



This six-foot banner at the denominational offices in Louisville was created to illustrate the Peacemaking Offering for World Communion Sunday on October 5, 1997.

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!

October 7, 2018

8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

World Communion 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.

Greeting

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

Prelude

Improvisation on COPELAND

John Coble

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Moment for Mission Peace & Global Witness Offering

Robbie Bryan

Song of Gathering

LLANFAIR

Come, behold! the feast of heaven Alleluia!

has to mortal flesh been given. Alleluia!

Hear the Word of God declared: Alleluia!

"Come! The banquet is prepared." Alleluia!

Call to Worship

We come together in this place and around this Table
where heaven and earth embrace in peace.

We come together in this place and around this Table
where we gather with all of God's children around the world,

We come together in this place and around this Table
where we bring our very selves and find acceptance.

*Hymn 507

I Come with Joy

DOVE OF PEACE

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

O God, we confess that your justice is not found in our apathy.

The unity you desire is not found in our quarreling. The peace

you offer is not found in our constant complaining. The rest

we crave is not found in our overflowing calendars. Help us to

find you in the broken bread, the cup offered, and as we squeeze

closer together to make room at the table for all your children.

*Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

*Those who are able may stand.

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

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

We officially welcome our 2nd Graders as they begin to join their families for worship in the sanctuary and participate in communion this year:

Bruno Betzel

Pat Bryan

Petch Bryan

William Carey

Jacob Castleman

Benjamin Crim

Sidney Doornbos

Harris Earl

Mary Ann Jones

Ellie Pope

Laney Roberts

Eli Sapp

Hannah Simpson

The text of Hymn 507 (previous page) affirms that Christian unity is not achievement but gift, one renewed each time we gather for the Lord's Supper. Each of us enters as an "I" and leaves as part of "we." The unadorned language of this text is well matched its simple shape note tune.

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

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Congregational Response**

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
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.

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 Psalm 40:1-8, page 502

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

Second Lesson Acts 9:10-19, page 1002

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

Sermon Here I Am, Lord Dr. Bruce Lancaster

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn Insert** Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table! COPELAND

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

8:45 a.m. Offertory Deck Yourself, My Soul, with Gladness
Johannes Brahms

11:00 a.m. Offertory Love Bade Me Welcome Roland E. Martin
Love bade me welcome: yet my soul drew back, guilty of dust and sin.
But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack from my first entrance in,
drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning if I lacked anything.
A guest, I answered, worthy to be here: Love said, you shall be he.
I the unkind, ungrateful? Ah, my dear, I cannot look on thee.
Love took my hand, and smiling did reply, who made the eyes by I?
Truth, Lord, but I have marred them: let my shame go where it doth deserve.
And know you now, says Love, who bore the blame?
My dear, then I will serve.
You must sit down, says Love, and taste my meat:
so I did sit and eat.

***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 text of Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table! celebrates the radical hospitality that characterizes Christ's welcome (Matthew 8:11/Luke 13:29). Saints of old are, like us, people in need of forgiveness, and the response to such pardon is "thanks and praise." The tune was composed by Dr. Michael Corzine, retired Professor of Organ at Florida State University and former teacher of John Coble.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

