



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!

September 16, 2018
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

I Call to You, Lord Jesus Christ
Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Stewardship Moment Stories of Generosity Chuck Toney

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

Song of Gathering

Hymn 481, Stanza 1

Praise the Lord, God's glories show, Alleluia!
Saints within God's courts below, Alleluia!
Angels round the throne above, Alleluia!
All that see and share God's love. Alleluia!

Call to Worship

Come, let us delight in the law of the Lord.
Our joy is found in the love of God and neighbor.
Come, let us be nourished by the Living Water.
Together, we will worship the One who gives us joy.

Hymn 142, is an 18th-century text that celebrates the sovereignty of Christ, has been through several expansions and contractions before reaching its present form. It is set to the oldest American hymn tune in continuous use since first published in 1793.

***Hymn 142** All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name! CORONATION

*Those who are able may stand.

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

God of love and life, we know that in your eyes it is not social status, wealth, or reputation that count. We confess how easily our lives can become caught up in such worldly values. Jesus risked personal comfort and security when he reached out to those on the edge of society: those who had no voice, those whom others considered worthless. Forgive us when we fail to meet your challenge to welcome one another as Christ has welcomed us.

***Silent Prayer**

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Congregational Response**

GLORIA

Glo-ry - to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

***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.

This response was set to music in 1979 by Jacques Berthier, best known for writing music for the Taizé Community in France.

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

After passing 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 327, Stanza 1

**O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:
we praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.**

First Lesson Hebrews 2:10-12, page 1092

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

11:00 a.m. Anthem Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks

Herbert Howells

Like as the hart desireth the waterbrooks,
so longeth my soul after thee, O God.
My soul is athirst for God, yea, even for the living God.
When shall I come to appear before the presence of God?
My tears have been my meat day and night,
while they daily say unto me, where is now thy God?

Second Lesson Psalm 6, page 481

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

Sermon When You Hurt, But Can't Tell Anyone

Dr. Bruce Lancaster

The anthem is a setting of Psalm 42:1-3 by English composer, organist, and teacher Herbert Howells, famous for his large output of Anglican church music.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Hymn Insert Be Still My Soul FINLANDIA

*Affirmation of Faith from The United Church of Canada

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust God.

We are called to be the Church:

**to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

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 Andante tranquillo Felix Mendelssohn

*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 210 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past ST. ANNE

*Benediction

*Congregational Response Hymn 540, Stanza 1

**God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.**

*Postlude "St. Anne" Fugue Johann Sebastian Bach

The meditative text of Be Still, My Soul seems to be rooted in Psalm 46:10, "Be still and know that I am God," while also reaching forward to 1 Thessalonians 4:17b, "we will be with the Lord forever." Much of the appeal of this hymn comes from its tune, named for the tone poem on which it is based.

"A New Creed" was adopted in 1968 by the United Church of Canada, a mainline Reformed denomination and the largest Protestant church in Canada.

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 8:30 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 to the Children's Ministry Suite located down the stairs in the Atrium, through the glass door to the right.

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. Charlie Phillips, Sloane Turner

Lay Readers

8:45 a.m. Scott Collins

11:00 a.m. Dan Nadenicek

USHERS

8:45 a.m. John Simpson (head),
Diane Hartzell, Terry Nestor

11:00 a.m. Rod Canfield (head),
Betsy Canfield, Sydney Jackson,
Tommy Jackson, Christine Register,
Mickey Register

GREETERS

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

11:00 a.m. Jayne Bailey, Svea Bogue,
Julie Sanks

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Lois and Joe Neighbors

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Paulo Lourenço

FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Jim and Jane McGown's 46th wedding anniversary.

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.

Soul Shop

September 16 & 17

It's not too late! Even if you haven't done so yet, please register today and attend one or both Soul Shop workshops. FPC and Milledge Avenue Baptist Church are co-sponsoring Soul Shop, a nationally recognized suicide awareness training movement. This is for the entire community and will address how we think and talk about suicide. There will be two workshops:

Soul Shop for the Public

Sunday, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m., no charge

Soul Shop for Lay & Professional Faith Leaders Monday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

\$10 includes boxed lunch

Details and registration are at firstpresathens.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STORIES OF GENEROSITY

Today we introduce our Stewardship theme, "Stories of Generosity." Please watch for more stories in the Weekly Word and the October Columns newsletter.

