

# First Presbyterian Church of Athens



Photograph by Rick Simpson

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!

April 1, 2018  
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.  
Easter

## 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

Allegro Maestoso

Felix Mendelssohn

Fantasy: Easter Hymn

William H. Harris

Prelude

Craig Phillips

Awake, O Wintry Earth Johann Sebastian Bach

Awake, O wintry earth, fling off your frozen sadness.  
With sweetness, flowers bring mirth; bright springtime's ancient gladness.  
Once more we sing the tale; through darkness, sunlight spread  
to warm the winter's pale; and tell that death is dead.  
Descended to the grave, three days the Son lay sleeping.  
Yet Christ returned to save our hearts from woe and weeping.  
O earth, break forth and sing, renew your bright array  
to celebrate this spring and mark the Savior's way.

### Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

#### Call to Worship

How joyful it is to celebrate the good news of God's love!

**We are called to be Easter people!**

Darkness cannot claim us; fear cannot bind us!

**The Lord is our strength and our song;  
he has become our victory!**

Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen, indeed!**

\*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 Jennings Holloway and Teninait Ness.

It seems likely that the beloved Easter text Jesus Christ Is Risen Today began in Latin and moved through German before reaching English, where it combined with the present tune in the emerging English evangelical style, a reaction to the restrained one-note-per-syllable psalmody that preceded it.

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

Children, ages Pre-K - grade 2, are invited to remain in the Sanctuary as we celebrate the risen Christ as a church family. We will not have Children's Church today.

**\*Hymn 123** Jesus Christ Is Risen Today EASTER HYMN

**\*Call to Confession**

**\*Prayer of Confession**

**Loving God, we confess that at times we do not share in the joy of the resurrection but are caught in the worries of the world. We confess that we do not always live in the spirit of new life but remain discontented, grumbling, and anxious. Forgive us when we find it more comfortable to worry and complain than to risk the joy and encouragement of new life in Christ. Call us back to hope and reconciliation, restoration and peace, in the name of the Risen Christ.**

**\*Silent Prayer**

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Congregational Response**

Hymn 104, stanza 1

**Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!  
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.  
In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.  
Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.**

**\*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.

**Moment for Mission** One Great Hour of Sharing Mark Harrison

## HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

**First Lesson** 1 Peter 1:3-9, page 1105

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

**Anthem**

Easter Anthem

Philip E. Baker

Come ye faithful, raise the song of triumphant gladness. Alleluia, alleluia.  
God has brought his people forth into joy from sadness. Alleluia, alleluia.  
Our Christ immortal burst the bars of death's dark portal. Kyrie eleison.  
He who lay in the grave is come again all people to save.  
Now all Christendom will sing that the Lamb is King of Kings! Alleluia.  
All glory to the Father be, alleluia. All glory to his risen Son. Alleluia.  
All glory, Holy Ghost, to thee through endless ages run! Amen!

**Second Lesson** Matthew 28:1-10, page 911

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

**Sermon**

The Day God Said 'Yes'!

Dr. Bruce Lancaster

# RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

\*Hymn 108

Christ Is Alive!

TRURO

## Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

### Offertory

This Joyful Eastertide

William H. Harris

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow!  
My Love, the Crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow.  
Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison,  
our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen.  
My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a season slumber  
till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number.  
Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison,  
our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen.  
Death's flood hath lost his chill, since Jesus crossed the river:  
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver.  
Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison,  
our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen.

### \*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

### 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.**

We do not come to this table proudly....

### 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.**

### Breaking of the Bread and Giving of the Cup

### Communion of the People

### Prayer after Communion

In 1968 Easter fell ten days after the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., and the text of Hymn 108 was written to express an Easter hope while mindful of that terrible event. Buoyed by a triple-arched tune, it affirms the presence of a wounded, risen Christ with all who suffer.

Please partake as you are served.

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

## SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

The congregation is invited to join the choir in singing the Hallelujah chorus.

