



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!

May 12, 2019
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
Fourth Sunday of 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

ST. COLUMBA

James Boeringer

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Moment for Mission

Mother's Day Offering

Robbie Bryan

Song of Gathering

DIX

**Make a joyful noise to God!
All creation sings your praise!
Great your wonders here displayed,
unexcelled throughout our days.
Glorious is your sacred name,
ages old, yet still the same.**

The Song of Gathering is from a paraphrase of Psalm 66 by Michael Morgan, Seminary Musician at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA. It is set to the family hymn tune DIX.

Call to Worship

The Lord is our shepherd, our guide, and protector.
The Lord is our parent, our companion, and friend.
The Lord is almighty, with wisdom and power.
The Lord is present, with comfort and care.
Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving,
honor and might be to our God! Amen.

*Hymn 229

From All That Dwell Below the Skies

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

You are a God of new life, yet we are bound to the old way of doing things. You are a God of infinite good news, yet we live in fear and dread. You are a God of resurrection, yet we spend our days proclaiming death. Lord, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us to wholeness.

Hymn 229 is a paraphrase of Psalm 117. Since the psalm only contains two verses, Isaac Watts' paraphrase had only two stanzas. Most hymnals have added additional stanzas.

*Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

**Those who are able may stand.*

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Congregational Response**

Jacques Berthier

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - lia, al - le - lu - ia.

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

***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.

The 11:00 anthems are sung by the Cherub Choir and the St. Andrews Choir.

11:00 a.m. Anthems

All I Ask of You

Sufi tune

Ishq'allah mabud lillah.

Translation: "God is love and God is the beloved."

Sing Joyfully to God

Michael Joseph

O come, O sing, sing joyfully to the Lord;
shout joyfully, sing praises to the King of all the earth;
sing joyfully to God give thanks and praise;
shout to the Lord, give thanks and praise, sing to the Lord our God.
The earth is his, all nature sings this praise;
the sun and moon and stars at night lighten all our days;
sing joyfully to God give thanks and praise;
shout to the Lord, give thanks and praise, sing to the Lord our God.
Come into his courts with thanksgiving. Sing joyfully to God.
For he is our God; we are his people and the sheep of his flock.

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

11:00 a.m. Recognition and Blessing of our High School Graduates

JAY BANGLE	Athens Academy
GRACE FERGUSON	Athens Academy
ELIZABETH GASKILL	Clarke County High School
CHARLIE LOGAN	North Oconee High School
CHASE MODLESKY	Scholars Guild Academy
ANNA PALMER	Oconee County High School

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Congregational Prayer for Illumination

PROSPECT

E - ter - nal light, shine in my heart; e - ter - nal hope, lift
up my eyes; e - ter - nal power, be my sup -
port; e - ter - nal wis - dom, make me wise.

First Lesson

Psalm 23, page 491

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

Second Lesson John 10:22-30, page 980

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

Sermon

Of Sheep and the Shepherd

Dr. Ryan Baer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn 170** *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want* CRIMOND

***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.

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

8:45 a.m. Offertory *Brother James' Air* Dale Wood

11:00 a.m. Offertory *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*
Edward C. Bairstow

Text may be found at Hymn 171

***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**

Hymn 170 is a paraphrase of Psalm 23 from the so-called Scottish Psalter of 1650. It was actually produced by the Westminster Assembly and intended for use by all Presbyterians in the British Isles, in place of the "Old Version" of the Church of England.

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.

The 11:00 offertory is an arrangement of Hymn 171. This text has been one of the favorite paraphrases of Psalm 23 in the English language. It's popularity was increased when joined with this flowing Irish melody.

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

***Hymn 387** *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* BRADBURY

***Benediction**

* **Congregational Response** Hymn 540, Stanza 1

**God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.**

* **Postlude** *Improvisation on ST. COLUMBA* John Coble

*Texts and music for hymns and
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**Following 11:00 a.m. worship, all are invited to a reception
in Fellowship Hall in honor of our high school graduates.**

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

Liturgist

Carol Strickland, Jennings Holloway

Acolytes

11:00 a.m. Lizzie Simmons, Sammy Pope

Lay Readers

8:45 a.m. Lisa Oelke

11:00 a.m. Jill Hopkins

USHERS

8:45 a.m. John Simpson (head),
Don Lowe, Jo Anne Lowe

11:00 a.m. Allen Crowell (head),
Lillian Beck, David Beck, Chris Pope,
Christine Register, Mickey Register

GREETERS

8:45 a.m. Carroll Gaillard, Faye Marshall,
Terry Nestor

11:00 a.m. Jayne Bailey, Susan Landrum,
Tom Landrum, Carol McKay

RECEPTION HOST

Parents of our 11th Graders

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Paulo Santos

FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Frank and Sue Parker by Mary Peace.

