



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!

February 10, 2019
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

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

Voluntary I

William Boyce

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, and check in on Facebook.

Call to Worship

Psalms 16:5-6, 11

The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.
The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
I have a goodly heritage.
You show me the path of life.
**In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.**

*Hymn 495

We Know That Christ Is Raised

ENGELBERG

Beginning with an allusion to Romans 6:9, Hymn 495 unfolds the implications of our incorporation into Christ's new life, making us "a new creation" (2 Corinthians 5:17). The text was written to fit this expansive tune by a distinguished British composer.

**Those who are able may stand.*

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Forgive us, loving Lord, when we forget that we belong to you, distance ourselves from the call of Jesus Christ, and ignore the neighbors you command us to love. Reconnect us to you, to our purpose, and to others, that we might be a bright torch in a long line of bright torches shining in your world.

***Silent Prayer**

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

***Assurance of Pardon**

***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 anthem, sung by the St. Andrews Choir and Chancel Choir, is an arrangement of a popular canon by one of the foremost English composers of the Classical era.

After the Anthem at the 11:00 a.m. service, children, ages Pre-K - grade 1, are invited to Children's Church held in the Children's Chapel in the Tinsley Stern building.

Hymn 419, a reflection on Christian vocation, was written to provide a new text for a pre-existing tune. The poet has crafted his words so well that the two parts mesh smoothly. The tune is named for a noted British boarding school, whose music director was a friend of the composer.

***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. Anthem

Alleluia

William Boyce

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Congregational Prayer for Illumination

PROSPECT



First Lesson Deuteronomy 34:1-9, page 191

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

Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, page 1050

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

Sermon

Pass It On

Dr. Carol Strickland

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn 419**

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

REPTON

***Affirmation of Faith**

from the Confession of 1967

The church confesses its faith when it bears a present witness to God’s grace in Jesus Christ.

In every age, the church has expressed its witness in words and deeds as the need of the time required. The earliest examples of confession are found within the Scriptures. Confessional statements have taken such varied forms as hymns, liturgical formulas, doctrinal definitions, catechisms, theological systems in summary, and declarations of purpose against threatening evil. Confessions and declarations are subordinate standards in the church, subject to the authority of Jesus Christ, the Word of God, as the Scriptures bear witness to him. No one type of confession is exclusively valid, no one statement is irreformable. Obedience to Jesus Christ alone identifies the one universal church and supplies the continuity of its tradition. This obedience is the ground of the church’s duty and freedom to reform itself in life and doctrine as new occasions, in God’s providence, may demand.

In approving the Confession of 1967, the United Presbyterian Church in the USA adopted its first new confession of faith in three centuries. It is built around a single passage of Scripture: “In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself . . .” (2 Cor. 5:19, NRSV) and addresses the church’s role in the modern world.

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 *Improvisation on REPTON* John Coble

***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 Hymn 430 was the winner in a hymn competition sponsored by the Presbyterian Church Bicentennial Committee for the 1988-89 observance, which had the theme “Celebrate the Journey.” The late 18th-century tune is appropriately celebratory.

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

***Hymn 430** *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!* DARWALL’S 148TH

***Benediction**

***Congregational Response** AR HYD Y NOS

**Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son’s story;
here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven, a peace and pure.**

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

***Postlude** *We Know That Christ Is Raised* David Cherwein

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 Church Library across from the Children's Chapel on the second floor of the Tinsley Stern building.

NOTES ON THE SERVICE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Liturgists

8:45 a.m. Bill Woolbright

11:00 a.m. Kitty Donnan, Logan Bono

Acolytes

11:00 a.m. Lachlan Morris, Charlie Phillips

Lay Readers

8:45 a.m. Cheryl Gazlay

11:00 a.m. Dan Nadenicek

USHERS

8:45 a.m. Jim Dove (head),
Carroll Gaillard, Mary Ben Woolbright

11:00 a.m. Richard Lane (head),
Alex Cassell, David Mendenhall, Frank Stancil,
Rosemary Stancil, Fred Wallace

GREETERS

8:45 a.m. Jim Boyles, Sandy Boyles,
Keith Oelke, Lisa Oelke

11:00 a.m. Susan Landrum, Tom Landrum,
Melinda Miller, Jo Carol Nessel-Sale

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Chuck Hunt

FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God.

