



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!

April 14, 2019
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
Palm 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.

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

Greeting

Psalm 118:24

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

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

Prelude

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

arr. Frances L. Callahan

All Glory, Laud and Honor

arr. Frances L. Callahan

The prelude is played by the Handbell Choir.

***Processional Hymn 88** *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*

VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

The stanzas of Hymn 88 have been selected and translated from a much longer Latin poem written by a bishop who was the leading theologian in Charlemagne's court.

Call to Worship

Zechariah 9:9

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;

triumphant and victorious is he,

humble and riding on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

11:00 a.m. Anthems *Hosanna! Blessed Is He*

Carol McClure

Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

The 11:00 a.m. anthems are sung by the Cherub Choir and St. Andrews Choir, under the direction of Charlotte Chromiak.

Wave Your Branches

Thomas Pavlechko

Wave your branches, wave them high, Jesus now is riding by.

Wave your branches, shout and sing loud hosannas to your King.

Wave your branches, wave them now with Jerusalem's cheering crowd.

Wave your branches, shout and sing, loud hosannas to your King.

**Those who are able may stand.*

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

After passing the Peace at the 11:00 a.m. service, children, ages Pre-K - grade 5, are invited to a special Palm Sunday Children's Church with Natalie Bishop held downstairs in the Children's Ministry Suite.

The melody of Hymn 85 shows signs of Celtic influence, and the unusual meter is that of an old sea chanty about Captain Kidd. The tune first appeared in the valleys of the Southern Appalachians.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we have sinned against you by what we have said and by what we have failed to say. We have sinned against you by what we have done and by what we have failed to do. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. Forgive us, we pray, and free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

*Assurance of Pardon

*Congregational Response

Hymn 89, Stanza 3

**"Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing,
for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven our King.
O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,
and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.**

*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

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson Psalm 118:19-29, page 554

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

Second Lesson Luke 19:35-44, page 959

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

Sermon

Two Parades

Dr. Ryan Baer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn 85**

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE

***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.**

(continued next page)

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 *My Song Is Love Unknown* Michael Burkhardt

11:00 a.m. Offertory *My Song Is Love Unknown* John Ireland
arr. James Kirkby

The text may be found at Hymn 76.

***Doxology**

**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.**

Hymn 592

***Prayer of Dedication**

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

***Hymn 91** *Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!* ST. DROSTANE

***Benediction**

***8:45 a.m. Congregational Response** Hymn 540, Stanza 4

**God be with you till we meet again;
keep love's banner floating o'er you,
smite death's threatening wave before you:
God be with you till we meet again.**

***11:00 a.m. Choral Response** *Christ, We Do All Adore Thee*
Théodore Dubois

Christ, we do all adore thee, and we do praise thee forever,
for on the holy cross hast thou the world from sin redeemed.

***Postlude** *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*
Johann Sebastian Bach

Scholars debate whether this powerfully poetic Philippians 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 anthem was written by Samuel Crossman, one of the small group of 17th century writers whose sacred poems have become part of our heritage. Written at a time when only psalm singing was permissible, it moved to a more personal expression of emotions.

The Palm Sunday text of Hymn 91 is better understood as the reflections of someone standing outside the event rather than those participating in the procession. This poignant text is set to a tune written especially for it.

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 Children's Ministry Suite located down the stairs in the Atrium, through the glass door to the right.

NOTES ON THE SERVICE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Liturgist

Carol Strickland

Lay Readers

8:45 a.m. Jim Dove

11:00 a.m. Judy Burch

USHERS

8:45 a.m. John Simpson (head),
Diane Hartzell, Terry Nestor

11:00 a.m. Mike Morris (head), Ed Ferguson,
Pratt Ferguson, Bob Glasscock, Diane Hudgins,
Jo Carol Nessel-Sale, Eve Morris

GREETERS

8:45 a.m. Keith Oelke, Lisa Oelke,
Mary Peace

11:00 a.m. Jayne Bailey, Kathy Bangle,
Svea Bogue, Ella Stewart

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Presbyterian Women, Circle 3-4

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Paulo Santos

FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Kathleen Henson Wilfong by the Wilfong family.

We have a rosebud in honor of the birth of Andrew Maxwell Butcher, Jr. on April 8, 2019. Maxwell is the son of Patricia and Andy Butcher and the grandson of Carol and Randan Ashmore and Steve Yeatts.

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.

Receptions with Ryan

Dear friends,

Our Receptions with Ryan are going well! These 90-minute gatherings in homes are a wonderful way for me to get to know you in a more relaxed setting. If you haven't signed up yet, **more new dates have been added in May**. You can learn more and register through the church web site or call the church office.

Peace be with you,
Ryan

Sign up today online! Link at firstpresathens.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Week

Palm Sunday, Today

Everyone is invited to join the palm procession at 10:40 a.m. in the upper parking lot. The St. Andrew's and Cherub Choirs will be singing during the 11:00 a.m. worship service.

