



# 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 4, 2018  
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.  
Fifth 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

Improvisation on HYFRYDOL

John Coble

### 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

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

**Great are the works of God, full of glory and majesty.**

Our God is gracious and compassionate;

**Our God is faithful and trustworthy;**

So come, let us worship God together.

**God's praise will last forever!**

\*Hymn 343      Called as Partners in Christ's Service

BEECHER

### \*Call to Confession

### \*Prayer of Confession

**Righteous God, forgive the sins we commit when we harm our neighbor. Temper your anger when we neglect the poor among us. Ease your wrath when we fail to bind the wounds of those who suffer. Hold back your fury when we deny others the mercy we have received. Deliver us from our sin which rejects the gospel of Jesus Christ and restore us to the fullness of faith through the power of the Holy Spirit.**

### \*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.

FPC 2nd Graders are our Communion Helpers. Bringing in the bread and cup today are Wallace Michalek and Lachlan Morris.

Called as Partners in Christ's Service is a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion. This 20th-century text is set to a 19th-century tune named for the noted pastor and preacher Henry Ward Beecher.

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 1, are invited to Children's Church held in the Children's Ministry Suite.

The anthem is a poem by George Herbert, set to music by contemporary American composer David Hurd.

The 11:00 offertory anthem is a poem by Samuel Longfellow, set by a contemporary American composer to a traditional English melody.

**\*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**

Romans 5:6-11, page 1029

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

**11:00 a.m. Anthem**

Love Bade Me Welcome

David Hurd

Love bade me welcome: yet my soul drew back, guiltie of dust and sinne. But quick-ey'd Love observing me grow slack from my first entrance in, drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning, if I lacked anything. A guest, I answer'd, worthy to be here. Love said, You shall be he. I, the unkinde, ungrateful? Ah, my deare, I cannot look on thee. Love took my hand and smiling did reply, Who made the eyes but I? Truth, Lord but I have marr'd them: let my shame go where it doth deserve. And know you not, says Love, who bore the blame? My deare, then I will serve. You must sit down, says Love, and taste my meat: so I did sit and eat.

**Second Lesson**

John 15:12-17, page 986

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

**Sermon**

My Thoughts When I Serve Communion

Dr. Bruce Lancaster

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD**

**\*Hymn 85**

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE

**Moment for Mission**

Souper Bowl of Caring 8:45 a.m. David Magrino

11:00 a.m. Luke Osborne

**Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings**

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

WONDROUS LOVE

Charles Callahan

**11:00 a.m. Offertory**

A Winter Carol

Fred Gramann

'Tis winter now; the fallen snow has left the heavens all coldly clear;  
through leafless boughs the sharp winds blow,  
and all the earth lies dead and drear.

And yet God's love is not withdrawn; his life within the keen air breathes;  
his beauty paints the crimson dawn,  
and clothes the boughs with glittering wreaths.

And though abroad the sharp winds blow,  
and skies are chill, and frosts are keen,

home closer draws her circle now, and warmer glows her light within.

O God! who gives the winter's cold, as well as summer's joyous rays,  
us warmly in thy love enfold, and keep us through life's wintry days. Amen.

**\*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**

**Invitation to the Lord's Table**

**Great Prayer of 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:”

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full, are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

“...Great is the mystery of faith:”

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain.

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

A - men, A - men, A - men.

**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**

The musical setting of the communion liturgy was written by American composer Hal Hopson.

8:45 a.m. – Communion will be served by intinction. Please come forward to receive the bread and dip it into the cup.

11:00 a.m. – Please partake as you are served.

The cup in the center of each plate contains gluten-free bread.

## SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

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

* <b>Hymn 376</b>	Love Divine, All Loves Excelling	HYFRYDOL
* <b>Benediction</b>		
* <b>Congregational Response</b>		Hymn 535
	<b>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.</b>	
* <b>Postlude</b>	HYFRYDOL	Ralph Vaughan Williams

**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.

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## NOTES ON THE SERVICE

### WORSHIP LEADERS

#### Liturgists:

**8:45 a.m.** Carol Strickland

**11:00 a.m.** Carol Strickland, Chiara Bono

#### Acolytes:

**11:00 a.m.** Jimmy Bishop, Lizzie Simmons

#### Lay Readers:

**8:45 a.m.** Cheryl Gazlay

**11:00 a.m.** Christine Register

### USHERS

**8:45 a.m.** Randy Dudley (head), Jim Boyles, Sandy Boyles

**11:00 a.m.** Richard Lane (head), Rob Haire, Susan Haire, Fran Lane, David Mendenhall, Fred Wallace

### GREETERS

**8:45 a.m.** Jim Dove, Keith Oelke, Lisa Oelke, Mary Peace

**11:00 a.m.** Kathy Bangle, Tim Chester, Dan Nadenicek, Steve West

**FELLOWSHIP HOST:** Fellowship & Evangelism Commission

### FLOWERS

The flowers are given to the glory of God.

