith and politics have a constructive conversation?

February 15 - Inciting Civility: How do we deal with hot-button issues?

February 22 - God's Politics: Who speaks for God?

THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 5, Communion & Food Bank Sunday, Souper Bowl of Caring

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Bruce Lancaster preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 12:05 p.m. Fellowship, Atrium
- 4:00 p.m. Cherub Choir, Room 203
- 4:00 p.m. St. Andrews Choir, Room 202
- 5:00 p.m. Celebration Singers, Room 202
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group Super Bowl Watch Party, The PIT

Monday, February 6

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday School Book Fair, Monday through Friday
- 9:05 a.m. Weekday School Chapel, Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Presbyterian Women Circle Two, Home of Cheryl Gazlay, 340 Millstone Cir.
- 4:00 p.m. Worship & Music Commission Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 5:15 p.m. Education & Discipleship Commission Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Room 205

Tuesday, February 7

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Room 304
- 2:00 p.m. Presbyterian Women Circle Three/Four, Home of Judy Scanlon, 155 Deerhollow Rd.
- 5:00 p.m. History Committee Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 7:00 p.m. Presbyterian Women Circle Six, Home of Ann Dunn, 425 Southview Dr.

Wednesday, February 8

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday School Grandparents' Day, Fellowship Hall
- 9:30 a.m. Presbyterian Women Circle Seven, Bride's Room
- 11:30 a.m. Bookless Book Group, The White Tiger, 217 Hiawasse Ave.
- 3:00 p.m. Wed@First Programs Begin
- 5:45 p.m. Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Room 202
- 6:30 p.m. Faith & Politics: What's a Christian to Do?, Moses Waddel Room

Thursday, February 9

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday School Grandparents' Day, Fellowship Hall
- 2:00 p.m. The Mellows, Highland Hills, 1660 Jennings Mill Rd., Bogart
- 3:30 p.m. Congregational Care Commission Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 5:30 p.m. Pastor Nominating Committee Meeting, Staff Conference Room

Friday, February 10

- 7:00 p.m. Session Retreat, Moses Waddel Room

Saturday, February 11

- 8:30 a.m. Session Retreat, Moses Waddel Room

Sunday, February 12

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Bruce Lancaster preaching

LOOKING AHEAD

February 12, 19 & 26 - New Member Class, Tea, Reception

February 17-19 - Youth Ski Trip

February 19-26 - IHN Host Week

February 21 - Prayers for Healing

February 26 - Red Cross Blood Drive

February 28 - The Wayne F. Middendorf Memorial Concert Series
UGA University Chorus Concert

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION

Bruce Lancaster, Moderator Jerris Hayes, Clerk of Session
Carol Strickland, Associate Pastor

CLASS OF 2017

Allen Crowell
Don DeMaria
Susan Ferguson
Madie Fischetti
Jerris Hayes
Joy Holloway
Diane Hudgins
Mike Morris
Jerry Rogers
Ella Stewart

CLASS OF 2018

Joe Attaway
David Cole
Jason Doornbos
Sue Gray
Mark Harrison
Denise Horton
Christine Register
Arlene Shirley
Harry Shuford
Richard Stone

CLASS OF 2019

Robbie Bryan
Jody Jenkins Corry
Greta Terrell Covington
DeeAnn Cox
Mary Havick
Joe Hermanowicz
Richard Lane
Mary Peace
Lawton Stephens
Dan Trier

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Bruce Lancaster, Interim Senior Pastor
Dr. Carol Strickland, Associate Pastor
Dr. John Kipp, Parish Associate
The Reverend Bob Googe, Parish Associate
Dr. John Coble, Director of Music and Organist
Mrs. Kim Ness, Director of Youth Ministries
Mrs. Natalie Bishop, Director of Children's Ministries
Mrs. Elaine Johnson, Director of Weekday School
Mr. Roger Burbage, Church Administrator
Ms. Melanie Powers, Children and Youth Music Assistant
Ms. Lucy Bell, Administrative Assistant
Ms. Nan Powell, Communications Specialist
Mrs. Jennifer Sunderlin, Receptionist/Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Laura McHugh, Accountant
Mrs. Tiffany Greene, Weekday School Administrative Assistant
Ms. Wendi Finch, Nursery Coordinator
Mr. Chuck Hunt, Sunday Morning Manager
Mr. Willie "Buc" Collins, Sexton
Mrs. Madeline Van Dyck, Parish Nurse

STUDENT INTERNS

Ms. Alyssa Standard, Youth Ministry Intern
Ms. Geneva Stonecipher, Church Music Intern
Ms. Angela Suh, Website Intern

WADDEL FELLOWS

Ms. Stacey Bowden, Children's Ministry
Mrs. Christina Cotsakis Cordon,
Mission & Outreach
Ms. Nettie Jester, Youth Ministry
Ms. Peyton Lipecky, Congregational Care
Ms. Jordan Osborne, Children's Ministry

PLEASE SEE FIRSTPRESATHENS.ORG

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.