Prayer Stations, April 14 - 20, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited to spend time during Holy Week in the Tinsley Stern Building exploring prayer stations based on our five senses.

Maundy Thursday Dinner & Service, April 18, 5:45 p.m.

We will have dinner then stay in Fellowship Hall for worship, including a short drama and the Lord's Supper. There is no charge for dinner but reservations are requested **by Monday, April 15 at 12:00 p.m.** A Nursery will be provided for infants and toddlers.

Good Friday Worship Service, April 19, 7:00 p.m.

This year's Good Friday Presbyterian community service will be hosted by Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1065 Gaines School Rd. It will be a Tenebrae Service, meaning "darkness" or "shadows," and will feature prayer, Scripture, and song.

Easter Egg Hunt & Picnic, Saturday, April 20, 11:00 a.m.

Join us for our annual Easter Egg Hunt at The Hill, 1800 Crescent Lane. Please bring your Easter basket, picnic basket with lunch, and blanket for your family. RSVP online or to the church office.

Easter

April 21, Worship Services 8:45 & 11:00 a.m., Brunch 9:30 a.m.

Please join us for the celebration of the risen Christ. Instead of Sunday School we will all gather as a church family for our annual Easter Brunch in Fellowship Hall. Donations welcome.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Sunday, April 21

On Easter we will receive the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. This will enable the church to open its doors to people devastated by hurricanes, fires, and famines around the world. Last year our congregation gave over \$2,000 to join the \$6M+ collected by our denomination.

"MAKE IT-TAKE IT" FOR PARENTS Wednesdays in April, 12:05 - 12:45 p.m.

The Weekday School is having an artsy devotional workshop for parents! Margaret Davis will be leading us in the Children's Ministry Suite. RSVP by Mondays at 12:00 p.m. to wds@firstpresathens.org. Light lunch provided.

HONDURAS SUMMER 2020

Informational Meeting, April 28, 12:00 p.m.

Plans are underway for an intergenerational mission trip to Honduras the summer of 2020 to help celebrate our bicentennial year. Open to adults and rising 9th-12th graders. Come to Fellowship Hall to learn more; contact Kim Ness, kness@firstpresathens.org, for info.

PTP TRIP TO BOTANICAL GARDEN

Tuesday, April 30, 10:00 a.m.

Enjoy a leisurely stroll with a docent who will adjust the pace based on the needs of the group. Roses, rare plants, nature trails, the new children's garden, and more, followed by lunch in the café. Contact Phyllis Crowell, crowellpm@aol.com, by April 23 for details and to RSVP. \$5 fee/person.

The Wayne F. Middendorf Memorial Concert Series

presents

Piedmont College Singers

Dr. C. Wallace Hinson, Conductor

Sunday, April 28, 4:00 p.m.

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.

- April 14 - representatives from the Northeast GA Homeless Veterans Shelter will speak

- April 21 - Easter Brunch, class will not meet

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 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 6.

SUNDAY EVENINGS

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

TONIGHT

Lenten Prayer Stations: MS (4:30-5:30) and HS (6:15-8:00).

THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 14 - Palm Sunday

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
- 9:00 a.m. Heifer Mission Trip Meeting, The PIT
- 9:00 a.m. Prayer Stations open, Tinsley Stern Building
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 12:05 p.m. Fellowship, Atrium
- 1:45 p.m. IHNA Host Week begins, The PIT
- 4:15 p.m. St. Andrews Choir, Room 202
- 4:30 p.m. Cherub Choir, Room 203
- 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, April 15

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

Tuesday, April 16

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Room 304

Wednesday, April 17

- 12:05 p.m. Weekday School "Make It-Take It" for Parents, Children's Ministry Suite
- 12:30 p.m. Prayers for Healing, Sanctuary
- 3:00 p.m. Bridge, Room 302
- 4:00 p.m. Chair Yoga, Room 310
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Room 202

Thursday, April 18 - Maundy Thursday

- 5:45 p.m. Maundy Thursday Dinner & Service, Fellowship Hall

Friday, April 19 - Good Friday

- 9:05 s.m. Weekday School Closed for Good Friday
- 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Worship Service, Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1065 Gaines School Rd.

Saturday, April 20 - Holy Saturday

- 11:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt & Picnic, The Hill, 1800 Crescent Lane

Sunday, April 21 - Easter

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

Easter Lily Dedication

If you wish to give a contribution in honor or memory of a loved one, please place your order by **Monday, April 15**. Each dedication is \$12. You may place your completed form and check in a Fellowship Pad envelope and drop it in the offering plate, mail it to the church office, or contact the church at 706-543-4338 or frontdesk@firstpresathens.org with your dedications. Each dedication will be listed in the April 21 worship service bulletin.

In Memory of

In Honor of

Given by

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

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
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.**