



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 27, 2018
10:00 a.m.
Trinity 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.

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

Greeting

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

Prelude

Verset

Léon Boëllmann

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!**

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

Call to Worship

Let us praise God, Holy Trinity, Three in One,
Creator, Savior, Spirit, fill us with faith and joy!
Let us worship God, Holy Trinity, Three in One,
Holy, Holy, Holy, how wonderful is your name in all the earth!

***Hymn 138** Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty NICEA

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

O God, in our hearts we carry the label of Christian: to carry out your mission, to be a light in the darkness, to have Jesus call us his friends. We confess our lives are all too often empty words that neglect your mission, hide your light, or deny the friendship of Jesus. Awaken us to action so that all may see your light and perceive your justice and righteousness revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Much of the imagery of Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty comes from Revelation 4:2-11, which its author, an Anglican bishop, knew as a reading appointed for Trinity Sunday. The tune, written specifically for this text, reinforces the Trinitarian theme by strong dependence on the D-major triad.

* Those who are able may stand.

***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**

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.

Commissioning of Vacation Bible School Volunteers

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

Psalm 145:1-9, page 569

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

The anthem is a setting of a text by Thomas T. Lynch (1818-1871) to a plainsong chant, arranged by contemporary American composer K. Lee Scott.

Anthem

Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me

K. Lee Scott

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be;
help me now thy grace to see, I would be like thee;
and, with words that help and heal, thy life would mine reveal;
and, with actions bold and meek for Christ, my Savior speak.
Truthful Spirit, dwell with me, I would truthful be;
help me now thy truth to see, I would be like thee;
and, with wisdom kind and clear, thy life in mine appear;
and, with actions brotherly, speak Christ's sincerity.
Holy Spirit, dwell with me, I would holy be;
show thy mercy tenderly, make me more like thee;
separate from sin, I would and cherish all things good,
and whatever I can be give him who gave me thee.
Mighty Spirit, dwell with me, I would mighty be;
help me now thy power to see, I would be like thee;
'gainst all weapons hell can wield, be thou my strength and shield;
let thy word my weapon be, Lord, think the victory.
Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would be like thee!

Second Lesson

Mark 1:40-45, page 913

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

Sermon

The Healing Power of a Touch Dr. Bruce Lancaster

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn Insert**

O Christ, the Healer

O WALY WALY

***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.**

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.

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

Offertory NICEA Calvin Hampton

***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**

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

***Hymn 155** Rejoice, the Lord Is King DARWALL'S 148TH

***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 We All Believe in One God Johann Sebastian Bach

Each stanza of the enthronement text of Hymn 155 prepares for the final line of the refrain, based on Philippians 4:4. "Lord" is here a title of Christ rather than a reference to the undivided Trinity. The late 18th-century tune (first used with Psalm 148) captures the mood well.

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

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 8:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., are located next to the Children's Ministry Suite and are accessible down the stairs in the Atrium and through the glass door.

NOTES ON THE SERVICE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Liturgist

Carol Strickland

Lay Reader

Jo Carol Nessel-Sale

USHERS

Kitty Donnan (head), Diane Hartzell,
Jim McDonald, Jo Carol Nessel-Sale,
Terry Nestor, Leslye Queen

GREETERS

Carroll Gaillard, Keith Oelke, Lisa Oelke

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Jody and Chris Pope

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Paulo Lourenço

FLOWERS

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the marriage of Margaret Eleanor Granum and Christopher Gurtcheff and in honor of the men and women who have served in our Armed Forces.

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 walk your child into the church at the Weekday School Entrance at the back of the church. Pick-up/Car Line will begin at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday – Thursday.

Friday, parents and families please enter through the Atrium at the front of the church and join the children in Fellowship Hall at 12:10 p.m. for our closing program.

We are looking forward to a wonderful week together!

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!

VBS & MIDDLE SCHOOL LOCK-IN

May 29-June 1

Middle School youth, including our rising 6th graders, will serve as guides for VBS. And then on Friday, they will participate in a beat-the-clock, 12 hour challenge. From 12 to 12, we will play games, complete challenges, serve others, and end with a midnight meal at Waffle House!

FOOD SUNDAY

June 3

On Sunday, June 3, we will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Athens-Area Emergency Food Bank. This month they are requesting:

- ♦ **Saltine Crackers!**
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Thank you for donating 374 items in May.

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

THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 27

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

11:05 a.m. Fellowship, Atrium

Monday, May 28 - Church Office Closed for Memorial Day Holiday

Tuesday, May 29 - Friday, June 1, Vacation Bible School

Tuesday, May 29

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

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

Wednesday, May 30

12:30 p.m. Prayers for Healing, Sanctuary

1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room

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 31

5:15 p.m. IHNA Coordinating Meeting, The PIT.

Friday, June 1

11:00 a.m. Property Committee Meeting, Staff Conference Room

12:00 p.m. Middle School Lock-in begins, The PIT.

Saturday, June 2

11:00 a.m. Memorial Reception for Mary Gannon Gunn, Sexton's House, Oconee Hill Cemetery

Sunday, June 3 - Communion Sunday, Food Sunday

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

LOOKING AHEAD

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 - Massanetta Middle School Conference

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.



1 O Christ, the heal - er, we have come to pray for health, to plead for
 2 From ev - ry ail - ment flesh en-dures our bod-ies clam - or to be
 3 How strong, O Lord, are our de-sires, how weak our knowl - edge of our-
 4 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we rec - og - nize the world's dis -
 5 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your com - mu - ni - ty may



friends. How can we fail to be re -
 freed; yet in our hearts we would con -
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 us, shall reach the whole of hu - man - kind.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1967, alt.

Music: English folk melody



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