



# 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.

## Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

**Offertory** Improvisation on Be Still John Coble

**\*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 298** There's a Wideness in God's Mercy IN BABILONE

**\*Benediction**

**\*Congregational Response** Hymn 535

**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.**

**\*Postlude** Little Prelude and Fugue in G Johann Sebastian Bach

The stanzas of Hymn 298, excerpted from quite a few more, offer a reminder that the model for our dealings with others should be God's generosity rather than limited human tolerance.

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

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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 fellowship pad so that we may be in touch. We are delighted you are here and look forward to seeing you again.

**Nurseries for infants and toddlers**, available from 9:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.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 service, please go through the Atrium to Fellowship Hall. A Children's Church teacher will meet you there.

**Dr. Carol Strickland** is preaching and leading worship today for the Central Presbyterian Church congregation, which is currently meeting at the Presbyterian Student Center. Please keep our sister church in your prayers.

## 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](http://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](mailto: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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