TO AID IN WORSHIP

If you need to leave the sanctuary during the service, a live video feed is available in the Atrium and at 11:00 a.m. is on Facebook.

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.

Dr. Ryan Baer Called as New Senior Pastor

January 6 the congregation voted unanimously to endorse the Pastor Nominating Committee's recommendation that terms of call be extended to Dr. Ryan Baer to be the next Senior Pastor/Head of Staff of First Presbyterian Church of Athens. The church thanks the PNC for its outstanding job!

Dr. Ryan Baer's first day in the office will be tomorrow. His first day leading worship will be next Sunday, February 17, with a reception to follow the 11:00 a.m. service. Ryan, his wife, Amy, and their sons Nathan, Daniel, and Joshua, are excited about coming to Athens. We know you will want to be in church Sunday, February 17, to welcome the Baers into our church family.

More information about Dr. Ryan Baer and his family is available in brochures in the Narthex, Atrium, and church office and on the church website.

The Wayne F. Middendorf Memorial Concert Series

presents

Martha Thomas, “Music Old and New” Concert Pianist

Saturday, February 23, 3:00 p.m. (Please note date change)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Today, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

There are still a few time slots available to donate blood today. Please stop by the Fellowship Hall Break Out Area for the schedule and help save a life!

IHNA HOST WEEK, February 10-17

Thank you to all our volunteers. Please pray for our guests and volunteers as we show God's love this week through hospitality.

PTP PROGRAM WITH RON BOGUE February 26, 10:00 a.m.

Ron Bogue will present Part 4 in his series on the history of FPC in the Moses Waddel Room. Afterwards, we will walk or drive to Taqueria Tsunami, 320 E. Clayton St. (next to Mellow Mushroom) for lunch. Please email Phyllis Crowell, crowellpm@aol.com, by February 22, to make a lunch reservation. Everyone is welcome!

CORE GODLY PLAY TRAINING February 28 – March 2

FPC will be hosting our second Godly Play Storyteller training. Please contact Natalie Bishop at natalie@firstpresathens.org to learn more.

MARDI GRAS MISSION GALA March 3, Fellowship Hall

Tickets are available in the Atrium today! Cajun meal prepared by youth begins at 12:00 p.m. \$10/ adult, \$5/child (12 and under), special \$10 “lunch & childcare” ticket is available for children, infants - 3rd grade, which includes a children's menu, entertainment, and nursery in the Children's Ministry Suite. The Gala will feature silent and live auctions.

ASH WEDNESDAY, March 6 Worship, 12:00 & 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Join us for a traditional service including communion and imposition of ashes. The ashes will be prepared by the youth.

Dinner, 5:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

\$8/adult, \$5/child (12 and under), \$20 max per family. Please make reservations for dinner on the Fellowship Pad, online, or by contacting the church office **by Monday, March 4 at 12:00 p.m.**

WEDNESDAY LENTEN SUPPERS & STUDY, Beginning March 13

Supper: 5:45 p.m., Fellowship Hall

\$8/adult, \$5/child (12 and under), \$20 max per family. Please make reservations for dinner on the Fellowship Pad, online, or by contacting the church office **by Mondays at 12:00 p.m.**

Study led by Dr. Ryan Baer: 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Registration Open for FPC's Women's Retreats

One-Day Retreat in Athens - Saturday, April 13, 10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. at Brita and Bill Barry's beautiful garden here in Athens. Our leader will be the Rev. Amy Baer. Cost is \$25. Scholarships for child care are available.

