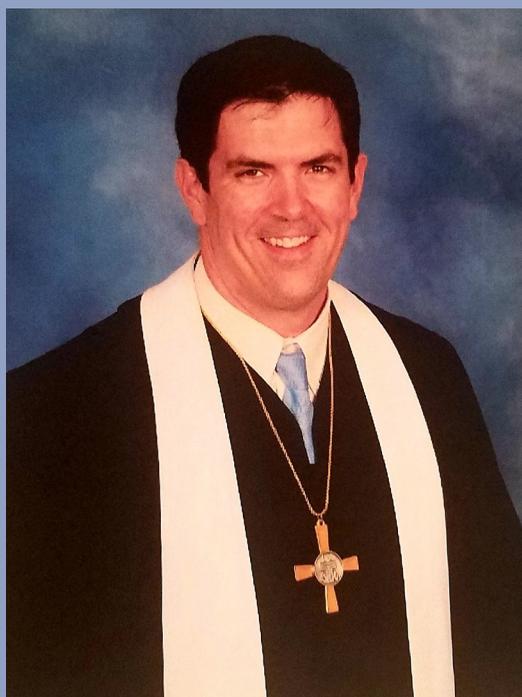


Service of Installation

CONDUCTED BY
NORTHEAST GEORGIA
PRESBYTERY



DR. RYAN J. BAER

Sunday, April 7, 2019

4:00 p.m.

 First Presbyterian Church of Athens

Gathering

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

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us. As we enter a holy space, **please silence your cell phone**. The nursery is available downstairs during the service. Consult an usher if you need a personal hearing device, large-print bulletin, or large-print hymnal.

Greeting

Dr. Ryan Baer

This is the day that the Lord has made! **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Prelude

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Wilbur Held

Call to Worship

Mrs. Fran Lane

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

As many of you as were baptized into Christ, have clothed yourselves with Christ. **There is one body and one Spirit, just as we were called to the one hope of our calling.**

*Hymn 461

God Is Here!

ABBOT'S LEIGH

*Confession and Pardon

The Reverend Julie Bailey

Merciful and loving God, you have called us to be your people and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ. We confess that we have not lived up to our calling to proclaim the good news in word and deed. We are quick to speak when we ought to listen and remain silent when it is time to speak. We put too much faith in our own actions and fail to trust the strength of your Spirit.

O God, forgive our foolish and sinful ways. Strengthen us anew to follow Christ's way in the world. By your Holy Spirit, give us the grace we need to be faithful disciples and fulfill our common calling, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Amen.**

*The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Word

Prayer for Illumination

The Reverend Julie Bailey

Anthem

How Lovely are the Messengers

Felix Mendelssohn

How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace!
To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words.

Scripture Lesson 1 Corinthians 9:19-23, page 1046

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Reverend Davis Bailey

*Hymn 339

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

Commissioned for the dedication of a renovated worship space in Austin, Texas, *God Is Here!* is one of the few hymns to devote attention to how customary church features facilitate worship.

Be Thou My Vision is a 20th-century English poetic version of an Irish monastic prayer dating to the 10th century or before. The Irish folk melody has proved popular and easily sung despite its lack of repetition and its wide range.

Installation

Sentences of Scripture

The Reverend Hilary Shuford

There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.

God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.

Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

Statement on Ordination

We are all called into the church of Jesus Christ by baptism, and marked as Christ's own by the Holy Spirit.

This is our common calling, to be disciples of Jesus Christ and servants of our servant Lord.

Within the community of the church, some are called to particular service as deacons, as ruling elders, and as ministers of Word and Sacrament.

Ordination is Christ's gift to the church, assuring that his ministry continues among us. Through ordination, God provides for acts of care and compassion in the world, for the ordering and governance of the church, and for the preaching of the word and celebration of the sacraments.

The Presbytery of Northeast Georgia, by means of this commission, welcomes Ryan Baer as a minister of Word and Sacrament and installs him as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Athens.

Profession of Faith

The Reverend Rindy Trouteaud

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? **I do.**

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love? **I do.**

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love? **I will, with God's help.**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Each time a Deacon, Elder, or Minister of Word and Sacrament is installed to new service, she or he reaffirms the ordination vows required by the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Constitutional Questions to the Pastor The Reverend Hilary Shuford

Ryan, in baptism, you were claimed by the love of God, clothed in the grace of Jesus Christ, and anointed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit to share Christ's mission in the world.

Now you are called by the voice of the church for new service and ministry in Jesus' name.

In accordance with the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), show your commitment to this calling by responding to these questions:

Do you trust in the Lord Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?

Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our Confessions?

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?