We have a rosebud in honor of the birth of Lawrence Floyd Jones III on January 17, 2018. Tripp is the son of Lawrence and Kathryn Jones and the grandson of Larry Jones and Carol Jones.

We also have a rosebud in honor of the birth of Allie Katherine Meijerink on January 25, 2018. Allie Kate is the daughter of Christopher and Ashley Mendenhall Meijerink and the granddaughter of Jayne and David Mendenhall.

### 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](http://firstpresathens.org)) or on the prayer cards in the fellowship pads.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**

#### **Today**

Please join us in this youth-led movement to fight hunger and poverty. The youth will be standing outside the Sanctuary after services today with empty pots, asking you to help us fill them! 100% of your donation will go towards hunger relief in Athens. Last year we raised \$1,280 for the Athens-Area Emergency Food Bank.

### **IHNA TRAINING**

If you are interested in volunteering with Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens and haven't attended training before, please attend. No registration is needed; please contact Patty Whiten at [pattywhiten@windstream.net](mailto: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, Watkinsville

### **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.**

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

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### **Wed@First**

Wed@First features dinner, choirs, and classes for adults 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](http://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 February 7, from 6:30-7:30 p.m., will be a study led by Dr. Bruce Lancaster, "How the Bible Came to Be."

### **Finding Sabbath at Montreat**

**February 21, 6:30 p.m.**

Montreat Conference Center is a ministry of the PC(USA) located outside of Asheville, NC. For over 100 years, it has provided a sacred space to encounter God through relationships, renewal, recreation, and rest. Please join us as Montreat President Richard DuBose comes to FPC.

### **Lenten Service Project: Bucket Brigade**

**February 28, 6:30 p.m.**

Please help assemble Welcome Home buckets for families transitioning from homelessness to a home. We will be collecting items until February 21 (list of items needed is online) or you may donate \$60 per whole bucket or \$30 per half bucket (make checks to FPC and note "bucket.") For more information, contact Christian Cordon, Waddel Fellow for Outreach, at [christiancordonrome@gmail.com](mailto:christiancordonrome@gmail.com)

### **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](mailto: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.

- February 4 - UGA faculty members Dr. Kerstin Emerson & Dr. Sherry Sanderson will speak
- February 11 - DVD, The Old Testament, by Amy-Jill Levine

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!

**THIS MORNING**

**Confirmation:** Our Sacraments, Dr. Bruce Lancaster

**Sunday School:** preparing The PIT for IHNA

**TONIGHT**

Combined youth group: Super Bowl Watch Party, 6:00 p.m. thru halftime, Ness home, 170 Milledge Heights

### 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, February 4 - Communion Sunday, Food 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
- 1:45 p.m. IHNA Host Week begins, The PIT
- 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, Ness home, 170 Milledge Heights

### **Monday, February 5**

- 9:05 a.m. Weekday School Chapel, Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Circle 2, Parlor
- 5:00 p.m. Bicentennial 2020 Committee Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Room 205
- 6:30 p.m. Pastor Nominating Committee Meeting, Moses Waddel Room
- 7:15 p.m. Men's Basketball vs. Big Chunkies, Tuckston UMC, 4175 Lexington Rd.

### **Tuesday, February 6**

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Room 304
- 2:00 p.m. Circle 3/4, Home of Judy Scanlon, 155 Deerhollow Rd., Bogart
- 6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training, Moses Waddel Room
- 7:00 p.m. Circle 6, Home of Ann Dunn, 425 Southview Dr.

### **Wednesday, February 7**

- 12:00 p.m. Our Daily Bread, First Baptist Church
- 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
- 4:30 p.m. Fellowship & Evangelism Commission Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 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 8**

- 2:00 p.m. The Mellows, Bountiful Hills, 200 Bolton Dr., Commerce

### **Friday, February 9**

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

### **Saturday, February 10**

- 10:00 a.m. Session Retreat, Moses Waddel Room

### **Sunday, February 11**

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

## LOOKING AHEAD

**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 20** - Primetime Presbyterians Program with Ron Bogue

## **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION**

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

### **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  
Bob Glasscock  
Joe Hermanowicz  
Richard Lane  
Mary Peace  
Lawton Stephens  
Dan Trier

### **CLASS OF 2020**

Jeff Bangle  
Meghan Bawcum  
Bob Burton  
Julie Hayes  
Sydney Jackson  
Avery McLean  
Jeanne Nadenicek  
Carl Nichols  
Tom Reigle  
Judy Scanlon

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## **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](http://FIRSTPRESATHENS.ORG)  
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.**