



# 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 13, 2018  
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.  
Seventh Sunday of 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.

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

### Greeting

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

### Prelude

Trio in E-flat Major

Josef Rheinberger

### Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

#### Moment for Mission

Mother's Day Offering

Hannah Ruth Weber

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

### 11:00 a.m. Song of Gathering

#### Call to Worship

A fruit of the Spirit is self-control.

**This day, in this place, let service to God be our choice.**

This day, in this place, we open our hearts and spirits to God.

**Praise be to God who sustains and nurtures our lives.**

The Song of Gathering at the 11:00 a.m. service is sung by the Cherub Choir.

#### \*Hymn 379

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

SOLID ROCK

#### \*Call to Confession

#### \*Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, we like to think that we love you with all our hearts and souls and might, but we get bogged down in the daily routine. There are so many other things in our lives that we often schedule you just for Sundays or think of you only when we want you to rescue us. Help us to recognize the presence of the Holy in every moment of our lives. Inspire us and make us into the people you want us to be.**

Hymn 379 develops imagery of Jesus' remark (Matthew 7:24-27/Luke 6:47-49) that those who believe in him and act on that belief are like someone who builds a house on a rock. The text is set to a tune created for it by a prolific 19th-century American composer and editor.

#### \*Silent Prayer

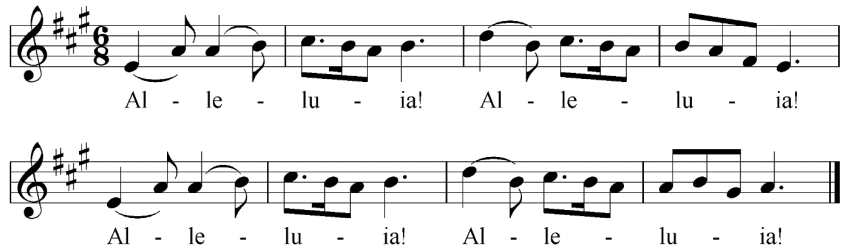
Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

\*Those who are able may stand.

**\*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."

**\*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.

The anthem, a new setting of a familiar hymn text, is sung by the St. Andrews Choir.

**11:00 a.m. Anthem** For the Beauty of the Earth Kenton Coe

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies;  
we sing this hymn of grateful praise, we sing this hymn of praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild;  
we sing this hymn of grateful praise, we this hymn of praise.

After the Anthem 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.

**11:00 a.m. Recognition and Blessing of our High School Graduates**

JOSEPH CLARKE	Clarke Central High School	University of Texas
HOLLINS COBB	North Oconee High School	Georgia College
EMILY LABOON	Athens Academy	Presbyterian College
ERIN OSBORNE	Oconee County High School	Rhodes College
HENRY TRAPNELL	Athens Academy	University of Georgia

**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** Deuteronomy 6:1-9, page 169

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

**Second Lesson** Matthew 7:24-29, page 885

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

**Sermon** Home: Where Life Makes Up Its Mind

Dr. Bruce Lancaster

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

**Hymn 326** Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

MORECAMBE

**\*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.**

**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.**

**Pastor Nominating Committee Update**

Lewis Hudgins

**Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings**

**8:45 a.m. Offertory** Improvisation on AUSTRIAN HYMN

John Coble

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

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross      Gilbert M. Martin  
Text may be found at Hymn 101.

**\*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**

Hymn 326 is a reflection on Galatians 5:25, written by a literary Anglican clergyman whose preaching drew people of many social classes to one of the formerly poorer London churches. The tune was created for "Abide with Me" but more often appears with the present text.

Next to the Nicene Creed, The Apostles' Creed is the most universally accepted doctrinal statement in Christendom. Although not written by apostles, it reflects the theological formulations of the first century church. Arising from an early baptismal creed, it underwent development, attaining its present form in the eighth century.

## SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

\***Hymn 446**      Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken      AUSTRIAN HYMN

\***Benediction**

\***Congregational Response**      AR HYD Y NOS

**Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.**

**Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.**

**Here you heard my dear Son's story;**

**here you touched him, saw his glory.**

**Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.**

**Postlude**

Ceremonial March

Herbert Sumsion

**Following 11:00 a.m. worship, all are invited to a reception  
in Fellowship Hall in honor of our high school graduates.**

Following 8:45 a.m.  
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 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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## NOTES ON THE SERVICE

### WORSHIP LEADERS

#### Liturgists

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

**11:00 a.m.** Carol Strickland, Sam Seward

#### Acolytes

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

#### Lay Readers

**8:45 a.m.** Lisa Oelke

**11:00 a.m.** Greta Covington

### USHERS

**8:45 a.m.** Mac Corry (head),

Diane Hartzell, Don Hill

**11:00 a.m.** Kitty Donnan (head),

Ed Ferguson, Jim McDonald, Frank Sherrill,

Rick Simpson, Tom Wilfong

### GREETERS

**8:45 a.m.** Terry Nestor, Keith Oelke,

Lisa Oelke, Mary Peace

**11:00 a.m.** Martha Elmore, Marie Ledford,

Tim Ledford, Robyn McDonald

### RECEPTION HOSTS

Parents of our 11th Graders

### SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Roger Burbage

### FLOWERS

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the marriage of Elizabeth Marie Walker and Andrew Coleman Forrester and in memory of Frank and Sue Parker by Mary Peace.

We have a rosebud in honor of the birth of Cameron Betty Dake on May 2, 2018. Cameron is the daughter of Jeff and Eleanor Lancaster Dake and the granddaughter of Bruce and Cathi Lancaster.

### 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

### MOTHER'S DAY OFFERING

#### Today

Today 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 today.

### 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.

### BICENTENNIAL 2020 OUTREACH

#### Planning Meeting, May 20, 4:30 p.m.

The Mission & Outreach Commission invites anyone interested to help brainstorm ideas for significant outreach project(s) to commemorate FPC's 200th anniversary in 2020. Please join us in the Moses Waddel Room.

### 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 is here! We sold out of our first order, raising \$360 for the Honduras mission trip! Thank you!

#### IHNA HOST WEEK

Thank you, volunteers, for a wonderful Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens host week!

#### 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)

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## 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.

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## 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.**

**Last day of Sunday School is May 20**

## 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.

**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 13 - Annual brainstorming session, please bring your ideas
- May 20 - 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. 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.

### THIS MORNING

9:45-10:45 a.m.

Join us for a time of fellowship in The PIT.

10:15-10:45 a.m.

Welcome meeting for rising 6th graders and their parents

### SUMMER 2018

Youth group will not meet over the summer, but we do have these great trips planned:

May 29-June 2: Vacation Bible School tour guides

June 9-16: Intergenerational mission trip to Honduras

June 21-24: Middle School Massanetta Conference

June 24-30: Montreat Worship & Music Conference

July 22-28: Montreat Youth Conference

For more information, contact Kim Ness at [kness@firstpresathens.org](mailto:kness@firstpresathens.org).

## THIS WEEK

### Sunday, May 13

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Bruce Lancaster preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:45 a.m. Blessing of the 5th Graders, Godly Play Room
- 12:05 p.m. Reception for High School Graduates, Fellowship Hall

### Monday, May 14

- 5:00 p.m. Administration Commission Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Room 205
- 6:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting, Moses Waddel Room

### Tuesday, May 15

- 9:00 a.m. Northeast Georgia Stated Presbytery Meeting, Athens Korean Presbyterian Church, 2925 S. Barnett Shoals Rd.
- 10:00 a.m. Project Safe Volunteer Work Day, Bell Shopping Center, 995 Hawthorne Ave.
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Room 304
- 2:00 p.m. Bicentennial 2020 Vault Work, Room 127
- 5:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting, Staff Conference Room

### Wednesday, May 16

- 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 17

- 10:00 a.m. Josephine Paine Bible Study, Staff Conference Room
- 2:00 p.m. The Mellows, Avery Place, 124 Avery St., Winterville

### Saturday, May 19

- 11:00 a.m. Memorial Service for Marian VanEseltine, Sanctuary

### Sunday, May 20 - Pentecost

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Carol Strickland preaching

## LOOKING AHEAD

**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

**June 10** - Books for Keeps Book Drive Drop-off Deadline

**June 18-21** - Weekday School Camp

**June 21-23** - Middle School Massenetta

**June 24-30** - Montreat Worship & Music Conference

**July 22-28** - Montreat Youth Conference

## **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.**