



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!

January 28, 2018
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
Ordination and Installation Sunday

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

Ciacona

Dietrich Buxtehude

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Song of Gathering

Hymn 229, Stanza 1

**From all that dwell below the skies
let the Creator's praise arise:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
through every land, in every tongue.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Call to Worship

A fruit of the Spirit is patience.
I wait for the Lord; in his word is my hope.
We look for the Lord's mercy and love,
for his bounteous redemption.
God alone is worthy of our praise and worship!

***Hymn 457** I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art TOULON

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

O God, our Judge and Redeemer, we confess that we avoid the challenges of discipleship that call us to repentance and transformation. We listen for teachings that agree with our opinions, we enjoy serving when it boosts our egos, we have wonderful excuses for saying 'no' to something new. Renew a right spirit within us, O God, so that our lives will bring honor to your holy name.

*Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

*Those who are able may stand.

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

Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad.

The original text of Hymn 457, sometimes attributed to John Calvin, seems to be a Protestant reworking of a Roman Catholic hymn. The text and tune (adapted from GENEVAN 124) date from the early years of the Reformed tradition.

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 at the 11:00 a.m. service, children, ages Pre-K - grade 2, are invited to Children's Church held in the Children's Ministry Suite.

In the challenging text of Hymn 421, by a British Methodist minister, the odd-numbered stanzas develop the image of "the servant church," while the second surveys the many needs and the fourth describes the true source of strength for the task.

***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.**

First Lesson 1 Peter 5:1-11, page 1108
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Lesson Matthew 21:23-27, 28:16-20, page 901
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon By the Authority of... Dr. Bruce Lancaster

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn 421** The Church of Christ in Every Age WAREHAM

***8:45 a.m. 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.**

8:45 a.m. 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.

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

8:45 a.m. Offertory When We Are in Deepest Need

Johann Sebastian Bach

11:00 a.m. Offertory Christ's Flock

Martin Shaw

In Christ's own flock let love be surely placed,
from Christ's own flock let concord hate expel:
of Christ's own flock let love be so embraced,
as we in Christ and Christ in us may dwell.
Christ is the author of all unity,
from whence proceedeth all felicity.
O sing unto this glittering glorious King,
let heart and voice like bells of silver ring.
O sing unto this glittering glorious King,
O praises bring from every living thing:
let heart and voice like bells of silver ring. Alleluia!

*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

11:00 a.m. Service of Ordination and 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 Ruling Elders-Elect to be Ordained* and Installed

*Jeff Bangle

Avery McLean

*Meghan Bawcum

*Jeanne Nadenicek

Bob Burton

Carl Nichols

*Bob Glasscock

*Tom Reigle

*Julie Hayes

*Judy Scanlon

Sydney Jackson

Questions for Ruling Elders-Elect

Questions for Congregation

Do we, the members of First Presbyterian Church, accept these individuals as Ruling Elders, 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 them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church? **We do.**

Ordination Prayer

Declaration of Ordination and Installation

The anthem was composed for the Church of St. Francis, Ngong, Kenya. Originally a small church of mud and wattle, it was named for the birds who flew in the open windows. It was built by African and Asian craftsmen from funds given by Europeans. It has a racially mixed congregation; services are conducted in English and Swahili.

At the 8:45 a.m. service, worship continues on page 4 with Hymn 434.

All previously ordained ruling and teaching elders in any Presbyterian Church (USA) are invited to come forward for the laying on of hands. 3

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

* Hymn 434	Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples	KINGSFOLD
* 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	Improvisation on KINGSFOLD	John Coble

Following worship, all are invited to the Annual Congregational Meeting and Lunch in Fellowship Hall.

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 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.

NOTES ON THE SERVICE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Liturgists:

8:45 a.m. Carol Strickland

11:00 a.m. Carol Strickland, Joanne Fischetti

Acolytes:

11:00 a.m. Claire Bruner, Celeste Fischetti

Lay Readers:

8:45 a.m. Bill Woolbright

11:00 a.m. Tim Chester

USHERS

8:45 a.m. Jim Dove (head),
David Cole, Carroll Gaillard

11:00 a.m. Harry Shuford (head),
Ann Harper Covington, Celeste Covington,
Greta Covington, Stephen Covington, Ed Law

GREETERS

8:45 a.m. Barb Laughlin, Terry Nestor,
Mary Peace

11:00 a.m. Marie Ledford, Tim Ledford,
Courtney Pittman

FLOWERS

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of CPL Evan Andrew Marshall, a member of First Presbyterian Church, who was killed in action in Mosul, Iraq, on January 28, 2008, while serving our country.

TO AID IN WORSHIP

If you need to leave the sanctuary during the service, a live video feed is available in the Atrium.

Available in the narthex or from an usher:

- **Personal hearing receivers** 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 to the church office, 706-543-4338, by the Prayer Request link on our church website (firstpresathens.org) or on the prayer cards in the fellowship pads.

