



Photograph by Rick Simpson

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 21, 2019

8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Easter

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.**

Prelude

Grand Chœur Dialogue

Eugène Gigout

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

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Call to Worship

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Come, see the tomb where he was laid.

Come, touch the stone that was rolled away.

Come, hear the story of our risen Lord.

Come, worship God!

***Processional Hymn 123** *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* EASTER HYMN

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

God of new life, forgive us when we would rather mourn the old. God of resurrection, forgive us when all we can see is death. God of faithfulness, forgive us when we are certain that we are alone. Forgive us, God of mercy. Make us aware of the depth of your grace, that we might respond with lives of joy, hope, and trust.

It seems likely the beloved Easter text of Hymn 123 began in Latin and moved through German before reaching English, where it combined with the present tune in the emerging English evangelical style, a reaction to the restrained one-note-per-syllable psalmody that preceded it.

*Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

*Assurance of Pardon

**Those who are able may stand.*

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

Children, ages Pre-K - grade 2, are invited to remain in the Sanctuary as we celebrate the risen Christ as a church family. Children's Church will resume next Sunday.

***Congregational Response**

Hymn 104, Stanza 1

**Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.
In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.**

***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.

Moment for Mission *One Great Hour of Sharing*

Julie Hayes

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson Isaiah 65:17-25, page 682

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

Anthem *Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day* Richard Shephard

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day, I would my true love did so chance,
to see the legend of my play, to call my true love to my dance;

*Refrain: Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love,
this have I done for my true love.*

For thirty pence, Judas me sold: his covetousness for to advance.

Mark whom I kiss, the same behold: the same is he shall lead the dance.

Refrain

Before Pilate the Jews me brought, where Barrabus had deliverance,
they scourged me and set me at naught, judged me to die, to lead the dance.

Refrain

Then on the cross hanged I was when a spear to my heart did glance;
there issued forth both water and blood, to call my true love to my dance.

Refrain

Then from the tomb I took my way, for my true love's deliverance,
and rose again on the third day, up to my true love and the dance.

Refrain

Second Lesson Luke 24:1-12, page 966

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

Sermon

An Idle Tale

Dr. Ryan Baer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn 121** *That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright*

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of
heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from
Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one
Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was
incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became
truly human.** (continued next page)

The Eastertide stanzas of Hymn 121 are derived from a longer Latin text that was one of the earliest hymns written especially for a season of the church year. They are set here to a tune with Christmas associations, a means of linking the two great festivals of the Christian year.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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

Christ our Passover

Will C. Macfarlane

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us: therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.
Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more: death hath no more dominion over him.
For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.
Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed to sin: but also alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Christ is risen from the dead: and become the first fruits of them that slept.
For since by man came death: by man came also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die: even so in Christ shall all be made alive.
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.

***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 108**

Christ Is Alive!

TRURO

***Benediction**

***Response**

Hallelujah from Messiah

George Frideric Handel

*** Postlude**

Toccata from Symphony V

Charles Marie Widor

The Nicene Creed was the first official doctrinal statement of the whole church. It developed from the work of the first two ecumenical councils, Nicea in 325 and Constantinople in 381, and was accepted as definitive by the Council of Chalcedon in 451 after two centuries of struggle to clarify the relationship of Jesus Christ to God and humanity. It is the only creed accepted and used by all three major branches of Christendom: Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and Protestant.

In 1968, Easter fell ten days after the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., and the text of Hymn 108 was written to express an Easter hope while mindful of that terrible event. Buoyed by a triple-arched tune, it affirms the presence of a wounded, risen Christ with all who suffer.

The congregation is invited to join the choir in singing the Hallelujah chorus.