Texts and music for hymns and sung responses reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-714861

<b>*Hymn 118</b>	The Day of Resurrection!	LANCASHIRE
<b>*Benediction</b>		
<b>*Response</b>	Hallelujah from Messiah	George Frideric Handel
<b>Postlude</b>	Toccata from Symphony V	Charles Marie Widor

**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.

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## NOTES ON THE SERVICE

### WORSHIP LEADERS

#### Liturgist

Carol Strickland

#### Acolytes

**11:00 a.m.** Cate DeMaria, Lane Holloway

#### Lay Readers

**8:45 a.m.** Scott Collins

**11:00 a.m.** Margaret Johansen

#### Instrumentalists

Brandon Craswell, Trumpet  
Geoff Wood, Trumpet  
Jean Martin-Williams, Horn  
Eric Dluzniewski, Euphonium  
Nick Beltchev, Tuba

### USHERS

**8:45 a.m.** Carl Bergmann (head),

Jim Dove, Carroll Gaillard

**11:00 a.m.** Stephen Covington (head),  
Michael Earl, Dick Ferguson, Ed Ferguson,  
Jeffery Trapnell, John Turner

### SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Chuck Hunt

### GREETERS

**8:45 a.m.** Jim Boyles, Sandy Boyles,  
Faye Marshall, Terry Nestor

**11:00 a.m.** Dan Nadenicek, Jo Carol  
Nesset-Sale, Mary Peace, Frank Sherrill

### FLOWERS

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Jim McGown's birthday, by Jane McGown.

### 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.

### Pictorial Directories are Here!

If you had your picture taken for our new pictorial directory, please stop by the church office during the week to pick up your copy (office closed April 2). We have also printed out copies for church members who were not able to have their pictures taken.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### EASTER BRUNCH

**9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall**

There is no Sunday School this morning. Everyone is invited to gather for our annual Easter Brunch in Fellowship Hall.

### PRAYER STATIONS

**Today, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Today is the final day to spend time in The PIT exploring prayer stations based on the Holy Days leading up to and including Easter.

### IHNA HOST WEEK

**May 6-13, Sign-up begins today!**

Please sign-up in the Atrium today for our next Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens host week. You may also check the online calendar or email Patty Whiten (pattywhiten@windstream.net) to volunteer. We thank God for the opportunity to serve those in great need and, in serving, we are immeasurably blessed.

### LASAGNA FUNDRAISER

**April 8**

Twenty-seven FPC members are going to Honduras for a week of service and learning in June. Please order one (or more) pans of homemade cheese or beef lasagna for \$20.00 each and help us raise much-needed funds for the trip while enjoying a delicious meal. Order today at the table in the Atrium or on the website by April 4. Pick up after church on April 8. Thank you!

- Maggie DeMaria, 10th Grade

### PTP PROGRAM WITH RON BOGUE

**April 17, 10:00 a.m.**

The Primetime Presbyterians will have the second part of the history of our church in the Moses Waddel Room. We appreciate Ron's willingness to share his knowledge with us. After the presentation we will enjoy lunch at Trappeze Pub. Please RSVP by April 14 to Judy Howell at jhowell@uga.edu or 706-549-2888.

### MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

**April 27, 7:00 p.m.**

Head out to the ballpark with the Men's Fellowship for UGA vs. Tennessee. Kids invited. RSVP to Dan Trier, dantrier@hotmail.com.

### YOUTH SUNDAY

**April 29, 8:45 & 11:00 a.m.**

Our youth are hard at work preparing for Youth Sunday. We look forward to supporting them as they lead us in worship with the theme of peace.

### WAYNE F. MIDDENDORF CONCERT

**Sunday, April 29, 4:00 p.m.**

Director of Music John Coble and Geneva Stonecipher, our former Music Intern, will be the featured organists in the next presentation of our concert series.

### VBS REGISTRATION OPEN

**Maker Fun Factory!**

**Tuesday May 29 - Friday, June 1**

A link to details & online registration is on the FPC website. This program is open to children entering Pre-K through 5th grade in fall 2018. We need your help! To volunteer, please contact Natalie Bishop at natalie@firstpresathens.org.

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### FPC Women's Retreat

**Friday, April 20 - Sunday, April 22**

Treat yourself (or a woman you love) to a soul-nourishing weekend away as we explore receiving the gift of order amid the chaos of our lives. We will be on beautiful Lake Greenwood in SC. Cost is \$165. Carpooling & scholarships available. Register by April 8. See the FPC website for details.

### 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, April 8, 3:00-6:00 p.m.**

Informational Class led by Dr. Bruce Lancaster, Staff Conference Room  
Child care provided (with reservation)

**Sunday, April 15, 4:00 p.m.**

New Member Tea, home of Lawton & Mary Stephens, the Session will receive those wishing to join

**Sunday, April 22, 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 April 4.

**Easter Lilies are placed in the sanctuary  
to the glory of God and in honor of:**

Kitty Kellogg  
Jim & Judy Scanlon  
Carl Wilson

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**Easter Lilies are placed in the sanctuary  
to the glory of God and in memory of:**

