



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!

October 14, 2018

8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Twenty-Eighth 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

Out of the Depths

Max Drischner

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Moment for Mission

Church Picnic

Avery McLean

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

Song of Gathering

DIX

Make a joyful noise to God!

All creation sings your praise!

**Great your wonders here displayed,
unexcelled throughout our days.**

**Glorious is your sacred name,
ages old, yet still the same.**

Call to Worship

God is our help and our support.

With joyful hearts, we sing God's praise.

The Lord is our hope and our salvation.

With rejoicing, we glorify God's name.

*Hymn 361

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

God of infinite patience and wisdom, we come to you with so many things that claim our time, our energy, our resources, our very lives. We are easily drawn away from serving you by the world's enticements of wealth, ease, and pleasure. Help us to place our lives and our trust in you. Give us courage and strength to truly be your disciples.

*Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

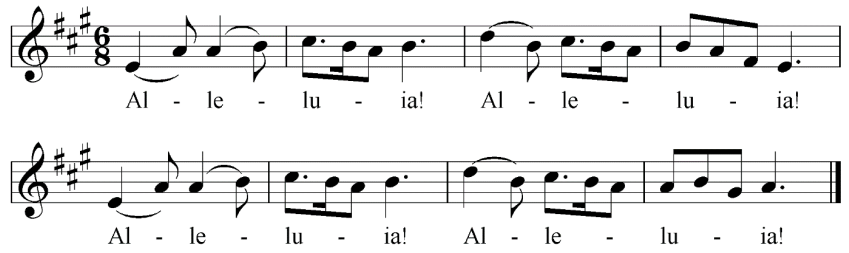
*Assurance of Pardon

It seems odd now to think of singing the text of Hymn 361 to the tune ADESTE FIDELES, but mainline churches did so well into the 20th century because of a cultural bias against shape note music. The vigor of the present tune seems especially right for the final line's reference to Hebrews 13:5.

*Those who are able may stand.

***Congregational Response**

CELTIC ALLELUIA



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

***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.

11:00 a.m. Sacrament of Baptism

Receiving the sacrament of baptism is Hamilton Weeks Grenley, daughter of Dave and Elise Grenley.

***Question to the Congregation**

Do we, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Hamilton by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging her to know and follow Christ? If so, please stand.

***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.**

Baptism Hymn 492 Baptized in Water

BUNESSAN

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 Psalms 130 & 131, page 562

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

After the Baptism 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.

11:00 a.m. Anthem Psalm 130 Paul O. Manz

Out of the depths have I cried unto thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice:
let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.
If thou, Lord, shouldst mark iniquities, Lord, who shall stand?
But there is forgiveness with thee that thou mayest be feared.
I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope;
my soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning.
Let Israel hope in the Lord for with the Lord there is mercy,
and with him is redemption, and he shall redeem Israel from all his iniquities.
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.

The anthem was written by Paul Manz, American composer, organist, and church musician who served, among other churches, Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. He was also director of the Paul Manz Institute of Church Music and Professor Emeritus of Church Music at Christ Seminary-Seminex at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago.

Second Lesson Acts 27:21-38, page 1023

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

Sermon Finding God in Plan B Dr. Bruce Lancaster

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn 357** O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee MARYTON

***8:45 a.m. Affirmation of Faith** The Apostles' Creed

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.

In honestly admitting the limits of human ability, the prayerful Hymn 357 does not seek a sense of God's presence for self-comfort but for strength and companionship in pursuing the tasks that God sets before us. The author specifically chose this tune to accompany his words.

Stewardship Moment Stories of Generosity Jim Dove

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now
Johann Sebastian Bach

***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 275** God of Our Life SANDON

***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.**

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

***Postlude** Toccata in F Johann Pachelbel

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, Chiara Bono

Acolytes:

11:00 a.m. Logan Bono, Sammy Pope

Lay Readers

8:45 a.m. Cheryl Gazlay

11:00 a.m. Stephen Covington

Baptism Elder

Madie Fischetti

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,
Jacki Macker, Chris Pope

GREETERS

8:45 a.m. Carroll Gaillard, Diane Hartzell,
Larry Jones

11:00 a.m. Martha Elmore, Bob Glasscock,
Brenda Glasscock

FELLOWSHIP HOST

Karen Phillips

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Paulo Lourenço

FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Emily Sharon Boatwright and Allen Brooks Marsh, who were married in our sanctuary yesterday.

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.



The Wayne F. Middendorf Memorial Concert Series
presents
The First Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir
performing
Requiem
by Gabriel Fauré
with soloists Rachel Eve Holmes, soprano
John Tsao, baritone
and orchestra
Sunday, November 4, 4:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church of Athens, 185 E. Hancock Ave.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 next Sunday.

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 those who have died since this time last year.

TRICK OR TREAT FOR UNICEF

October 28

Children, ages Pre-K - grade 5, are invited to wear "church friendly" costumes to church. Adults, please bring your spare change. The children will trick or treat for UNICEF during Sunday School, in the choir room, and in the Atrium before and after the 11:00 a.m. worship service.

IHNA HOST WEEK

November 11-18, Sign-up 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.

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

November 4

During morning worship we will dedicate our financial commitments for 2019. Thank you for prayerfully considering your pledge as we share our stories of generosity with Athens and the world!

THANKSGIVING FOOD BAG SUNDAY, November 11

This year we will continue our annual tradition of filling grocery bags with Thanksgiving meals for our less fortunate neighbors. Bags will be available Sunday, October 28 and November 4. Please return them filled with a Thanksgiving meal for four on or before November 11.

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 Waddell 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 boy" is Jephthah. You may prepare by reading Judges 11-12.

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.

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 14 - Brad Turner, from UGA Campus Kitchen, will speak about fighting hunger
- October 21 - **No class because of AthHalf**

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 Fall Retreat.

Pray for our youth as they return from their Fall Retreat in Copperhill, TN going whitewater rafting and high ropes course!

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 14

- 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
- 12:10 p.m. Personnel Committee Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 4:30 p.m. Mission & Outreach Commission Meeting, Moses Wadel Room
- 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 15

- 9:05 a.m. Weekday School Chapel, Sanctuary
- 4:30 p.m. Fellowship & Evangelism Commission Meeting, Staff Conference Room

Tuesday, October 16

- 9:05 a.m. Weekday School Fall Pictures, Children's Ministry Suite
- 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, October 17

- 9:05 a.m. Weekday School Fall Pictures, Children's Ministry Suite
- 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, October 18

- 10:00 a.m. Josephine Paine Bible Study, Staff Conference Room
- 2:00 p.m. The Mellows, Brookside Senior Living, 199 West W. Gary Rd., Commerce

Sunday, October 21

- 6:30 a.m. AthHalf Pre-Race Service, the Rev. Craig Topple preaching, Fellowship Hall
- No 8:45 a.m. service**
- 11:00 a.m. Service, 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

30 Hour Famine

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.