We have a rosebud in honor of the birth of Marjorie Hues Lay on April 27, 2019. Marjorie is the daughter of Chip and Joni Lay, the granddaughter of Kitty and David Lay, and the great-granddaughter of Carlton Mell.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH FAMILY PHOTO

May 19, 10:30 a.m.

In preparation for our Bicentennial, we will gather outside the Sanctuary on the front steps for an all-church photograph! There will be no parking in front of the church on Hancock Street next Sunday because of the photo.

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH WITH RON BOGUE

Sundays, June 2, 9, 16, 23

Everyone is invited to the Moses Waddel Room after worship at 11:30 a.m. on the first four Sundays in June for Ron Bogue's popular series on the history of FPC.

COLLEGE GRADUATES

We would like to honor our college graduates in the June/July issue of our *Columns* newsletter. To recognize someone, please send their name, school, degree, future plans, and a picture to Nan Thomas, nan@firstpresathens.org, by June 3.

SUMMER CHOIR

Begins June 2

All interested singers are invited to join us in the choir room at 9:15 a.m. on Sundays to rehearse music for that morning's service. Our Chancel Choir will be the foundation of this group. Singers may join us for any single Sunday or for as many as they wish, even for the whole summer. Adults, youth, and children are all welcome.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Could God be calling you to become a Stephen Minister? Stephen Ministers are members who receive training to offer one-to-one Christian care to persons struggling with the death of a loved one, chronic illness, unemployment, divorce, or other life stressor. Stop by the Atrium table for information.

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, **a new date has been added on 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

Books for Keeps Book Drive Through June 9

This year marks 10 years that BFK has been giving away books to Athens-area students. Eight thousand students at 18 elementary schools in Georgia will receive 95,000 books this year, 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!

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 or stop by the Atrium table today.

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.

- *May 12 - DVD, The Old Testament, by Amy-Jill Levine or The Other Side of History*
- *May 19 - Sunday School Social in the Fellowship Hall Break Out Area*

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

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!

SUNDAY EVENINGS

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

TONIGHT

No youth group tonight.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 12

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 9:45 a.m. Blessing of the 5th Graders, Children's Ministry Suite
- 12:05 p.m. Reception for High School Graduates, Fellowship Hall

Monday, May 13

- 4:00 p.m. Youth Group Study Break, Dairy Queen, 2342 Hog Mountain Rd., Watkinsville
- 5:00 p.m. Fellowship & Evangelism Commission Meeting, Associate Pastor's Office
- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Room 205
- 6:00 p.m. Session Worship, Sanctuary
- 6:30 p.m. Stated Session Meeting, Moses Waddel Room

Tuesday, May 14

- 10:00 a.m. Northeast Georgia Presbytery Spring Stated Meeting, FPC, Gainesville
- 1:15 p.m. Staff Calendar Review Meeting, Front Reception Area
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Room 304
- 6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training & Supervision, Moses Waddel Room, Rooms 308, 309, 310

Wednesday, May 15

- 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, May 16

- 10:00 a.m. Josephine Paine Bible Study, Staff Conference Room
- 2:00 p.m. The Mellows, Athens Heritage Home, 960 Hawthorne Ave.

Sunday, May 19

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

LOOKING AHEAD

May 23 (New Date) - Receptions with Ryan

May 22 - Bookless Book Group

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

May 28-31 - Vacation Bible School

Sundays, June 2-23 - History of the Church by Ron Bogue

June 5 - Weekday School Wonderful Wednesdays begin

June 9 - Pentecost - Wear Red!

Pentecost Offering

Books for Keeps Book Drive dropoff deadline

June 9-15 - Youth Mission Trip to Heifer Ranch

June 10-13 - Weekday School Camp

Summer Schedule

Next Sunday, May 19, will be our last Sunday with two services. Over the Memorial Day weekend, **May 26, we will go to our summer schedule** of one service at 10:00 a.m. Sunday School will not meet over the summer.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION

Ryan Baer, Moderator 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. 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*

PLEASE SEE FIRSTPRESATHENS.ORG

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.