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

Acolytes

11:00 a.m. Jennings Holloway, Declan Wilder

Lay Readers

8:45 a.m. Cheryl Gazlay

11:00 a.m. Jo Carol Nessel-Sale

Instrumentalists

Brandon Craswell, Trumpet

Geoff Wood, Trumpet

Jean Martin-Williams, Horn

James Naigus, Horn

Ben Vasko, Tuba

USHERS

8:45 a.m. John Simpson (head),

Diane Hartzell, Terry Nestor

11:00 a.m. Mike Morris (head),

Ed Ferguson, Carolyn Hally, Eve Morris,

Christine Register, Mickey Register,

Katherine Queen, Leslye Queen

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Paulo Santos

GREETERS

8:45 a.m. Carla Buss, Faye Marshall,

Mary Peace

11:00 a.m. Jayne Bailey, Kathy Bangle,

Svea Bogue, Ella Stewart

FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of David H. Donnan's 95th birthday by Kitty Donnan.

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: April 30, May 16, and May 23.** 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

EASTER BRUNCH

9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

There is no Sunday School this morning. Everyone is invited to gather as a church family for our annual Easter Brunch in Fellowship Hall. Donations welcome.

“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 Tuesday 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.

VBS 2019 ROAR!, May 28-31

Registration Deadline May 3

Register online for Vacation Bible School. At ROAR, we will explore God’s goodness and learn how a ferocious faith will help power them through this wild life. Please contact Natalie Bishop, natalie@firstpresathens.org, to volunteer.

SCOTTISH REFORMATION SUNDAY May 5, 8:45 & 11:00 a.m.

Our annual celebration of our Scottish heritage at both worship services, along with recognition of local and state dignitaries at 11:00 a.m. All are welcome to join the processional and recessional. If you need to borrow a kilt, please call Smith Wilson, 706-338-4646.

The Wayne F. Middendorf Memorial Concert Series

presents

Piedmont College Singers

Dr. C. Wallace Hinson, Conductor

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

Books for Keeps Book Drive Begins April 28

2019 marks 10 years that BFK has been giving away books to Athens-area students. This year, 95,000 books will be distributed to 8,000 students at 18 elementary schools in Georgia, surpassing half-a-million books given away!

FPC has become a large supporter of Books for Keeps with our annual book drive. You can help make sure no child in our community goes a summer without great books to read. Please bring your used books to the bins in the Atrium or church office. Books of all kinds will be accepted, then sold by Books for Keeps with proceeds used to buy new children’s books.

Learn more at booksforkeeps.org. Thank you!

Blessing of the 5th Graders

May 12, 9:45 a.m., Children’s Ministry Suite

Fifth graders and their parents are invited to meet Mrs. Natalie in the Children’s Ministry Suite at 9:45 a.m. to receive a special gift and to spend a few minutes together reflecting on their Children’s Ministry experience. Then plan to head downstairs to The PIT to join Mrs. Kim for a tour and short introduction to our Youth Ministry program.

For questions please contact
Natalie Bishop at natalie@firstpresathens.org or Kim Ness at kness@firstpresathens.org

**Easter Lilies are placed in the sanctuary
to the glory of God and in honor of:**

Marguerite Bailey
Katherine Smith Camp
William H. Camp
Ann Bryan Downs
FPC Staff
Grandma
Gwen Griffin
Hayward & Owen Guest

Carolyn Hally
IHNA Volunteers & Families
Ann Jones
Kathryn Nichols
Carl Wilson
Thomas Wilson
Eunice Zimmerman

**Easter Lilies are placed in the sanctuary
to the glory of God and in memory of:**

Matilda & William Allan
Earl Bailey
Ruth & Joseph Barnish
Ada & Frank Barton
Conrad D. Bergmann
Mike Bostrom
Paul Bostrom
Ruth Bostrom
Eve Marie Carson
Claire & Clyde Childers
Robert Thomas Cobb
Barbara Bergmann Coulter
Julius Phillip Covington
Allen and Nan Jo Crowell
Dr. John M. Crowell
MAJOR Glenn D. Crowell
Mrs. Eula Davidson
Richard T. Delinsky
Ruth & Andrew Denman
David Hibbs Donnan
E.M. Downs, Sr.
B.E. Downs III
Nancy B. Downs
Bolling & Mary Neil DuBose
Margarett Gunn Dure
Joanne & Carmine Fishetti
Kevin Garrison
Buck Griffin
Mr. & Mrs. Howard L. Guest, Sr.
Robert Russell Gunn II
Uly Samuel Gunn II
Mary Gannon Gunn
Sanders Hale
Allison Bishop Hays
Mrs. Mildred Hosey
Judy Howell
Andrew Anson Jones
Catherine "Kate" Jones
Holland B. Judkins, Jr.
Rev. James Renwick Kennedy, Jr.
Rev. Dorothy M. Kipp
Jack & Judy Koetzle
Michael LaFleur

