



# 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!

May 6, 2018  
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.  
Scottish Reformation 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.

### Bagpipe Prelude

\***Procession** Highland Cathedral Traditional piping tune

\***Hymn 361** How Firm a Foundation FOUNDATION

### Call to Worship

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

**We come to worship and praise our God who, in every age of life, gives us what we need.**

We are surrounded every day by God's presence, God's love, and God's grace.

**Let us lift our voices in glad adoration of God's everlasting care!**

### Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

#### 11:00 a.m. Introduction of Honored Guests

#### Prayers for Elected and Appointed Officials

#### \*Call to Confession

#### \*Prayer of Confession

**Almighty God, our Father, we have sinned against you and one another, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us to correct what we are, and direct what we shall be, through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

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

This service is adapted from an early Scottish worship service used by John Knox.

FPC 2nd Graders are our Communion Helpers. Bringing in the bread and cup at the 11:00 a.m. service are Harper Havick and Andrew Miller.

Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad, making note of new and old friends.

\*Those who are able may stand.

**\*Silent Prayer**

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Congregational Response**

CELTIC 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 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.

**\*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 396, Stanza 1

**O for a closer walk with God, a calm and heavenly frame,  
a light to shine upon the road that leads me to the Lamb!**

**First Lesson**

Genesis 9:8-17, page 7

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

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

To God Be the Glory

Scottish Tune: Leaving of Lismore

arr. George Bayley

The anthem is the Gloria in English, set to the Scottish tune "Leaving of Lismore" by George Bayley (1927-2016). Bayley was an organist and church musician who specialized in arranging Scottish and Celtic music.

To God, be the glory, all glory in the highest  
and peace to God's people who dwell here below.  
Our heavenly Father, our Lord, and our Sovereign,  
to you, the Almighty, our praises bestow.  
We worship and adore you, we bow before you  
with grateful thanksgiving, our song let us raise.  
All glory and honor and glad adoration  
to God in the highest hosanna and praise.  
Lord Jesus, the only begotten of the Father,  
we praise and we bless you, the Son and the Lamb.  
The sin of the world you have taken upon you,  
have mercy upon us, the Great I Am.  
For holy, you meet us, yet lowly you greet us,  
the Lord in the highest, the Holy One.  
All glory to the Father, the Son, and the Spirit,  
from ages everlasting, the Three in One.

**Second Lesson**

Isaiah 40:27-31, page 655

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

**Sermon**

Believing the Future

Dr. Bruce Lancaster



**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 and down the stairs to the Children's Ministry Suite.

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### **Scottish Reformation Worship Procession**

Great Highland Bagpipes, Henry Frantz

Scottish and Tartan Flag Bearers

Beadle, Lee Epting

Chancel Choir

Clerk of Session, Richard Lane

Clergy: Dr. Bruce Lancaster, Dr. Carol Strickland, and Dr. John Kipp

The Reverend Hilary Shuford, General Presbyter, Northeast Georgia Presbytery

Elected and Appointed Government Officials

The Honorable Bill Cowsert, State Senator, District 46

The Honorable Frank Ginn, State Senator, District 47

The Honorable Deborah Gonzalez, State Representative, District 117

The Honorable Nancy Denson, Mayor of Athens

The Honorable Dodd Ferrelle, Mayor of Winterville

Ms. Toni Meadow, Tax Commissioner

Chief R. Scott Freeman, Athens-Clarke County Police Department

Mr. Ken Mauldin, District Attorney

The Honorable Steve Jones, Judge, United States District Court

The Honorable Ethelyn Simpson, Chief Judge, State Court

The Honorable H. Patrick Haggard, Superior Court Chief Judge

The Honorable Regina Quick, Superior Court Judge

The Honorable Lawton E. Stephens, Superior Court Judge

The Honorable Ryan S. Hope, Municipal Court Judge

The Honorable Susan Tate, Probate Court Judge

Mr. Sonny Wilson, Coroner

Commissioner Sharyn Dickerson, District 1

Commissioner Diane Bell, District 7

Ms. Linda E. Davis, Board of Education Member, District 3

Ms. Carol S. Williams, Board of Education Member, District 7

Mr. John Knox, Board of Education Member, District 8

Ms. Ovita Thornton, Board of Education Member, District 9

#### **An Invitation for Fellowship**

If after Kirk ye bide a wee,  
there's some wad like to speak with ye.