Food Sunday February 4

Next Sunday we will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Athens-Area Emergency Food Bank. This month they are requesting two things they need badly, **cold cereal and saltine crackers**. Thank you for donating 357 items in January.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IHNA HOST WEEK

February 4-11

Sign-up in the Atrium today for our first Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens host week of the year. You may also check the online calendar or email Patty Whiten (pattywhiten@windstream.net) to volunteer. Thank you for helping provide warmth of shelter and hospitality to our guests.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

February 14, 12:00, 5:00, 6:30 p.m.

Join us at at 12:00 or 6:30 p.m. for a traditional service including communion and imposition of ashes, which were prepared by the youth in January. Our children and families are invited to meet in the Narthex between 5:00 and 5:30 p.m. to journey through hands-on Lenten stations together in the Sanctuary as small groups. Please make reservations for dinner at 5:30 p.m.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

February 18, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Please help save a life by donating blood. Sign up today in the Atrium or reserve an appointment online at redcrossblood.org. You may also sign up by contacting the church office at 706-543-4338 or frontdesk@firstpresathens.org. Please join us in the Fellowship Hall Breakout Area for this important event!

WOMEN'S RETREAT, April 20-22

Early Bird Registration through February 1

Treat yourself to a soul-nourishing weekend away. We will return to Fellowship Camp where this year's speaker, Linda Morningstar, will lead us in, "Patterns & Rhythms: Receiving the Gift of Order in Chaos." \$130 by February 1, \$165 after February 1. Scholarships available. Details and registration at our FPC website.

Annual Congregational Meeting Today, 12:15 p.m.

Everyone is invited! We will receive the Annual Report, 2018 Budget, and four FPC members will be elected to the Nominations and Elections Committee. Lunch will be provided by the youth as a fundraiser to help defray expenses of the mission trip to Honduras in July. Nursery available.

IHNA Training

If you are interested in volunteering and haven't attended training before, please attend. No registration is needed; please contact Patty Whiten at pattywhiten@windstream.net if you have any questions.

Sunday, February 11, 2:00 p.m., St. Gregory the Great Episcopal, 3195 S Barnett Shoals Rd.

Sunday, February 25, 12:30 p.m., Ashford Memorial Methodist Church, 1 N. Main St., Watkinsville

Wed@First

Wed@First features a delicious dinner, childrens' choirs, and classes for adults on a variety of topics beginning as early as 3:00 p.m. and ending at 7:30 p.m. Dinner opens at 5:45 p.m.

Please make dinner reservations on the Fellowship Pad, online at firstpresathens.org, or by contacting the church office **by Mondays at 12:00 p.m.** (\$8 for adults, \$5 children/students, \$20 max per family). Our after-dinner program, from 6:30-7:30 p.m., will begin with a study led by Dr. Bruce Lancaster, "How the Bible Came to Be."

New Member Class

If you are interested in learning more about Presbyterianism and discipleship at FPC, we invite you to attend our New Member class.

Sunday, February 11, 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Informational class led by Dr. Bruce Lancaster, Moses Waddel Room
Includes a light supper and child care (with reservation)

Sunday, February 18, 4:00 p.m.

New Member Tea, home of Joe & Erika Hermanowicz, the Session will receive those wishing to join

Sunday, February 25, 8:45 & 11:00 a.m.

Worship Service, new members introduced to the congregation

Please contact Lucy in the church office at lbell@firstpresathens.org by February 7.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School Classes are available for all ages and meet 9:45-10:40 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN

Children's Ministry Suite • Infants - 5th Grade

Director of Children's Ministries: Natalie Bishop

Nursery Volunteer & Staff Coordinator: Jennifer Abbott

Infants • Nursery Baby Room

Room Lead: Rita Raines

Toddlers - Preschoolers • Nursery Playroom

Room Lead: Mary Smith

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

Pre-Kindergarten - 5th Grade

Our elementary aged children will experience Godly Play during Sunday School. Godly Play helps children to explore their faith through story, to gain religious language, and to grow their spiritual experience through wonder and play.

Pre-Kindergarten - Kindergarten • Room 127

Godly Play Guides: Susan Ferguson, Karen Phillips, Heather Roberts, Dan Trier

1st Grade - 2nd Grade • Room 126

Godly Play Guides: Jennifer Abbott, Mary Elizabeth McConnell, Carmen Meadows

3rd Grade • Room 125

Godly Play Guides: Greta Covington, Madie Fischetti, Cathi Lancaster, Chuck Roberts

4th Grade - 5th Grade • Room 124

Godly Play Guides: Jody Corry, Denise Horton, Matt Jones

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

Christian Issues • Room 310

Study of the book, Busyness: Finding God in the Whirlwind by Juanita Ryan.

Coordinator: Sandy Boyles

Inquirers • Moses Waddel Room

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

- January 28 - Locked in a Box, video from PC(USA) on life in an immigration detention center
- February 4 - UGA faculty members Dr. Kerstin Emerson & Dr. Sherry Sanderson will speak

Facilitators: Carl Bergmann, Carla Buss

Living on a Prayer • Room 303

Study of the book, Vanishing Grace by Philip Yancey. Socials outside of class.