Will you be a faithful minister of Word and Sacrament, proclaiming the good news, teaching faith and caring for people? Will you be active in government and discipline, serving in the councils of the church; and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

Constitutional Questions to the Church Mr. Lewis Hudgins

Do we, the members of the church, accept Ryan as our pastor, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to guide us in the way of Jesus Christ? **We do.**

Do we agree to pray for him, encourage him, to respect his decisions, and to follow as he guides us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church? **We do.**

Do we promise to pay him fairly and provide for his welfare as he works among us; to stand by him in trouble and share his joys? **We do.**

Will we listen to the word he preaches, welcome his pastoral care, and honor his authority as he seeks to honor and obey Jesus Christ our Lord? **We will.**

No psalm has inspired more hymn settings than the 23rd, and Watts' development of the theme of the house of heaven with an inspired conclusion is not found in the psalm itself: "No more a stranger, or a guest, but like a child at home." The tune is from the 1835 *Southern Harmony*.

Texts and music for hymns and sung responses reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-714861

Prayer of Installation The Reverend Hilary Shuford
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise...**

Declaration of Installation and Welcome

Charge to the Pastor The Reverend Joel Tolbert

Charge to the Congregation Mr. Lewis Hudgins

***Hymn 172** *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* RESIGNATION

***Benediction** Dr. Ryan Baer

***Choral Response** *Sevenfold Amen* John Stainer

***Postlude** *Allegro and Fugue* Felix Mendelssohn

*Following the service, all are invited to a reception
in Fellowship Hall in celebration of Dr. Ryan Baer's installation.*

The Installation of a Minister of Word and Sacrament

In Baptism each Christian is called to ministry in Christ's name. God calls some persons from the midst of the congregation to fulfill particular functions, so that the ministry of the whole people of God may flourish....In installation, the church sets in place those who have been previously ordained as deacons, ruling elders, and ministers of Word and Sacrament, and are now called anew to serve in that ministry. – Book of Order, W-4.401

When the congregation, the presbytery, and the minister of Word and Sacrament have all concurred in a call to a permanent or designated pastoral position, the presbytery shall complete the call process by organizing and conducting a service of installation. Installation is an act of the presbytery establishing the pastoral relationship. A service of installation occurs in the context of worship. – Book of Order, G-2.0805

Northeast Georgia Presbytery Commission

Mr. Lewis Hudgins

Ruling Elder, First Presbyterian Church, Athens

Mrs. Fran Lane

Ruling Elder, First Presbyterian Church, Athens

The Reverend Hilary Neufeld Shuford

General Presbyter, Northeast Georgia Presbytery

The Reverend Joel Tolbert

Pastor, Oconee Presbyterian Church, Watkinsville

The Reverend Rindy Trouteaud

Pastor, Central Presbyterian Church, Athens

Guests of the Commission

The Reverend Davis Bailey

Interim Pastor, Buford Presbyterian Church, Presbytery of Greater Atlanta

The Reverend Julie Bailey

Director of Alumni and Church Relations, Columbia Theological Seminary,

Presbytery of Greater Atlanta

Leading in Worship

Dr. John Coble

Director of Music & Organist

Chancel Choir

Dr. Ryan J. Baer

Ryan was born in New Mexico and grew up in north Texas. He attended Plano High School, where he played defensive end and offensive tackle on the football team, and was a member of the 1994 state champion team.

In 1996, he began study at the University of Missouri, earning a Bachelor of Journalism and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in 2000. While there he met Amy, and the two were married in 2002. During his undergraduate days, Ryan also served as the Director of Youth Ministries at the Missouri United Methodist Church for two years. Upon graduation, he and Amy moved to Dallas, where Ryan worked as an Account Executive with Fleishman-Hilliard International Communications.

In 2003, Ryan began discerning a call to the ministry, and in 2004 he and Amy moved to Decatur where Ryan began his studies at Columbia Theological Seminary. A year after arriving at Columbia, Amy also discerned a call to ministry and she began her studies at Columbia in 2005. Ryan completed a Masters of Divinity in 2007, and Amy received her Masters of Divinity in 2008. While in seminary, Ryan served as a Chaplain Intern at Grady Hospital for six months and a Pastoral Intern at Conyers Presbyterian Church for two years.

In 2008, Ryan accepted the position of Pastor and Head of Staff at Lakeside Presbyterian Church in West Palm Beach, Florida. While leading the congregation, Ryan was also active in the Tropical Florida Presbytery. In 2012, Ryan assumed the position of Pastor and Head of Staff at Ridglea Presbyterian Church in Fort Worth, Texas. At Ridglea he was the leader and supervisor of a staff of eighteen and a strong supporter of the work of Grace Presbytery. In 2018, Ryan completed his Doctor of Ministry at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. He started his ministry as Senior Pastor and Head of Staff at First Presbyterian Church of Athens on February 11, 2019.

Ryan and Amy have three sons, their seven-year-old twins, Daniel and Nathan, and four-year-old Joshua.

firstpresathens.org 706-543-4338

185 E. Hancock Ave., Athens, GA 30601