Weekend Retreat at Montreat Women's Connection Conference - Friday, August 9 - Sunday, August 11. Keynote speaker will be Valerie Kaur with special guest artist Amy Grant. Register for the Women's Connection Conference on the Montreat website. FPC has reserved use of the Georgia Lodge at Montreat. Cost for two nights at the Georgia Lodge is \$60.

More information and registration for both retreats are on the church website.

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 • Children's Ministry Suite

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

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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

Christian Issues • Room 308

Study of the book, *Mark: Follow Me* by James Hoover.

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.

- February 10 - Kim Turner & Rachel Greb from *Strong Girls Serve* will speak
- February 17 - Mixon Robinson & Chris Seponski will speak on the importance of strength training as we age

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, *Radical Forgiveness: God's Call to Unconditional Love* by Brian Zahnd.

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, & 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.

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!

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."

SUNDAY EVENINGS

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

TODAY

Pray for our youth and adult chaperones as they return from the Ski Trip at Winterplace, WV!

No Sunday School, confirmation, or youth group today.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 10

- 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Red Cross Blood Drive, Fellowship Hall Breakout Area
- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Carol Strickland preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 12:05 p.m. Fellowship, Atrium
- 1:45 p.m. IHNA Host Week begins, The PIT
- 4:30 p.m. Cherub Choir, Room 203
- 4:30 p.m. St. Andrews Choir, Room 202

Monday, February 11 - Dr. Ryan Baer's first day in the office

- 9:05 a.m. Weekday School Chapel, Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Circle 2, Staff Conference Room
- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Room 205
- 6:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting, Moses Waddel Room
- 8:15 p.m. Men's Basketball vs. Dawgs, Tuckston UMC, 4175 Lexington Rd.

Tuesday, February 12

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday School Book Fair
- 12:30 p.m. Staff Meeting with Lunch, Staff Conference Room
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Room 304
- 6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training & Supervision, Moses Waddel Room, Rooms 308, 309, 310

Wednesday, February 13

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday School Book Fair
- 9:00 a.m. Weekday School Grandparents' Day, Fellowship Hall
- 9:30 a.m. Circle 7, Staff Conference Room
- 11:30 a.m. Bookless Book Group, Taziki's Mediterranean Cafe, 227 Prince Ave.
- 12:00 p.m. Weekday School 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
- 4:30 p.m. Shakespeare's *Henry V*, Room 308
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Room 202

Thursday, February 14

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday School Book Fair
- 9:00 a.m. Weekday School Grandparents' Day, Fellowship Hall
- 2:00 p.m. The Mellows, Mulberry Grove Senior Living, 343 Price St., Statham

Thursday, February 15

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday School Book Fair

Sunday, February 17 - Dr. Ryan Baer's first Sunday leading worship

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching

LOOKING AHEAD

February 23 - Confirmation Closing Retreat

Martha Thomas Concert with Reception - please note date change

Stated Meeting of Northeast Georgia Presbytery, Dr. Ryan Baer will be received
Covenant Presbyterian Church, Augusta

February 26 - First Friends, George's Low Country Table

February 28-March 2 - Core Godly Play Training

March 3 - Mardi Gras Mission Gala

Youth Frozen Chosen Cup

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION

Richard Lane, Clerk of Session
Carol Strickland, Associate Pastor

CLASS OF 2019

Robbie Bryan
Greta Terrell Covington
DeeAnn Cox
Bob Glasscock
Mary Havick
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

CLASS OF 2021

Jennifer Walden Abbott
Sandy Boyles
Michelle Clendenen-Shaw
Elizabeth Earl
Ed Ferguson
Rob Haire
Grace Lu
Chris Pope
Mixon Robinson
Rosemary Stancil

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

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*
Mrs. Nan Thomas, *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. Pavani Gadde, *Website Technician*
Ms. Jordan Osborne, *Youth Ministry*

WADDEL FELLOWS

Ms. Kathryn Kent, *Youth Ministry*
Ms. Annabel McSpadden, *Congregational Care*
Ms. Leighton Parker, *Mission & Outreach*

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