If after Kirk ye rise and flee,  
we'll all seem cold and stiff to ye.

The one that's in the seat with ye  
is stranger here than ye, maybe.

All here ha'e got their fears and cares.

An ye your soul unto our pryers.

Be ye our angel unawares.

## NOTES ON THE SERVICE

### WORSHIP LEADERS

#### Liturgists

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

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

#### Acolytes

**11:00 a.m.** Cash Havick, Lane Holloway

#### Lay Readers

**8:45 a.m.** Terry Caven

**11:00 a.m.** Tom Landrum

### USHERS

**8:45 a.m.** Mac Corry (head),  
Diane Hartzell, Don Hill

**11:00 a.m.** Kitty Donnan (head),  
Allen Crowell, Phyllis Crowell, Diane Hudgins,  
Frank Sherrill, Tom Wilfong

### GREETERS

**8:45 a.m.** Michelle Clendenen-Shaw,  
Carroll Gaillard, Faye Marshall, John Simpson

**11:00 a.m.** Robyn McDonald, Carol McKay,  
Melinda Miller, Dan Nadenicek

### RECEPTION HOST

Lee Epting

### SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Chuck Hunt

### FLOWERS

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Virginia and Rudy White by Larry and Louise White and Bob and Laura White.

We have a rosebud in honor of the adoption of Tre Kedrick Burg on April 30, 2018. Tre is the son of Karen and Tim Burg.

### 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.

## May 20 is Pentecost

**Wear RED!**

**Confirmation Sunday, 11:00 a.m.**

### Pentecost Offering

Your gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people and also address the needs of at-risk children. Sixty percent goes to support our denomination's Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) program, national youth ministries, and child advocacy. Forty percent stays locally to provide scholarships for the Barrow Elementary After-School program.

## Summer Schedule

May 20 will be our last Sunday with two services. Over the Memorial Day weekend,

**May 27, we will go to our summer schedule** of one service at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School will not meet over the summer.

# 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

**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, The Twelve Disciples by Douglas Connelly.

Coordinator: Sandy Boyles

**Inquirers** • Moses Waddel Room

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

- May 6 - Susan Stone & Alex Patterson will speak about Presbyterian Villages
- May 13 - Annual brainstorming session, please bring your ideas

Facilitators: Carl Bergmann, Carla Buss

**Living on a Prayer** • Room 303

Study of the book, Vanishing Grace by Philip Yancey. Sandwich project on first Sundays.

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 book of Romans.

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 the book 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: Robbie Bryan, Erik Ness

**SUNDAY EVENINGS**, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

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 final class – meet in the Staff Conference Room

Sunday School: fellowship in The PIT

**TONIGHT**

End of Year Party for Middle School at RUSH from 6:00-7:00 p.m., followed by Krispy Kreme donuts!



## THIS WEEK

### **Sunday, May 6, Scottish Reformation Sunday, Communion Sunday, Food Sunday**

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Bruce Lancaster preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 12:05 p.m. Scottish Reformation Reception, Fellowship Hall
- 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
- 4:30 p.m. Called Session Meeting, Moses Waddel Room
- 6:00 p.m. Middle School End of Year Party, RUSH, 10 Huntington Rd.

### **Monday, May 7**

- 9:45 a.m. Circle 2, Home of Betty Shuford, 1355 Timothy Rd.
- 2:00 p.m. Circle 3/4, Home of Linda Childers, 153 West Lake Ct.
- 4:00 p.m. Music & Worship Commission Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 5:30 p.m. Bicentennial 2020 Committee Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Room 205

### **Tuesday, May 8**

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Room 304
- 2:00 p.m. Bicentennial 2020 Vault Work, Room 127
- 6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Meeting, Moses Waddel Room, Room 308, 309, 310