PROJECT SAFE WORK DAY

September 18

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.

CONFIRMATION SATURDAY

OPENING RETREAT, September 22

Ten 9th graders have begun their confirmation journey, using the PC(USA) "Big God Big Questions" curriculum. Please pray for them this Saturday as they participate in a full-day retreat, including tackling the UGA high ropes course!

CHOIR DEDICATION SUNDAY

September 23

Next Sunday we will celebrate our music ministry and choir members will also publicly commit themselves to offering their time and talents by serving in one or more of our choirs.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

October 13, 10:00 a.m.

Join us for the Blessing of the Animals, held this year on the grounds of the Athens Community Council on Aging. It is located at 135 Hoyt St., just a few blocks from the church. Dr. Carol Strickland will offer a blessing for our furry and feathered friends. All pets are welcome. Invite your animal-loving neighbors and friends!

STEPHEN MINISTERS LISTEN

They have gone through 50 hours of training, so they know how to be especially attentive. If you, or someone you know, need someone to listen to you as you are going through a challenging time in your life, please contact Dawn Frisch (914-255-3447), Larry Gray (706-202-1005), or Carol Strickland (706-543-4338).

Brown Bag Bible Study, "Bad Boys and Bad Girls of the Bible"

Wednesdays, September 19 - November 14

Brown Bag Supper: 6:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited! Bring your supper to the Moses Waddel Room; families are welcome to bring children.

Bible Study: 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

We will have a Bible Study taught by Dr. Bruce Lancaster beginning at 6:30 p.m. and going for about an hour. Childcare will be provided. This week's "bad boy" is Adam. You may prepare by reading Genesis 3:8-19.

"Bad Boys and Bad Girls of the Bible"

September 19 – Adam

October 17 – Jephthah

September 26 – Eve

October 24 – Jezebel

October 3 – Lot

November 7 – Samson

October 10 – Potiphar's Wife

November 14 – Delilah

(No class October 31)

Fellowship@First: Picnic with UGA Band

September 28, 5:30 p.m.

Pack your picnic basket, blanket, frisbee, and chairs and join friends of all ages at the intramural practice fields to enjoy hearing and watching the UGA Redcoat Marching Band practice. Look for our tent. Come early for parking, if desired.

Directions: From College Station Road, turn onto Lake Herrick Drive (between East Campus and Loop 10). Go .5 miles and turn left past the tennis courts. Look for the FPC tent in the field. Park here or at the Intramural Parking Deck you passed at .2 miles.

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.

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.

The children will begin all together each Sunday morning in the Children's Ministry Suite with Holy Moly (short animated Bible Story videos). Immediately following Holy Moly, the children will head to their Godly Play Rooms.

Pre-Kindergarten - Kindergarten • Room 126 in Children's Ministry Suite

1st, 2nd, 3rd Grade • Children's Ministry Suite

4th Grade - 5th Grade • Godly Play Room #1, Tinsley Stern Building (across from library)

Godly Play Guides: Jennifer Abbott, Natalie Bishop, Jody Corry, Greta Covington, Susan Ferguson, Madie Fischetti, Julie Hayes, Denise Horton, Sydney Jackson, Matt Jones, Mary Elizabeth McConnell, Carmen Meadows, Heather Roberts, Dan Trier, Gail Wilfong

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

Christian Issues • Room 308

Study of the book, Paul: His Life and Teaching by Jack Kuhatschek.

Coordinator: Sandy Boyles

Inquirers • Moses Waddel Room

Thoughtful introspection and lively group discussion covering contemporary issues and daily Christian living, with guest speakers or DVD studies.

- September 16 - DVD, The Old Testament, by Amy-Jill Levine
- September 23 - Jim Scanlon will share about his experiences on the Honduras mission trip

Facilitators: Carl Bergmann, Carla Buss

Living on a Prayer • Room 303

Devotionals based on scripture, led by different class members. Sandwich project on first Sundays. Coordinator: Karen Burg

New Voices • Room 310

Study of the book, The Flute Beneath the Gold by Charles Poole.