Facilitators: Bryans, Holloways, McConnells

New Voices • Room 308

Study of the book, Short Stories by Jesus by Amy-Jill Levine.

Led by: Lewis Hudgins, Christine Register

W. D. Hooper • Room 309

Study of the Acts of the Apostles 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

Study of the Gospel of Matthew.

Teacher: John Kipp

Women's Bible Class • Room 301

Study of Micah, one of the minor prophets, followed by a study of Hebrews.

Teacher: Wanda Wilcox

SUNDAYS in the PIT

Director of Youth Ministries: Kim Ness, Youth Interns: Nettie Jester and Jordan Osborne

The youth are fortunate to have their own special space, lovingly called "The PIT," located on the basement level. The PIT features small group break-out rooms, a kitchen, pool tables, and comfortable couches to just hang out.

SUNDAY MORNINGS 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.

All youth grades 6-12 are invited to join us for an informal time of fellowship and fun including donuts and devotion. **Confirmation Class** also meets during this time. This class gives students an opportunity to deepen and confirm their faith in Jesus Christ, learn the basic theology of the Christian faith, and what it means to identify with the PC(USA). Led by: Meghan Bawcum, Robbie Bryan, Erik Ness

SUNDAY EVENINGS

On Sunday evenings, we come back together to explore our faith through activities focused on mission, discipleship, and lots of fun!

TODAY

Youth prepare and serve lunch for the Annual Congregational Meeting.

80's Skate Night with Athens Area Presbyterian youth groups at Skate Inn from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Typical Sunday Evening Schedule:

5:00-5:30	Celebration Singers choir rehearsal
5:30-6:30	Middle School youth group
6:30-7:00	Combined youth dinner
7:00-8:30	High School youth group

THIS WEEK

Sunday, January 28

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Bruce Lancaster preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 12:05 p.m. Annual Congregational Meeting and Lunch, Fellowship Hall
- 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. Athens Area Presbyterian Youth Skate Night, Skate Inn, 295 Commerce Blvd., Bogart

Monday, January 29

- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Room 205
- 6:00 p.m. Pastor Nominating Committee Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 6:30 p.m. Men's Basketball vs. New Life, Tuckston UMC, 4175 Lexington Rd.

Tuesday, January 30

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Room 304
- 6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training, Moses Waddel Room

Wednesday, January 31

- 12:30 p.m. Prayers for Healing, Sanctuary
- 3:00 p.m. Bridge, Room 302
- 3:30 p.m. Knit for Kids & More, Bride's Room
- 4:15 p.m. Gentle or Balanced Yoga, Room 310
- 4:30 p.m. Shakespeare's Henry IV, Part 1, Room 308
- 5:00 p.m. Cherub Choir, Room 203
- 5:00 p.m. St. Andrew's Choir, Room 202
- 5:45 p.m. Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. "How the Bible Came to Be," led by Dr. Bruce Lancaster, Moses Waddel Room
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Room 202

Thursday, February 1

- 10:00 a.m. Josephine Paine Bible Study, Bride's Room
- 12:00 p.m. Weekday School Committee Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 2:00 p.m. The Mellows, Bentley Assisted Living, 50 Sumner Way, Jefferson

Sunday, February 4 - Communion Sunday, Food Sunday

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

LOOKING AHEAD

February 4 - Souper Bowl of Caring

February 4-11 - IHNA Host Week

February 9-10 - Session Retreat

February 11 - Children's Ministry Thank You Breakfast

February 11, 18 & 25 - New Member Class, Tea, Reception

February 14 - Ash Wednesday Services, 12:00, 5:00, 6:30 p.m.; Dinner 5:30 p.m.

February 18 - Red Cross Blood Drive

February 21 - "Finding Sabbath at Montreat," Dr. Richard Dubose

February 28 - Lenten Service Project: Bucket Brigade

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
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
Mrs. Lucy Bell Johnson, Administrative Assistant for
Congregational Care & Membership
Ms. Nan Powell, Communications Specialist
Mrs. Jennifer Sunderlin, Receptionist/Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Laura McHugh, Accountant
Mrs. Tiffany Greene, Weekday School Administrative Assistant
Ms. Jennifer Abbott, Nursery Volunteer & Staff Coordinator
Mrs. Charlotte Chromiak, Children's Music Assistant
Mr. Chuck Hunt, Sunday Morning Manager
Mr. Willie "Buc" Collins, Sexton
Mrs. Madeline Van Dyck, Parish Nurse

STUDENT INTERNS

Ms. Jordan Osborne, Youth Ministry Intern
Ms. Yamini Pulusu, Website Technician

WADDEL FELLOWS

Mr. Wesley Bowden, Congregational Care
Ms. Stacey Bowden, Children's Ministry
Mr. Christian Cordon, Mission & Outreach
Ms. Nettie Jester, Youth Ministry

PLEASE SEE FIRSTPRESATHENS.ORG

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.