



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!

July 2, 2017

10:00 a.m.

Thirteenth 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.

Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad.

Greeting

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

Prelude

KEDRON

Gardner Read

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Song of Gathering

Hymn 470, Stanza 1

**O day of radiant gladness, O day of joy and light,
O balm of care and sadness, most beautiful, most bright;
this day the high and lowly, through ages joined in tune,
sing "Holy, holy, holy" to the great God triune.**

Call to Worship

O God, our God, how glorious is your name in all the earth!

Your glory is sung by all of your creation!

When we look to the heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, we wonder –

Who are we that you care for us and for this world?

You are the God of life, crowning us with glory and honor
to serve you all of our days.

O God, our God, how glorious is your name in all the earth!

* Those who are able may stand.

Sometimes called "The Canticle of the Sun," the cosmic roll call in Hymn 455 allows human beings to give voice to all creation. One of the earliest religious poems in the Italian language, it is made even more expansive by this broad, repetitive melody with interspersed "Alleluia."

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, rising ages Pre-K - grade 2, are invited to Children's Church.

*Hymn 455

All Creatures of Our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Stanzas 1 & 2 - all

Stanza 3 - high voices

Stanza 4 - low voices

Stanzas 5 & 6 - all

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we do not love you as we should. Other preoccupations compete for our attention and service. We confess that we devote ourselves to lesser gods and to selfish aims. Forgive us for allowing your love to go so unrequited. Enable us to return to you and draw upon the grace you so freely offer in Jesus Christ.

*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 454, Stanza 1

**Blessed Jesus, at your word
we are gathered all to hear you;
let our hearts and souls be stirred
now to seek and love and fear you;
by your teachings true and holy,
drawn from earth to love you solely.**

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

* Hymn 564	○ Beautiful for Spacious Skies	MATERNA
* 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	Fugue on MATERNA	Eugene Thayer

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

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. During the summer, Children's Church will be held in the Moses Waddel Room on the 3rd floor where we will continue to use our VBS curriculum, Passport to Peru.

We welcome Mr. Isaac Toney as our guest preacher today. Isaac is a Master of Divinity student at Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta and has been accepted as an Inquirer by the Northeast Georgia Presbytery. He graduated in May 2016 from Centre College in Danville, Kentucky, where he studied history and religion with a focus in Christian ethics. Isaac grew up and was confirmed in our church and is the son of Chuck and Laura Toney.

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

August 8-12

We are producing a new Pictorial Directory. Everyone photographed will have the opportunity to purchase portraits and will receive a copy of the completed directory. **Sign-up will begin in the Atrium today.** You may also sign up online or by contacting the church office. This will be a valuable tool for our new Senior Pastor, and we encourage everyone to participate.

IHNA HOST WEEK

August 13-20

Our next Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens host week will be here soon. **Sign-up will begin in the Atrium today.** You may also check the online calendar or email Patty Whiten (pattywhiten@windstream.net) to volunteer. We are looking forward to this next opportunity to welcome our guests and provide them comfort and kindness.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, July 2 - Food Sunday

- 9:15 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal, Room 202
10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Mr. Isaac Toney preaching
11:05 a.m. Fellowship, Atrium

Monday, July 3 - Church Office Closed for Independence Day Holiday

Tuesday, July 4 - Church Office Closed for Independence Day Holiday

Wednesday, July 5

- 12:00 p.m. Our Daily Bread, First Baptist Church, 355 Pulaski St.
4:30 p.m. Yoga, Room 310

Sunday, July 9

- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Dr. Carol Strickland preaching

LOOKING AHEAD

July 23-29 - Montreat Youth Conference

July 30 - Presbyterian Women Bible Study Overview

August 6 - Blessing of the Backpacks; Recognition of Ms. Wendi Finch, Nursery Coordinator

August 13 - Fall Kickoff Brunch, Two Worship Services Resume

NOTES ON THE SERVICE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Liturgist: Carol Strickland

Lay Reader: Rachel Hollifield

USHERS

Leslye Queen (head), Abigale Bishop,
Matt Bishop, Jim Dove, Carolyn Hally,
Katherine Queen

GREETERS

June De Nadai, Carroll Gaillard, Bruce Miller,
Terry Nestor

FELLOWSHIP HOST: Fellowship &
Evangelism Commission

Dr. Bruce Lancaster, Interim Senior Pastor

Dr. John Coble, Director of Music and Organist

FLOWERS

The flowers are placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in loving memory of the 65th wedding anniversary of George and Jane Scott, given by Marshall and Bobbie Scott.

A rosebud is placed on the Communion Table in honor of the birth of Sawyer William Griffeth on June 28, 2017. Sawyer is the son of Andrew and Lindsay Griffeth and the great-grandson of Caryl Woosley.

Dr. Carol Strickland, Associate Pastor

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 _____
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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