



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 20, 2018
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
Pentecost

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

Feria Pentecostes Camille Saint-Saëns

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Moment for Mission Pentecost Offering Bertis Downs

8:45 a.m. Organ Introit Improvisation on The Lone, Wild Bird
John Coble

11:00 Choral Introit The Lone, Wild Bird arr. David N. Johnson
Text may be found at Hymn 320.

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

Call to Worship

Rushing wind of the Spirit,
Breathe new life into us.
Blazing flame of the Spirit,
Burn away our fear.
Comforting presence of the Spirit,
Heal our wounds.
Come, Holy Spirit, come!

Hymn 128, a narrative and interpretive text, was written to fill what the author perceived as an unfortunate gap in available hymns concerning the Holy Spirit in general and Pentecost in particular. The setting of the 17th-century German tune is Mendelssohn's oratorio Elijah.

***Hymn 128** On Pentecost They Gathered MUNICH

***Call to Confession**

*Those who are able may stand.

***Prayer of Confession**

Almighty God, you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples creating bold tongues, open ears, and a new community of faith. We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of grace, speak the good news of your love, or live as a people made one in Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit, and fill us with a flaming desire to be your faithful people, doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

***Silent Prayer**

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

***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.

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.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Congregational Prayer for Illumination

Hymn 321, Stanza 1

Holy Spirit, truth divine, dawn upon this soul of mine; Word of God, and inward light, wake my spirit, clear my sight.

First Lesson

Acts 2:1-21, page 994

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

11:00 a.m. Anthem

Come Thou, Lord, Creator Spirit Jeffrey H. Rickard

Come thou, Lord, creator spirit, tune the humble heart to thee.
From the flame of love now kindle flame in spirits born for thee.
Thou the father of thy children; thou the orb of liberty.
Thou the treasure we do cherish; thou our hope and destiny.
Come thou, Lord, in all thy splendor, let the wall of temple ring.
Seraphs' cry allow to render clear, the anthem we would sing.
Thou so mighty, now recover for thyself thy majesty.
Thou, so gentle, now deliver for thyself they people free.

Second Lesson

Romans 12:1-8, page 1035

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

Sermon

The Odd Broad Church

Dr. Carol Strickland

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn 314**

Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

BRIDEGROOM

The text of Hymn 314 was written to fit the pre-existing tune. The three stanzas cluster around various themes developed through a series of images and grounded in the refrain: how the Spirit comes, to whom the Spirit comes, and for what purposes the Spirit comes.

11:00 a.m. Confirmation

Presentation of Confirmands and Profession of Their Faith

*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.**

Prayer and Welcome

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 Come Down, O Love Divine Wilbur Held

11:00 a.m. Offertory Anthem

Litany to the Holy Spirit Peter Hurford

In the hour of my distress when temptations me oppress,
and when I my sins confess, Sweet Spirit, comfort me!
When I lie within my bed, sick in heart and sick in head,
and with doubts discomforted, Sweet Spirit, comfort me!
When the house doth sigh and weep, and the world is drowned with sleep,
yet mine eyes the watch do keep, Sweet Spirit, comfort me!

*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

The Apostles' Creed will be affirmed at both services.

CONFIRMATION CLASS OF 2018

Mentor
Family

A. J. CARR

Matt Bishop
Eric & Jennifer Carr

ANN HARPER

COVINGTON
Jennifer Trapnell
Stephen & Greta
Covington

ELIZA DOWNS

Terry Nestor
Bertis & Katherine
Downs

JOHN FERGUSON

Terry McRae
Dick & Susan Ferguson

LUCY FERGUSON

Peggy Reigle
Dick & Susan Ferguson

EMILY GASKILL

Don DeMaria
Kemp & Debbie Gaskill

KNOX HUFF

Robbie Bryan
David & Susan Huff

KATIE SUE

MARTIN-WILLIAMS
Patty Whiten
Moffatt Williams &
Jean Martin-Williams

KATIE NORRIS

Lewis Hudgins
Scott & Beth Norris

LUKE OSBORNE

Ron Cox
Andy & Julie Osborne

MADISON SMITH

Shannon Ferguson
Lindsey Arinze &
Edward Smith

JAMES WILLIAMS

Madeline VanDyck
Richard & Katie
Williams

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

* **Hymn 313** Come Down, O Love Divine DOWN AMPNEY

* **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 Come, Holy Ghost Johann Sebastian Bach

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

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.

