



# 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!*

March 17, 2019  
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.  
Second Sunday in Lent

## 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

### Song of Gathering

TALLIS' CANON

**The glory of these forty days  
we celebrate with songs of praise;  
for Christ, by whom all things were made,  
himself has fasted and has prayed.**

*Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad, making note of new and old friends, and check in on Facebook.*

### Call to Worship

God's gifts are as many as the stars.

**God's grace is as endless as the evening sky.**

Let us worship Christ who binds us together,

**the One in whom we place our trust.**

### \*Hymn 487

*When Morning Gilds the Skies*

LAUDES DOMINI

*When Morning Gilds the Skies is essentially a hymn of praise, not just a morning hymn. The original text had 14 stanzas, and hymnal editors' choices differ, which creates slightly different versions in various hymnals. Joseph Barnby's tune, written for this text, has helped make the hymn popular with its final rousing phrase for, "May Jesus Christ be praised."*

*\*Those who are able may stand.*



**\*Affirmation of Faith**

*Philippians 2:5-11*

**Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.**

**And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.**

**Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

**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**

**8:45 a.m. Offertory** *Prelude on ST. COLUMBA* Healey Willan

**11:00 a.m. Offertory** *Prayer of St. Patrick* Mark Schweizer  
Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,  
Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.  
Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me,  
Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me.

**\*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 171** *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* ST. COLUMBA

**\*Benediction**

**\*8:45 a.m. Congregational Response** Danish



**\*11:00 a.m. Choral Response** *Sevenfold Amen* John Stainer

**\*Postlude** *Improvisation on ST. PATRICK’S BREASTPLATE*  
John Coble

Scholars debate whether this powerfully poetic text is an early Christian hymn which Paul is quoting or his own composition. It is one of the best-known and most influential passages in the Pauline corpus.

The text of the 11:00 a.m. offertory is part of St. Patrick’s Breastplate, attributed to the Irish patron saint. According to tradition it was written by St. Patrick in 433 A.D. for protection while converting Irish King Leoghaire and his subjects from paganism to Christianity. The breastplate refers to a piece of armor worn in battle.

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

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## NOTES ON THE SERVICE

### WORSHIP LEADERS

#### *Liturgists*

**8:45 a.m.** Carol Strickland

**11:00 a.m.** Carol Strickland, Logan Bono

#### *Acolytes*

**11:00 a.m.** Jimmy Bishop, Jennings Holloway

#### *Lay Readers*

**8:45 a.m.** Jody Corry

**11:00 a.m.** Chuck Toney

### USHERS

**8:45 a.m.** Randy Dudley (head),  
Terry Caven, Joe Neighbors

**11:00 a.m.** Bruce Miller (head),  
David Beck, Lillian Beck, Carmen Meadows,  
Chris Pope, Pat Tritt

### GREETERS

**8:45 a.m.** Michelle Clendenen-Shaw,  
Jim Dove, Carroll Gaillard

**11:00 a.m.** Susan Landrum, Tom Landrum,  
Carey Walden, John Walden

### FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Presbyterian Women, Circle 6

### SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Paulo Santos

### 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](http://firstpresathens.org)) or on the prayer cards in the Fellowship Pads.

### *Installation Service*

The Northeast Georgia Presbytery invites you to the Installation Service of Dr. Ryan J. Baer on Sunday, April 7 at 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Reception to follow.

### Receptions with Ryan

Dear friends in Christ,

Amy, the boys, and I cannot thank you enough for the wonderful welcome you have already provided for our family! I've very much enjoyed the brief opportunities I've had to visit with so many of you on Sunday mornings, and I'm eager to get to know you better in a more relaxed adult setting. To that end, some wonderful FPC families have offered their homes for what I'm calling "Receptions with Ryan." I hope you'll sign up for one of these 90-minute opportunities for fellowship and conversation as I continue to learn your stories.

Peace be with you,

Ryan

**New date added; sign up today online! Link at [firstpresathens.org](http://firstpresathens.org)**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

**March 24, 11:00 a.m.**

Our 2019 Confirmation Class has been meeting, working with their mentors, and growing as a group since September. Next Sunday they will join the church and make their profession of faith. Please join us as we welcome them into our church family. Reception following.

### PW BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

**April 7, 12:30 p.m., Moses Waddel Room**

All women are invited to the Presbyterian Women's founding birthday party. We will share a salad luncheon and Bible study. Bobbi Epting, retired Presbyterian minister, will present, "God with Us as the Holy Spirit." Please RSVP to the church office by April 2.

### IHNA HOST WEEK

**April 14-21, Sign up today!**

Our next host week is coming soon! Please sign up on the calendar in the Atrium or contact Susan Boatwright and Frank Sherrill for more information at [ihnafirstpresathens@gmail.com](mailto:ihnafirstpresathens@gmail.com).

### VBS 2019: ROAR! Register Now!

Register online for Vacation Bible School, Tuesday, May 28 - Friday, May 31. At ROAR, we will explore God's goodness and learn how a ferocious faith will help power children through this wild life. Please contact Natalie to volunteer, [natalie@firstpresathens.org](mailto:natalie@firstpresathens.org). We need you!

### FPC WOMEN'S RETREATS

Details and registration for both retreats are on the church website.