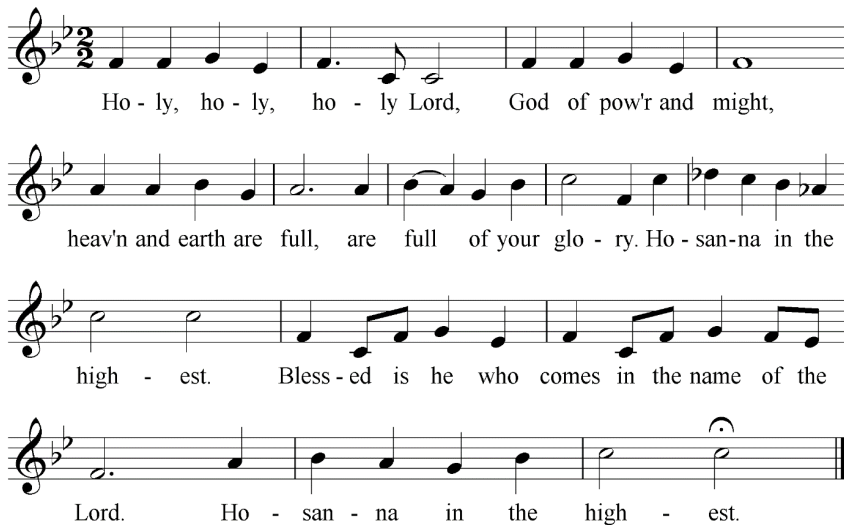
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

"...with all the company of heaven and earth we praise your holy name singing:"



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full, are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san-na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

"...Great is the mystery of faith:"



Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain.

"...all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever."



A - men, A - men, A - men.

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 16

... and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. . .

Breaking of the Bread and Giving of the Cup

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

*Hymn 508

For the Bread Which You Have Broken KINGDOM

*Benediction

8:45 a.m. – Communion will be served by intinction. Please come forward to receive the bread and dip it into the cup.

11:00 a.m. – Please partake as you are served.

The cup in the center of each plate contains gluten-free bread.

Following worship, all are invited for a time of fellowship and refreshments in the Atrium.

***Congregational Response**

AR HYD Y NOS

Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.

Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.

Here my Spirit's power filled you;

here my tender comfort stilled you.

Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

Texts and music for hymns and
sung responses reprinted under
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***Postlude**

Grand Chœur

Théodore Salomé

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.

NOTES ON THE SERVICE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Liturgists

8:45 a.m. Will Norman

11:00 a.m. Will Norman, Logan Bono

Acolytes:

11:00 a.m. Wallace Michalek, Declan Wilder

Lay Readers

8:45 a.m. Keith Oelke

11:00 a.m. Charlie Young

USHERS

8:45 a.m. Bobby Heath (head),
Keith Oelke, Lisa Oelke

11:00 a.m. Joe Hermanowicz (head),
David Beck, Lillian Beck,
Erica Hermanowicz, Terry McRae,
Dewitt Pittman

GREETERS

8:45 a.m. Terry Nestor, Harry Shuford

11:00 a.m. Melinda Miller, Dan Nadenicek

FELLOWSHIP HOST

Leslye Queen

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Paulo Lourenço

FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mrs. Susie Mendenhall by the Mendenhall family.

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.

We welcome The Rev. Will Norman as our guest liturgist today. Will joined the Presbyterian Student Center at UGA as Campus Minister in August. He moved to Athens from Sacramento, CA but he grew up in metro Atlanta and is a Georgia Tech graduate. He earned his Masters of Divinity at Columbia Theological Seminary, where he also met and was married to his wife, The Rev. Christin Johnson Norman (UGA '09). Christin and Will have a six-month old son, Jack.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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!

IHNA HOST WEEK

November 11-18, Sign-up begins today!

Please sign-up in the Atrium today for our next Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens host week. You may also check the online calendar or email Patty Whiten (pattywhiten@windstream.net) to volunteer.

ATHHALF PRE-RACE SERVICE

October 21, 6:30 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.

We will host an informal service in Fellowship Hall of reflection and inspiration before the race ahead. It will include scripture, prayer, music, and a message from the Rev. Craig Topple. The dress for the service is "athletic casual." **There will be no 8:45 a.m. service that day.**

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

October 28, 8:45 & 11:00 a.m.

The observance of All Saints' Day will take place during both services on October 28. It will include reading the names of members who have died since this time last year.

FAMILY PLACEMENT PACKS

The Ark is launching a drive benefiting foster families who will have a new family member arrive in the near future! There will be a donation box in the Atrium until December 5 with a list of items needed on the box.