NOTES ON THE SERVICE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Liturgists

8:45 a.m. Robbie Bryan

11:00 a.m. Robbie Bryan, Jackson Parker

Acolytes

11:00 a.m. Kate Ness, Chase Parker

Lay Readers

8:45 a.m. Jim Dove

11:00 a.m. Ron Cox

Kite Bearer

Maggie DeMaria

USHERS

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

11:00 a.m. Kitty Donnan (head),
Addie Downs, Margaret Johansen,
Frank Sherril, Rick Simpson, Tom Wilfong

GREETERS

8:45 a.m. Carol Gaillard, Barb Laughlin,
Mary Peace, John Simpson

11:00 a.m. Kathy Bangle, Dave Beck,
Lillian Beck

RECEPTION HOSTS

Parents of our 8th Graders

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Paulo Lourenço

FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory of Nancy Wilson by Carla Buss. The flowers in the Narthex are in celebration of the 50th wedding anniversary of Pat and Faye Marshall.

We have a rosebud in honor of the birth of Sophie Meredith Glass on January 4, 2018. Sophie is the daughter of Danny and Shannon Barry Glass and the granddaughter of Bill and Brita Barry.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PENTECOST OFFERING, Today

Your gift 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.

BICENTENNIAL 2020 OUTREACH Planning Meeting, Today, 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.

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.

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!

Today is Pentecost

Pentecost, the birthday of the church, falls seven weeks after Easter (50 days). Pentecost celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity, the giver and renewer of life, who instills our faith and enables us to follow Jesus Christ. Symbols of Pentecost include the dove plus those derived from the story in Acts 2: wind, fire, and the color red for flames.

Summer Schedule

Today is our last Sunday with two services.

Next 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.

Vacation Bible School - Maker Fun Factory!

Tuesday, May 29 - Friday, June 1, 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Church doors will open each morning at 8:45 a.m. and VBS Fun will begin at 9:00 a.m. sharp. Please plan to walk your child into the church at the Weekday School Entrance at the back of the church. Parent Pick-up/Car Line will begin at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday – Thursday with a car line at the back parking lot beginning at the Weekday School Entrance. On Friday we will finish the VBS week all together, parents and children, in Fellowship Hall at 12:10 p.m.

We are looking forward to a wonderful week together!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

Last day of Sunday School is today.

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 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 for our last Sunday School before summer.

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.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 20 - Pentecost

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Carol Strickland preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 12:05 p.m. Reception for Confirmands, Fellowship Hall
- 4:30 p.m. Mission & Outreach Commission Meeting, Moses Waddel Room

Monday, May 21

- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Room 205

Tuesday, May 22

- 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 Group Supervision, Room 308, 309, 310
- 6:00 p.m. First Friends, Heirloom Cafe, 815 N Chase St.

Wednesday, May 23

- 11:30 a.m. The Bookless Book Group, DePalmas Italian Cafe, 2080 Timothy Rd.
- 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 24

- 2:00 p.m. The Mellows End of Year Lunch, Rafferty's, 15 Huntington Rd.

Sunday, May 27

- 10:00 a.m. Service, Dr. Bruce Lancaster preaching

LOOKING AHEAD

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

May 29 - June 1 - Vacation Bible School

June 1 - 2 - Middle School Lock-in

June 4 - Memorial Service for Judy Howell, 10:00 a.m.

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 Massanetta

June 24-30 - Montreat Worship & Music Conference

July 22-28 - Montreat Youth Conference

July 23-26 - Weekday School Camp

Summer Choir Begins June 3

All interested singers are invited to join us for Summer Choir. We will meet in the choir room at 9:15 a.m. on Sundays to rehearse music for that morning's service. Our Chancel Choir will be the foundation of this group. Singers may join us for any single Sunday or for as many as they wish, even for the whole summer. Adults, youth, and children are all welcome.

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

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
Mr. Christian Cordon, Mission & Outreach
Ms. Nettie Jester, Youth Ministry

**PLEASE SEE FIRSTPRESATHENS.ORG
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.**