



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!

June 30, 2019

10:00 a.m.

Third Sunday after Pentecost

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

Improvisation on DUKE STREET

John Coble

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Song of Gathering

Hymn 483, Stanza 1

**Sing praise to God, who reigns above, the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation;
with healing balm my soul is filled, and every faithless murmur stilled:
to God all praise and glory!**

Call to Worship

God's gifts are as many as the stars;

God's grace is as endless as the evening sky.

Let us worship the Christ who binds us together,

the One in whom we place our trust.

*Hymn 423

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

DUKE STREET

Hymn 423 is a classic example of how Isaac Watts Christianized the Psalms, in this case Psalm 72:5-19, by turning their messianic language to New Testament equivalents. The tune was at first nameless and anonymous, but is now called by the address of the supposed composer.

** Those who are able may stand.*



Over the summer, the children will be learning about different parts of worship. The children are invited forward where they find the church mouse.

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

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

Two great truths inform Hymn 426: first, that the testimony of experience is powerful and persuasive; and second, that no one should venture to minister on one's own strength rather than God's. The tune reflects a 19th-century practice of adapting piano pieces as hymn tunes.

***Call to Confession**

A Time for Children

***Prayer of Confession**

Before we were formed in the womb, O God, you knew us and loved us. Before we have uttered a prayer, O God, you hear us, and you love us. You call us to reflect your love, to be Love for one another. Too often, we are clanging symbols, aiming for volume rather than love. Too often, we are greedy beings, searching for success rather than love. Too often, we are shallow followers, content with comfort rather than love. Forgive us, God of mercy, and love us into wholeness.

***Silent Prayer**

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Congregational Response**

Hymn 579

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. Amen.

***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

Congregational Prayer for Illumination

Hymn 321, Stanza 1

**Holy Spirit, truth divine, dawn upon this soul of mine;
Word of God, and inward light, wake my spirit, clear my sight.**

First Lesson

1 Kings 19:15-16,19-21, page 323

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

Anthem

I Will Arise

arr. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw

I will arise and go to Jesus, he will embrace me in his arms,
in the arms of my dear Savior, Oh! there are ten thousand charms.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above,
praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.
Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace,
streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.

Second Lesson

Luke 9:51-62, page 947

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

Sermon

Come Along

Mr. Isaac Toney

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn 426**

Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

CANONBURY

***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.**

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 *I Will Arise* Robert Powell

***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 Insert** *Will You Come and Follow Me* KELVINGROVE

***Benediction**

***Congregational Response** SINE NOMINE

**Go to the world! Go into every place.
Go live the word of God's redeeming grace.
Go seek God's presence in each time and space. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Postlude *Toccata in F* Dietrich Buxtehude

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.

The first four stanzas of the hymn *Will You Come and Follow Me* are understood to be in the voice of Christ, with the fifth reflecting the individual singer's response. Created for this traditional Scottish tune, the text was written to mark the conclusion of a youth volunteer's time of ministry.

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 9:00 to 11:15 a.m., are located next to the Children's Ministry Suite and are accessible down the stairs in the Atrium and through the glass door.

NOTES ON THE SERVICE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Dr. Ryan Baer, *Senior Pastor*
Dr. Carol Strickland, *Associate Pastor*
Dr. John Coble, *Director of Music and Organist*
Mr. Isaac Toney, *Guest Preacher*

Lay Reader

Laura Toney

USHERS

Carl Bergman (head), Judy Burch, Carla Buss,
Jo Carol Nessel-Sale, Patti Reed, John Simpson

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Mary Jane Holloway, Leslye Queen

GREETERS

Susan Landrum, Tom Landrum,
Faye Marshall, Mary Peace

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Paulo Santos

FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Rachael Short, by Stan Short & Laura Hartley.

We welcome Mr. Isaac Toney as our guest preacher today. Isaac is currently seeking his first call after graduating from Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta with a Master of Divinity. Prior to this, he graduated in May 2016 from Centre College in Danville, Kentucky, where he studied history and religion with a focus in Christian ethics. Isaac grew up and was confirmed in our church and is the son of Chuck and Laura Toney.

