



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 19, 2019
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
Fifth 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 *Intrada* Grayston Ives

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Moment for Mission *Montreat Women's Retreat* Carol McKay

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.**

Call to Worship

Praise the Lord!
Praise God from the heavens!
Men, women, all people alike,
old and young together!
Let us praise the name of the Lord,
whose name is exalted above heaven and earth!

***Hymn 442** *The Church's One Foundation* AURELIA

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Holy God, your love knows no bounds. Forgive us when we try to confine it. Your grace is for all people. Forgive us when we try to restrain it. Your Spirit beckons us to follow. Forgive us when we choose not to listen. Forgive us, God, of the ways we fall short. Set us free from our bondage so we may love and serve you.

*Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

**Those who are able may stand.*

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

The Church's One Foundation was one of twelve hymns written by an English curate to affirm the articles of the Apostles' Creed with biblical allusions, such as 1 Corinthians 3:11 here. Though not created for this text, the tune was joined to it in 1868 and the two have been inseparable ever since.

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 Children's Church with Natalie Bishop held in the Children's Ministry Suite.

Next to the Nicene Creed, The Apostles' Creed is the most universally accepted doctrinal statement in Christendom. Although not written by apostles, it reflects the theological formulations of the first century church. Arising from an early baptismal creed, it underwent development, attaining its present form in the eighth century.

***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.

***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.

8:45 a.m. Sacrament of Baptism

Through baptism, we welcome Thaddeus Landan Respress, son of Trina and Brandon Respress, into the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

***Question to the Congregation**

Do we, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Thad by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging him to know and follow Christ? If so, please stand.

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Apostles' Creed

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

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

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

Baptism Hymn 492 *Baptized in Water*

BUNESSAN

11:00 a.m. Introduction of New Member

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 Isaiah 65:17-18, page 682

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

11:00 a.m. Anthem *And I saw a new heaven* Malcolm Archer

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea, for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

The anthem is the text of Revelation 21:1-2,4, set to music by English composer Malcolm Archer (b. 1952).

Second Lesson Revelation 21:1-6, page 1134

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

Sermon

Among Mortals

Dr. Ryan Baer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Hymn 450

O Day of Peace

JERUSALEM

*11:00 a.m. Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

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.

O Day of Peace was created to offer non-nationalistic words for a popular British tune. The first stanza depicts *pax*, a mode of peace focused on ending conflict, and the second (based on Isaiah 11:6-9) describes *shalom*, the condition of living in harmony and mutual good will.

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Aria

Craig Phillips

*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 526**

For All the Saints

SINE NOMINE

Following worship, all are invited for a time of fellowship and refreshments in the Atrium.

***Benediction**

*** Congregational Response**

Marty Haugen



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

*** Postlude**

For All the Saints

David Cherwien

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

Liturgists

John Kipp, Chase Parker

Acolytes

11:00 a.m. Chiara Bono, Logan Bono

Lay Readers

8:45 a.m. Keith Oelke

11:00 a.m. Ella Stewart

Baptism Elder

Robbie Bryan

USHERS

8:45 a.m. Mac Corry (head),

Don Lowe, Jo Anne Lowe

11:00 a.m. Allen Crowell (head),

David Beck, Lillian Beck, Tom Landrum,
Christine Register, Mickey Register

GREETERS

8:45 a.m. Diane Hartzell, Barbara Laughlin,
Terry Nestor, Mary Peace

11:00 a.m. Jane Kimbrell, Susan Landrum,
Melinda Miller

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 celebration of the wedding of Jordan Leigh Foley and William David Holle, who were married in our Sanctuary yesterday.

The Narthex flowers are given in memory of her mother, Nancy Wilson, by Carla Buss.

The Atrium flowers are given in memory of Jack E. Razor by Phyllis Razor.

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

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH WITH RON BOGUE

Sundays, June 2, 9, 16, 23

Everyone is invited to the Moses Waddell 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.

PENTECOST OFFERING, June 9

Your gift helps the church develop and support its youth and also addresses the needs of at-risk children. Sixty percent goes to support our denomination's Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) program, national youth ministries, and child advocacy. Forty percent stays locally to provide scholarships for the Barrow Elementary After-School program.

SEEKING NEW STEPHEN MINISTERS

Are you compassionate and willing to walk with others going through difficult times? Consider joining our next class of Stephen Ministers. Applications are in the Atrium, church office, and on our website. Learn more at a brief meeting in the Bride's Room in the Tinsley-Stern Building May 26 at 11:05 a.m. or June 9 at 9:15 a.m.

HOI 2020 UPDATE

The location for next summer's inter-generational mission trip has changed. We will now be serving in Puerto Rico! Stay tuned for trip details or contact Kim Ness, kness@firstpresathens.org.

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.

Today is the last day of Sunday School until fall.

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 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 19

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School Social, Fellowship Hall Break Out Area
- 10:30 a.m. Church Family Photo, Sanctuary Front Porch
- 12:05 p.m. Fellowship, Atrium
- 4:30 p.m. Mission & Outreach Commission Meeting, Moses Waddel Room

Monday, May 20

- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Room 205

Tuesday, May 21

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

Wednesday, May 22

- 11:00 a.m. Bicentennial Research, Staff Conference Room
- 11:30 a.m. The Bookless Book Group, Bone Island Grillhouse, 2055 Oconee Connector
- 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 23

- 2:00 p.m. The Mellows, End-of-Year Lunch, Rafferty's, 15 Huntington Rd.

Sunday, May 26

- 10:00 a.m. Service, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching

LOOKING AHEAD

May 26 - Summer Schedule begins: 10:00 a.m. Worship, No Sunday School or Children's Church

May 28 - First Friends

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

June 23-29 - Montreat Worship & Music Conference

July 8-11 - Weekday School Camp

July 21-27 - Montreat Youth Conference

Summer Schedule

Today is 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 and Children's Church will not meet over the summer. Children are invited to remain in worship.

Watch for the church mouse in your bulletin starting June 9 with a, "Time for Children."



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.