Ruth & Joseph Barnish	Mary Gilbert Mell
Ada & Frank Barton	Dorothy Matson Merry
Conrad Bergmann	Mr. & Mrs. James Mirisola
Paulo Bueno	Lucille & Carl Nessel
Ronald Buikema	James T. O'Brien
Clara Childers	Merritt & Be Oelke
Clyde Childers	Parents of Jim & Shirley Pope
Ed Clawson	Zachary Thomas Pytko
Robert Cobb	John Wesley Reed
Professor Pauline P. Collins	Michael Warren Reed
Barbara Bergmann Coulter	Aline & David Sale
Allen & Nan Jo Crowell	Jane Scott
John Marshall Crowell	Marie Scott
MAJ Glenn David Crowell	Merideth Sheskey
Ruth & Andrew Denman	Harry Shuford, Sr.
David H. Donnan	Dr. Edir Barros Siqueira
Bolling & Mary Neil DuBose	Professor & Mrs. Elvindo D. Siqueira
Christine Eksom	Grace & Bob Stephens
Ruby Freeman	William Towles III
Florence Matson Gilmer	Fred & Helen Wallace
Pauline Straley Hofmann	Charles & Evelyn Ward
Raymond & Charlotte Kays	Mr. & Mrs. John Wiarda
Jack & Judy Koetzle	Professor Howard J. Wiarda
William A. Kretschmar	Lance J. Wilder
Michael LaFleur	Mr. & Mrs. William Sidney Wilfong
Sue Law	Mr. & Mrs. John Williams
Francis B. Lyman, Jr.	Nancy Conley Wilson
Richard A. Mattocks	Jim Wines
Mr. & Mrs. William McDonough	Mark & Lily Wood
Amos & Dorothy Mehl	

## THIS WEEK

### **Sunday, April 1 - Easter, Food Sunday, Communion Sunday**

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

9:00 a.m. Prayer Stations open, The PIT

9:30 a.m. Easter Brunch, Fellowship Hall

### **Monday, April 2- Church Office & Weekday School Closed for Easter Holiday**

### **Tuesday, April 3**

1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Room 304

2:00 p.m. Bicentennial 2020 Vault Work, Room 127

2:00 p.m. Circle 3/4, Home of Kitty Donnan, 1050 Simonton Way, Watkinsville

6:00 p.m. Pastor Nominating Committee Meeting, Staff Conference Room

6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Supervision Facilitators, Moses Waddel Room

7:00 p.m. Circle 6, Home of Grace Lu, 130 Autumnwood Ave.

### **Wednesday, April 4**

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

4:30 p.m. Fellowship & Evangelism Commission Meeting, Athens Clarke County Courthouse

### **Thursday, April 5**

10:00 a.m. Josephine Paine Bible Study, Staff Conference Room

10:30 a.m. Congregational Care Commission Meeting, Room 302

2:00 p.m. The Mellows, Silver Leaf of Athens, 705 Whitehead Rd.

6:30 p.m. Men's Softball vs. Rhema Christian, Bishop Park, 705 Sunset Dr.

8:30 p.m. Men's Softball vs. Trinity Baptist, Bishop Park, 705 Sunset Dr.

### **Friday, April 6**

5:00 p.m. Honduras Mission Trip, Lasagna-Making, Main Kitchen

### **Sunday, April 8**

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

## LOOKING AHEAD

**April 8** - Honduras Mission Trip, Lasagna Pick-Up, Fellowship Hall

**April 8 & 15** - New Member Class & Tea

**April 11** - The Bookless Book Group, Taziki's Mediterranean Cafe

**April 15** - Presbyterian Women Birthday Luncheon

**April 17** - Primetime Presbyterians Program with Ron Bogue, Moses Waddel Room

**April 20 - 22** - Women's Retreat

**April 29** - Youth Sunday

**April 29** - The Wayne F. Middendorf Memorial Concert Series presents Dr. John Coble & Mrs. Geneva Stonecipher, Concert Organists

**May 6** - Scottish Reformation Sunday

**May 6 - 13** - IHNA Host Week

**May 13** - High School Graduate Recognition

**May 20** - Pentecost

Confirmation Sunday

**May 27** - Summer Schedule begins: 10:00 a.m. Worship, No Sunday School

**May 29 - June 1** - Vacation Bible School

## **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION**

Bruce Lancaster, Moderator    Richard Lane, 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 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. Willie "Buc" Collins, Sexton  
Mrs. Madeline Van Dyck, Parish Nurse

### **STUDENT INTERNS**

Ms. Jordan Osborne, Youth Ministry Intern  
Ms. Yamini Pulusu, Website Technician  
Ms. Yuxin Ni, Church Music Intern

### **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.**