### **Wednesday, May 9**

- 9:30 a.m. Circle 7, Home of Phyllis Crowell, 215 Tanglewood Dr.
- 10:30 a.m. Weekday School Graduation, Sanctuary
- 11:30 p.m. Bookless Book Group, Homemade, 1072 Baxter St.
- 12:30 p.m. Prayers for Healing, Sanctuary
- 3:00 p.m. Bridge, Room 302
- 4:15 p.m. Chair Yoga, Room 310
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Room 202

### **Thursday, May 10**

- 4:00 p.m. Men's Golf Outing, Jennings Mill Country Club, 1500 Chambers Ct., Bogart

### **Friday, May 11**

- 9:05 a.m. Weekday School, Last day of School

### **Sunday, May 13**

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

## LOOKING AHEAD

**May 13** - Blessing of the 5th Graders

High School Graduate Recognition

Mother's Day Offering

**May 15** - Project Safe Volunteer Work Day

**May 20** - Pentecost - Wear Red!

Confirmation Sunday

Pentecost Offering

**May 22** - First Friends, Heirloom Cafe

**May 23** - Bookless Book Group, DePalmas Italian Cafe - West Side

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

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

**June 6** - Weekday School Wonderful Wednesdays begin

**June 9-16** - Honduras Mission Trip

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **IHNA HOST WEEK**

**May 6-13**

Our next Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens host week begins today. Please be in prayer for our guests and volunteers as we serve.

### **MEN'S FELLOWSHIP GOLF OUTING**

**May 10, 4:00 p.m.**

All FPC men are invited to join the Men's Fellowship for golf and dinner at Jennings Mill Country Club. For details and to RSVP, please contact Dan Trier, dantrier@hotmail.com.

### **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES**

**May 13, 11:00 a.m.**

We will recognize our high school graduates in worship, followed by a reception in Fellowship Hall.

### **MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING**

**May 13**

Make a life-changing difference in the lives of mothers and others who need your help. On Mother's Day we will join more than 200 Presbyterian churches in Georgia in support of the Caring Hands Fund for Presbyterian Homes of Georgia. Our gifts help to provide much needed care and services for more than 400 older residents (mostly widows) of Presbyterian Homes who have outlived their financial resources. Thank you for your generosity.

### **COLLEGE GRADUATES**

We would like to honor our college graduates in the June issue of our Columns newsletter. To recognize someone, please send their name, school, degree, future plans, and a picture to Nan Powell, nan@firstpresathens.org, by May 13.

### **PROJECT SAFE VOLUNTEER**

**WORK DAY**

**May 15**

Please join our team from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. sorting clothes and other items for sale to benefit victims of domestic violence. To volunteer or for questions please contact Kitty Donnan at kittydavedonnan@gmail.com. The Project Safe Thrift Store is located in the Bell Shopping Center, 955 Hawthorne Ave.

### **HONDURAS MISSION TRIP**

**June 9-16**

**Prayer Cards**

You are invited to write a note of encouragement or prayer for our 27 missionaries. Cards are available on the bulletin board in the reception area and will be distributed during the trip!

### **Hygiene Kits**

Public health is a top priority for HOI, the organization hosting us in Honduras. We are collecting supplies for hygiene kits for the children of the communities where we will serve.

- Child-sized toothbrush
- 4.6 oz tube of toothpaste
- Small comb without pointed handle
- Bath-sized bar of soap

Donation baskets are set up in the Atrium and church office. Gracias!

### **Holy Joe Coffee**

Our second order of special FPC coffee has just arrived. We sold out of our first order, raising \$360 for the Honduras mission trip! Thank you!

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### **Blessing of the 5th Graders**

**May 13, 9:45 a.m., Godly Play Room**

We will hold a blessing of our 5th Graders as we mark their transition into middle school. Natalie Bishop has prepared a special gift for each youth as a reminder of their time in children's ministry.

We are excited to welcome this new group into The PIT! For questions please contact Natalie at natalie@firstpresathens.org or Kim at kness@firstpresathens.org.

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### **Books for Keeps Book Drive**

Help make sure no child in our community goes a summer without great books to read. Please bring your used books to the bins in the Atrium or church office. Books of all kinds will be accepted, then sold by Books for Keeps with proceeds used to buy new children's books.

Learn more at [booksforkeeps.org](http://booksforkeeps.org).