Words to Live By: The Ten Commandments

According to a 2007 study, more Americans can name the seven ingredients in a Big Mac and the eight members of the family on TV's "The Brady Bunch" than can name the Ten Commandments. This summer, we are exploring a sermon series entitled "Words to Live By: The Ten Commandments." Each week, we'll be examining one of the commandments and thinking critically about how it applies to our lives today.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

(706) 543-4338

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*
Mr. Paulo Santos, *Communications Specialist*
Mrs. Jennifer Sunderlin, *Receptionist/Admin. Assistant*
Mrs. Laura McHugh, *Accountant*
Mrs. Tiffany Greene, *Weekday School Admin. Assistant*
Ms. Rita Raines, *Nursery Coordinator*
Mrs. Charlotte Chromiak, *Children's Music Assistant*
Mrs. Madeline Van Dyck, *Parish Nurse*

THIS WEEK

Sunday, June 30

- 9:15 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal, Room 202
10:00 a.m. Service, Mr. Isaac Toney preaching
11:05 a.m. Fellowship, Atrium

Tuesday, July 2

- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Bride's Room

Wednesday, July 3

- 12:00 p.m. Our Daily Bread, First Baptist Church, 355 Pulaski St.
12:30 p.m. Prayers for Healing, Sanctuary
3:00 p.m. Bridge, Room 302
4:00 p.m. Chair Yoga, Room 310

Thursday, July 4 - Church Office Closed for Independence Day Holiday

Friday, July 5 - Church Office Closed for Independence Day Holiday

Sunday, July 7 - Food Sunday

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

LOOKING AHEAD

July 8-11 - Weekday School Camp

July 10 & 24 - Bookless Book Group

July 21-27 - Montreat Youth Conference

July 28 - Senior Adult Sunday

August 7 - Last Weekday School Wonderful Wednesday

August 9-11 - Montreat Women's Conference

August 11 - Back-to-School Blessing

August 14 - Chancel Choir Rehearsals Begin

Summer Schedule

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 each Sunday with "A Time for Children."



Summer Office Hours

The church office will close at 2:00 p.m. on Friday afternoons through July 26. Our office hours are: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Friday. If you need assistance after hours, please call the church office to reach the pastor on call.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOOD SUNDAY

July 7

On Sunday, July 7 we will collect items for the Athens-Area Emergency Food Bank. This month they request **school supplies and household cleaning products**. Thank you for donating 418 items in June!

SUMMER CHOIR

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.

UNTOLD STORIES

For over three years, the Bicentennial 2020 Committee has been collecting information about FPC's history to better understand our founding and how we came to be the largest church in our presbytery. We are grateful to everyone who has taken the time to bring the past alive by sharing memories of their time as members. If you have not shared your story, it's not too late. Please contact Judy Scanlon at judy.s.scanlon@gmail.com or Diane Adams at DianeAdams.Athens@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Food 2 Kids

Thank you to the Presbyterian Women for donating 171 pounds of food from September through May to the Food Bank of Northeast Georgia.

Are You Called?

To be a Stephen Minister? They are church 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. We are seeking compassionate men and women willing to serve in the next class of Stephen Ministers. Applications are in the Atrium, church office, and on our website.

Senior Adult Sunday: Honor Your Father and Mother

July 28

Please plan to be part of our annual celebration of our senior members on July 28. Our theme for this year's event will be tied to Dr. Baer's summer sermon series on The Ten Commandments.

The seniors of First Presbyterian Church bring so many gifts to our congregation. Their impact on our church is beyond measure. The 10:00 a.m. service will be followed by a reception in Fellowship Hall, and we invite everyone to attend and celebrate! Please contact the church office if you would like to participate as a host or help provide refreshments. We hope to see you there!

Invitation to Help Families Fostering Children

Children sometimes need a temporary family to care for them until they might be safely reunited with their families. Last year there were nearly 14,000 children living with foster families in Georgia. Families from First Presbyterian Church have responded by providing safe and loving homes for some of these vulnerable young members of our community. In turn, volunteers from our church have been helping to support these families through the organization Chosen for Life Ministries.

Chosen for Life Ministries organizes care teams for foster families. Members of these teams provide support in various roles: bringing busy foster families meals, helping with childcare and transportation, and praying for and providing moral support to these families.

Members of FPC are currently volunteering with two care teams. Can you help? If you would like to volunteer, only a couple of hours per month is all it takes. We have various opportunities available. More information is available at chosenforlifeministries.org/fostercare. Please contact Jeremy Praisman at jpg@uga.edu for additional information on current teams and needs. Thank you!