



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!

June 18, 2017

10:00 a.m.

Eleventh 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 the service. Consult an usher if you need a personal hearing device, large-print bulletin or large-print hymnal.

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

Greeting

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

Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad.

Prelude

Aria

Craig Phillips

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Song of Gathering

Hymn 220, Stanza 1

**All people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
him serve with mirth, his praise forthtell,
come ye before him and rejoice.**

Call to Worship

Blessed are those whose transgressions are forgiven.

Happy are those whose sins are put away.

Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, all you saints!

Let us worship and praise our Creator and our Redeemer!

* Those who are able may stand.

Hymn 487 is not just a morning hymn. It is an excerpt from an English translation of an early 19th-century German text, but may not convey how thoroughly the original deals with different times of the day.

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

After the Passing of the Peace, children, ages Pre-K - grade 2, are invited to Children's Church held in the Godly Play Rooms.

The text of the anthem is from Psalm 46:10. It's composer, Rick Sowash, is a children's author and filmmaker, as well as an accomplished musician.

*Hymn 487

When Morning Gilds the Skies

LAUDES DOMINI

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Holy and Gracious God, we come to you because we know you as the one whose love is greater than ours, whose willingness to forgive is deeper than ours, whose mercy is without limits. We confess that we prefer to read about or think about or even pray about forgiveness much more than we are willing to accept your forgiveness and make it part of the way we live. Help us to open our hearts to your Holy Spirit and live entirely for you.

*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.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

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

Psalm 130 & 131, page 562

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

Anthem

Be Still

Rick Sowash

Be still and know that I am God.

Second Lesson Luke 18:9-14, page 957

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

Sermon Trilogy of Prayer: (2) Am I Listening to God?

Dr. Bruce Lancaster

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn 390**

O Savior, in This Quiet Place

ST. STEPHEN

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

**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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the
power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Hymn 390 is a prayer for healing written for the ecumenical St. Barnabas Counseling Centre in Norwich, England. As hymns often do, it provides a model for how to pray honestly but not selfishly. It is set to a tune by an Anglican priest who wrote on scientific and musical matters.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, June 18 - Father's Day

- 9:15 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal, Room 202
10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Dr. Bruce Lancaster preaching
11:05 a.m. Fellowship, Atrium

Monday, June 19

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday School Camp Week begins

Tuesday, June 20

- 9:00 a.m. Jubilee Partners Remodeling Project, 427 Jubilee Rd., Comer
10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room

Wednesday, June 21

- 9:00 a.m. Wonderful Wednesday, Weekday School
12:30 p.m. Prayers for Healing, Sanctuary
3:00 p.m. Bridge, Room 302
4:30 p.m. Yoga, Room 310

Thursday, June 22

- 9:00 a.m. Jubilee Partners Remodeling Project, 427 Jubilee Rd., Comer
6:00 p.m. Men's Fellowship, Cali n Tito's East at La Puerta del Sol, 1254 Cedar Shoals Dr.

Sunday, June 25

- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Dr. Bruce Lancaster preaching

NOTES ON THE SERVICE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Liturgist:

Ron Cox

Lay Reader:

June De Nadai

GREETERS

Kathy Bangle, Carroll Gaillard,
Diane Hartzell, Rosemary Stancil

FELLOWSHIP HOST

Kitty Donnan

USHERS

Kitty Donnan (head), Carol Dolson,
Susan Landrum, Tom Landrum,
Bill Woolbright

FLOWERS

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Nathaniel John Buss and Sarah Elizabeth Prokopik on Kent Island, Maryland on June 10. Carla Buss is the mother of the groom.

Dr. Bruce Lancaster, Interim Senior Pastor

Dr. Carol Strickland, Associate Pastor

Dr. John Coble, Director of Music and Organist

PLEASE SEE FIRSTPRESATHENS.ORG

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.

Recommendations for Ruling Elders

The Nominations and Elections Committee encourages your participation in the process for nominating Ruling Elders. Ruling Elders should be persons of faith, dedication, and good judgment. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian Gospel, both within the church and in the world at large.

Please return this form to the Nominations and Elections Committee by placing it in one of the boxes in the Narthex, Atrium or church office, or by placing it in the collection plate. You may also mail it to the church office or email the church office at frontdesk@firstpresathens.org by July 10.

Current Ruling Elders: (Not eligible for recommendation)

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

I prayerfully recommend the following for Ruling Elder:

| | |
|------------|---------------|
| Name _____ | Reasons _____ |
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Members of the Nominations and Elections Committee are David Cole (chair), Mary Burton, DeeAnn Cox, Patti Reed, Carol Robinson, and Jim Scanlon.

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