Marguerite & Roscoe LeCroy
Jim Lindsey
Mr. & Mrs. Frank T. Logan
Sue & Bob Marion
CPL Evan Andrew Marshall
Dr. Elizabeth Hulsey Marshall
Nicholas Taylor Marshall
Thomas Allan Marshall
J.E. Mathews
Nell Mathews
Mary Gilbert Mell
Dorothy Matson Merry
Kate Middendorf
Wayne Middendorf
James T. O'Brien
Merritt & Be Oelke
Mae & Bob Oertel
Charles T. Ostick
Jocelyn Claire Parker
Jimmy & Louise Poole
Dr. R. Barry Prince
Jack E. Razor
John Wesley Reed
Michael Warren Reed
Grace Hancock Rowland
Merideth Sheskey
R. Warren Simmons
Walt & Elizabeth Simmons
Grace & Bob Stephens
Elinor & John Terrell
Alice Early Thompson
Claude Astor Thompson
Louise & Tom Tillman
William Marks Towles III
Jack & Mary Lawson Vandiver
Fred & Helen Wallace
Charles & Evelyn Ward
Lance J. Wilder
Mr. & Mrs. William Sidney Wilfong
George & Nadine Wilson
Margarett Gunn Wilson
Nancy Conley Wilson
Gwen & Jim Wines

THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 21 - Easter

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
9:30 a.m. Fellowship@First: Easter Brunch

Monday, April 22 - Church Office & Weekday School Closed for Easter Holiday

Tuesday, April 23

1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Room 304
6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training & Supervision, Moses Waddel Room, Rooms 308, 309, 310
6:00 p.m. First Friends, The Pine Food & Drink, 1235 S. Milledge Ave.

Wednesday, April 24

11:30 a.m. Bookless Book Group, South Kitchen + Bar, 247 E. Washington St.
12:00 p.m. Weekday School Ballet, Atrium
12:05 p.m. Weekday School "Make It-Take It" for Parents, Children's Ministry Suite
12:30 p.m. Prayers for Healing, Sanctuary
1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
3:00 p.m. Bridge, Room 302
4:00 p.m. Worship & Music Commission Meeting, Staff Conference Room
4:00 p.m. Chair Yoga, Room 310

Thursday, April 25

2:00 p.m. The Mellows, Morningside of Athens, 1291 Cedar Shoals Dr.

Sunday, April 28

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, The Rev. Margaret Davis preaching

LOOKING AHEAD

April 28 - Honduras Summer 2020 Informational Meeting

Piedmont College Singers Concert
Books for Keeps Book Drive begins

April 30 - PTP Trip to Botanical Garden

April 30, May 16, May 23 (New Dates!) - Receptions with Ryan

May 5 - Scottish Reformation Sunday

May 7 - Project Safe Work Day

May 8 & 22 - Bookless Book Group

May 12 - High School Graduate Recognition

Mother's Day Offering
Blessing of the 5th Graders

May 26 - Summer Schedule begins: 10:00 a.m. Worship, No Sunday School

May 28-31 - Vacation Bible School

Weekend Retreat at Montreat Women's Connection Conference "The Greatest of These Is Love"

Friday, August 9 - Sunday, August 11

Keynote speaker will be civil rights activist, faith leader, and founder of the Revolutionary Love Project, Valarie Kaur with special guest artist Amy Grant. Register for the Women's Connection Conference on the Montreat website. Conference cost is \$236 until June 28.

FPC has reserved use of the Georgia Lodge at beautiful Montreat. Cost for two nights at the Georgia Lodge is \$60. Meals are extra. Please register on the FPC website by June 28 to stay with FPC friends at the Georgia Lodge.

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.**