#### **One-Day Retreat in Athens, April 13**

At Brita and Bill Barry's beautiful garden, led by the Rev. Amy Baer. Her topic will be, "Discovering Our Testimony." Cost is \$25. Scholarships for child care are available.

#### **Weekend at Montreat, August 9-11**

Keynote speaker will be Valarie 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. Two nights at the Georgia Lodge cost \$60. Space is limited.

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## Wednesday Lenten Suppers & Study Through April 10, Fellowship Hall

**Supper: 5:45 p.m.**

\$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: 6:30-7:30 p.m., "What's the Deal with Presbyterians?" led by Dr. Ryan Baer**

**March 20 - Do Presbyterians really believe in predestination?**

What do we mean when we talk about "election"?

**March 27 - Presbyterians: doing church decently and in order for 500 years.**

What do we mean when we talk about "covenant"?

**April 3 - Why isn't the Presbyterian pastor's picture on a freeway billboard?**

What do we mean when we talk about "stewardship"?

**April 10 - Do Presbyterians really believe in "total depravity"?**

What do we mean when we talk about "justice"?

### 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.

**Sunday, March 24, 3:00-6:00 p.m.**

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

**Sunday, March 31, 4:00 p.m.**

New Member Tea at the home of Erika & Joe Hermanowicz,  
the Session will receive those wishing to join

**Sunday, April 7, 8:45 & 11:00 a.m.**

New members will be introduced to the congregation in worship

Please contact Lucy Bell Johnson in the church office, [lbell@firstpresathens.org](mailto:lbell@firstpresathens.org), by March 20.

# 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 Coordinator: Rita Raines

**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.

- March 17 - Dr. Will Power, retired UGA professor, will speak on *The Trinity*
- March 24 - Mary Miller, from the Peabody Collection, will speak about the Peabody Awards

Facilitators: Carl Bergmann, Carla Buss, Larry Jones

**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 1 Corinthians 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!

**TODAY**

We continue our 6 week Lenten series led by the Youth Team on Adam Hamilton's book/DVD study, *The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus*. Chapter 2 - led by Nettie Jester and Jordan Osborne.

**SUNDAY EVENINGS**

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

**TONIGHT**

Middle School will meet from 4:30-5:30.

High School will meet from 6:15-8:00.



## THIS WEEK

### Sunday, March 17

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 12:05 p.m. Fellowship, Atrium
- 4:30 p.m. Mission & Outreach Commission Meeting, Moses Waddel Room
- 4:30 p.m. Cherub Choir, Room 203
- 4:30 p.m. St. Andrews Choir, Room 202
- 4:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group, The PIT
- 5:30 p.m. Celebration Singers, Room 202
- 6:15 p.m. High School Youth Group & Dinner, The PIT

### Monday, March 18

- 4:00 p.m. Fellowship & Evangelism Commission Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Room 205

### Tuesday, March 19

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

### Wednesday, March 20

- 11:55 a.m. Weekday School Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 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
- 5:00 p.m. St. Andrews Choir, Room 202
- 5:45 p.m. Lenten Supper, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Lenten Study led by Dr. Ryan Baer, Fellowship Hall Break Out Area
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Room 202

### Thursday, March 21

- 10:00 a.m. Josephine Paine Bible Study, Staff Conference Room
- 2:30 p.m. The Mellows, Brookside Senior Living, 199 West W. Gary Rd., Commerce

### Friday, March 22 - Saturday March 23

Session Retreat, Moses Waddel Room

### Sunday, March 24 - Confirmation Sunday

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

## LOOKING AHEAD

**March 24, 31 & April 7** - New Member Class

**April 7** - Presbyterian Women Birthday Luncheon

Installation Service of Dr. Ryan Baer

**April 13** - FPC Women's One-Day Retreat

**April 14** - Palm Sunday

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## Buc Collins

We give thanks for the faithful ministry of Buc Collins, whose five years of service as Sexton came to a close last week. If you'd like to send Buc an expression of gratitude, his mailing address is:

457 Browns Chapel Rd.  
Lexington, GA 30648

Please join the Session and Staff as we lift Buc in prayer and bless him on his way.

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION

Ryan Baer, Moderator    Richard Lane, Clerk of Session  
Carol Strickland, Associate Pastor

CLASS OF 2019	CLASS OF 2020	CLASS OF 2021
Robbie Bryan	Jeff Bangle	Jennifer Walden Abbott
Greta Terrell Covington	Meghan Bawcum	Sandy Boyles
DeeAnn Cox	Bob Burton	Michelle Clendenen-Shaw
Bob Glasscock	Julie Hayes	Elizabeth Earl
Mary Havick	Sydney Jackson	Ed Ferguson
Joe Hermanowicz	Avery McLean	Rob Haire
Richard Lane	Jeanne Nadenicek	Grace Lu
Mary Peace	Carl Nichols	Chris Pope
Lawton Stephens	Tom Reigle	Mixon Robinson
Dan Trier	Judy Scanlon	Rosemary Stancil

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## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Ryan Baer, *Senior Pastor*  
Dr. Carol Strickland, *Associate Pastor*  
Dr. John Kipp, *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. Rita Raines, *Nursery Coordinator*  
Mrs. Charlotte Chromiak, *Children's Music Assistant*  
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](http://FIRSTPRESATHENS.ORG)  
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.**