TELL YOUR STORY

You can enhance our 2020 Bicentennial Celebration by writing your story. It will be a living history for today and will be archived for future members. Your story includes when you joined the church, the changes you have seen, what responsibilities you have accepted, and your community involvement, especially organizations that serve the needy. Please email your story to Judy Scanlon (judy.s.scanlon@gmail.com). Thank you!

Fellowship@First: Church Picnic It's a Pumpkin Picnic Party!

October 21, 3:00 - 6:00 p.m., Sandy Creek Park

Sign-up in the Atrium today! Bring a side dish or dessert to share; fried chicken and drinks will be provided. There is no cost but reservations are requested. Sign up in the Atrium on Sundays, online, or by contacting the church office.

Young and old are invited to join us for a festive afternoon of pumpkin carving and pumpkin-themed games. FPC will have a truckload full of pumpkins from the patch at Milledge Avenue Baptist Church for individuals or families to purchase then carve together. Bring your creative ideas and carving equipment. Awards will be given for Funniest, Most Biblical, Spookiest, and All-Around Winner!

The Opening Ceremonies of the Pumpkin Olympics will begin at 4:00 p.m. where teams of children/youth/adults will compete in five events to see who brings home the Gold! Come prepared to have fun, get messy, and celebrate the beginning of Fall with your FPC church family.

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

Dr. Bruce Lancaster is teaching a Bible Study beginning at 6:30 p.m. and going for about an hour. Childcare is provided. This week's "bad girl" is Potiphar's Wife. You may prepare by reading Genesis 39.

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.

- October 7 - Will Norman, from the Presbyterian Student Center, will speak

- October 14 - Brad Turner, from UGA Campus Kitchen, will speak about fighting hunger

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

College Interns: Nettie Jester & Kathryn Kent

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! OCTOBER: Faith & Politics, Don DeMaria

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: No confirmation class today. Join us for youth Sunday School in The PIT.

SUNDAY EVENINGS

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

TONIGHT

No youth group tonight due to Monday holiday.

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, October 7 - Food Sunday, World Communion 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. Fellowship, Atrium
- 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

Monday, October 8

- 9:05 a.m. Weekday School Chapel, Sanctuary
- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Room 205
- 6:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting, Moses Waddel Room

Tuesday, October 9

- 8:30 a.m. Weekday School Muffins with Mom, Fellowship Hall
- 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting, Moses Waddel Room
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Room 304
- 2:00 p.m. Bicentennial 2020 Vault Work, Children's Ministry Suite
- 6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Group Supervision, Moses Waddel Room, Rooms 308, 309, 310

Wednesday, October 10

- 8:30 a.m. Weekday School Muffins with Mom, Fellowship Hall
- 9:30 a.m. Circle 7, Staff Conference Room
- 11:30 a.m. Bookless Book Group, Homemade, 1072 Baxter St.
- 12:00 p.m. Weekday Ballet, Atrium
- 12:30 p.m. Prayers for Healing, Sanctuary
- 3:00 p.m. Bridge, Room 302
- 4:00 p.m. Chair Yoga, Room 310
- 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, October 11

- 2:00 p.m. The Mellows, Magnolia Estates, 1641 Virgil Langford Rd., Watkinsville

Saturday, October 13 - Sunday, October 14

Youth Fall Retreat

Saturday, October 13

- 10:00 a.m. Blessing of the Animals, Athens Community Council on Aging, 135 Hoyt St.

Sunday, October 14

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

LOOKING AHEAD

October 21 - Fellowship@First: All Church Picnic

October 23 - PTPs Celebrate UGA Football

First Friends

October 24 - Bookless Book Group

October 28 - All Saints' Sunday

November 2-3 - Pictorial Directory Reprint Portrait Sessions

November 4 - Commitment Sunday

Fauré Requiem with Reception

November 11 - Thanksgiving Food Bag Sunday

Veterans Day Bell Ringing

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.