



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!

July 7, 2019

10:00 a.m.

Fourth 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 the service. 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

These are the Holy Ten Commandments

Johann Sebastian Bach

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Song of Gathering

AZMON

This is the day the Lord hath made; the hours are all God's own.

Let heaven rejoice; let earth be glad, and praise surround the throne.

Call to Worship

God's mercy is deeper than we can imagine.

God's love is stronger than we can comprehend.

God's power is mightier,

God's presence is more enduring,

God's truth is holier than any words can express.

Thanks be to God for the boundless gift of grace.

Let us worship God.

*Hymn 564

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

MATERNA

*The text *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies* (inspired by the vista from Pike's Peak and by a visit to Chicago's Columbian World Exposition) and tune (named MATERNA because it was composed for *O Mother, Dear Jerusalem*) were joined in 1912. The combination proved immensely popular during World War I and afterwards.*

** 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.

The anthem is based on a paraphrase of Psalm 100 by Scot, set to a tune by a French composer created for the Genevan Psalter of 1551. The anthem by Vaughan Williams was written for the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in Westminster Abbey in 1953.

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

You have called us to bear one another's burdens, and in that way to fulfill the law of Christ. Still, O Lord, we are bound to selfishness, hardly noticing the cries of our neighbors. You have called us to trust in you alone, and in that way to bear witness to your love. Still, O Lord, we wish for self-reliance, struggling against the weight of our own expectations. Forgive us, Holy One, and free us from our sins. Move us into faithfulness, and grant us your grace.

***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.

A Time for Children

***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 339, Stanza 1

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

First Lesson

Acts 17:22-26, page 1012

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

Anthem

The Old Hundredth Psalm Tune

Ralph Vaughan Williams

All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell, come ye before him, and rejoice.
The Lord, ye know, is God indeed, without our aid he did us make;
we are his folk, he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
O enter then his gates with praise, approach with joy his courts unto;
praise, laud, and bless his name always, for it is seemly so to do.
For why? the Lord our God is good: his mercy is forever sure;
his truth at all times firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.
To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the God whom heaven and earth adore,
from us and from the angel host be praise and glory evermore. Amen.

Second Lesson

Exodus 20:4-6, page 65

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

Sermon

Words to Live By: The Ten Commandments

Second Word: Image

Dr. Ryan Baer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn 291**

O God of Earth and Altar

LLANGLOFFAN

*Affirmation of Faith

Excerpts from *The Study Catechism of the PC(USA)*

What are the Ten Commandments?

The Ten Commandments give a summary of God’s law for our lives. They teach us how to live rightly with God and one another.

Why should you obey this law?

Not to win God’s love, for God already loves me. Not to earn my salvation, for Christ has earned it for me. Not to avoid being punished, for then I would obey out of fear. With gladness in my heart I should obey God’s law out of gratitude, for God has blessed me by it and given it for my well-being.

What is the second commandment?

“You shall not make for yourself an idol.”

What do you learn from this commandment?

First, when I treat anything other than God as though it were God, I practice idolatry. Second, when I assume that my own interests are more important than anything else, I make them into idols, and in effect make an idol of myself.

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 *Improvisation on AUSTRIAN HYMN* John Coble

***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 285** *God, You Spin the Whirling Planets* AUSTRIAN HYMN

***Benediction**

***Congregational Response** Hymn 538, Stanza 1

**Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, thy love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.**

Postlude *OLD HUNDREDTH* **John Ferguson**

A catechism is a set of questions and answers regarding essential matters of Christian life and faith. The origin of the word “catechism” is from the Greek for “oral teaching.” Although not formally included in *The Book of Confessions*, *The Study Catechism of the Presbyterian Church (USA)* was approved by the 210th General Assembly (1998).

The text of Hymn 285 was written for the 1979 National Meeting of United Presbyterian Women, who’s theme, “In the Image of God,” is variously considered here as reflection, focus, distortion, and polishing for clarity.

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*
Jill Hopkins, *Lay Reader*

USHERS

Kitty Donnan (head),
Carl Bergmann, Carla Buss, Julie Jagmin,
Lance Jagmin, Larry Jones

FELLOWSHIP HOST

Meghan Bawcum

GREETERS

Jayne Bailey, Carol McKay,
Terry Nestor, Mary Peace

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

John Patrick Ave-Lallemant

FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Jane and George Scott’s 67th wedding anniversary, by Marshall and Bobbie Scott, Jennifer Scott Clay, and Ellen Scott Long.

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 The Ten Commandments in a sermon series entitled “Words to Live By.” Each week, we’ll be examining one of the commandments and thinking critically about how it applies to our lives today.

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

THIS WEEK

Sunday, July 7 - Food Sunday

- 9:15 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal, Room 202
- 10:00 a.m. Service, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
- 11:05 a.m. Fellowship, Atrium

Monday, July 8 - Thursday, July 11 - Weekday School Camp

Tuesday, July 9

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Bride's Room
- 6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training & Supervision, Moses Waddel Room, Rooms 308, 309, 310

Wednesday, July 10

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday School Wonderful Wednesday
- 11:30 a.m. Bookless Book Group, Siri Thai Cuisine, 1040 Gaines School Rd.
- 12:30 p.m. Prayers for Healing, Sanctuary
- 3:00 p.m. Bridge, Room 302
- 4:00 p.m. Chair Yoga, Room 310

Sunday, July 14

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

LOOKING AHEAD

July 21-27 - Montreat Youth Conference

July 24 - Bookless Book Group

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

August 18-25 - Family Promise of Athens (Formerly IHNA) Host Week

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

IHNA NEWS

In August, the Interfaith Hospitality Network of Athens (IHNA) becomes **Family Promise of Athens**, in keeping with most other affiliates who have adopted the national organization name. This name brings brand recognition, resources, and is more encompassing of IHNA's work assisting families with the promise of housing. The goal of IHNA will not change, only the name.

IHNA/FAMILY PROMISE HOST WEEK August 18-25, Sign-up today!

Please sign-up in the Atrium today for our next host week. You may also check the online calendar or email inhafirstpresathens@gmail.com to volunteer.

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.

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.

BOOKLESS BOOK GROUP

July 10 & 24, 11:30 a.m.

A group of women meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month to enjoy lunch and conversation. We meet at a variety of restaurants and invite anyone interested to join us. Our next meetings will be:

July 10 - Siri Thai Cuisine, 1040 Gaines School Rd.

July 24 - Savannah Room, 1179 S. Lumpkin St.

Application Deadline

If God has been nudging you to consider becoming a Stephen Minister, please listen! This is a very rewarding ministry of caring. Stephen Ministers receive fifty hours of training and then are assigned to meet one-on-one with a person undergoing grief, chronic illness, divorce, or other life stressor. A new training class will be offered Tuesday evenings beginning August 20. Applications, available in the Atrium, church office, and our website, are due July 15.

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!