Led by: Lewis Hudgins, Christine Register

W. D. Hooper • Room 309

Study of Romans with other books of the New Testament to follow.

Led by: Richard Stone

Wayne F. Middendorf Men's Bible Class

Bride's Room, Tinsley Stern

Study of the Joseph saga, Genesis 37-50.

Teacher: John Kipp

Women's Bible Class • Room 301

Study of Hebrews.

Teacher: Wanda Wilcox

SUNDAYS in The PIT

Director of Youth Ministries: Kim Ness

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 - 10:40 a.m.

All youth grades 6-12 are invited to join us for a time of fellowship and devotion in The PIT. Each month, a different member of the congregation will lead a 3-week series on topics ranging from the Old Testament to Disney movies! SEPTEMBER: Building our Community, Robbie Bryan

Confirmation Class, open to 9th graders, also meets during Sunday School in the Staff Conference Room. This year, we will be using the new Presbyterian curriculum called, "Big God Big Questions."

TODAY: Session 1 - What is Confirmation?

SUNDAY EVENINGS

On Sunday evenings, we come together to explore our faith through activities focused on mission, discipleship, and lots of fun!

TONIGHT

Our stories are unique. Understanding the Tower of Babel.

New Sunday Evening Schedule:

4:30-5:30 Middle School youth group
5:30-6:15 Celebration Singers choir rehearsal
6:30-8:00 High School youth group & dinner

THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 16

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Bruce Lancaster preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 12:05 p.m. Fellowship, Atrium
- 3:00 p.m. New Member Class, Moses Waddel Room
- 3:00 p.m. Soul Shop for the Public, Milledge Ave. Baptist Church, 1690 South Milledge Ave.
- 4:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group, The PIT
- 4:30 p.m. Cherub Choir, Room 203
- 4:30 p.m. St. Andrews Choir, Room 202
- 5:30 p.m. Celebration Singers, Room 202
- 6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group & Dinner, The PIT
- 6:30 p.m. Pastor Nominating Committee Meeting, Moses Wadel Room

Monday, September 17

- 9:00 a.m. Soul Shop for Faith Leaders, Milledge Ave. Baptist Church, 1690 South Milledge Ave.
- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Room 205

Tuesday, September 18

- 10:00 a.m. Project Safe Work Day, Bell Shopping Center, 955 Hawthorne Ave.
- 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, Children's Ministry Suite

Wednesday, September 19 - Wednesday@First Activities Begin

- 9:30 a.m. Craft Fair Committee Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 12:00 p.m. Weekday School Ballet, Atrium
- 12:00 p.m. Weekday School Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 12:30 p.m. Prayers for Healing, Sanctuary
- 3:00 p.m. Bridge, Room 302
- 4:00 p.m. Chair Yoga, Room 310
- 4:30 p.m. Shakespeare's Henry IV, Part 2, Room 308
- 6:00 p.m. Brown Bag Supper, Moses Waddel Room
- 6:30 p.m. Bible Study, "Bad Boys and Bad Girls of the Bible," Moses Waddel Room
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Room 202

Thursday, September 20

- 10:00 a.m. Josephine Paine Bible Study, Staff Conference Room
- 2:00 p.m. The Mellows, Bentley Senior Living, 50 Sumner Way, Jefferson

Saturday, September 22

- 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Opening Retreat
- 11:00 a.m. Memorial Service for Betty Horne, Reception Following

Sunday, September 23

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

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.

Today, 3:00-6:00 p.m.

Informational class led by Dr. Bruce Lancaster, Moses Waddel Room
Child care is available (with reservation)

Sunday, September 23, 4:00 p.m.

New Member Tea at the home of Linda & Bill Childers, the Session will receive those wishing to join

Sunday, September 30, 8:45 & 11:00 a.m.

New members introduced during worship

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 Terrell 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

COLLEGE INTERNS

Ms. Nettie Jester, Youth Ministry
Ms. Yamini Pulusu, Website Technician

WADDEL FELLOWS

Ms. Kathryn Kent, Youth Ministry
Ms. Annabel McSpadden, Congregational Care

PLEASE SEE FIRSTPRESATHENS.ORG

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.