



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 14, 2019

10:00 a.m.

Fifth 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.*

Greeting

Psalm 118:24

This is the day the Lord has made; **let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Prelude

The God of Abraham Praise

Richard Proulx

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

We serve the Creator, who loves us into life.

We follow Christ, who loves us unto death.

We listen for the Spirit, who loves us into transformation.

We worship God, whose love knows no bounds.

*Hymn 488

The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI

*The congregation is invited to speak or sing the liturgy in **bold** type.*

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

Shaped by its traditional Jewish tune, Hymn 488 is a selection of English stanzas that conveys the essence of the *Yigdal*, a canticle based on a medieval Hebrew statement of faith about the nature of God and often used in synagogue worship, alternately chanted by cantor and congregation.

* *Those who are able may stand.*

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Holy God, we have heard your command to love you, to love our neighbor, and to love ourselves, yet we fall into patterns of shallow devotion, false kindness, and self-doubt. We have heard your call to do justice, to love kindness, to walk humbly with you, yet we're drawn to safety, not justice; apathy, not kindness; pacing, not walking. Hear our prayers, O God. Forgive us for what we have done and for what we have left undone.

***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.

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.

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

Philippians 2:9-11, page 1071

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

Anthem

Fairest Lord Jesus

Russell Schulz-Widmar

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nations, O thou of God to earth come down, thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou my soul's glory, joy, and crown. Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands robed in the blooming garb of spring:

Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling starry host: Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels heaven can boast.

A Time for Children

Second Lesson

Exodus 20:7, 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

Third Word: Name

Dr. Ryan Baer

Franz Liszt used the melody of *Fairest Lord Jesus* for a "Crusaders' March" in an oratorio, but the hymn had nothing to do with the Crusades. No record of the German text exists before the middle of the 17th century or of the Silesian folk melody before the first half of the 19th century.



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

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Hymn 148

At the Name of Jesus

KING'S WESTON

*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 third commandment?

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God.

What do you learn from this commandment?

I should use God's name with reverence and awe. God's name is taken in vain when used to support wrong. It is insulted when used carelessly, as in a curse or a pious cliché.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 16

. . . and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. . .

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

Johann Sebastian Bach

*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 361

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

*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

Improvisation on KING'S WESTON

John Coble

Hymn 148 will be a hymn based on a hymn, for scholars say that the passage behind it (Philippians 2:5-11), though not in the style of Greek poetry, shows traits of a communal creedal statement capable of being sung. It is set here to one of the composer's most sonorous tunes.

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).

It seems odd now to think of singing the text of Hymn 361 to the tune ADESTE FIDELES, but maintime churches did so well into the 20th century because of a cultural bias against shape note music. The vigor of the present tune seems especially right for the final line's reference to Hebrews 13:5.

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*
John Walden, *Lay Reader*

USHERS

Kitty Donnan (head),
Carl Bergmann, Kent Burel, Mark Hopkins,
Larry Jones, Frank Sherrill

FELLOWSHIP HOST

Diane Hudgins

GREETERS

Carol Dolson, Jim Dove,
Lisa Oelke, Mary Peace

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

John Patrick Ave-Lallemant

FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Marion Dunn in celebration of her 100th birthday by Del and Ann Dunn.

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 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, July 14

- 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 15

- 4:00 p.m. Fellowship & Evangelism Commission Meeting, Staff Conference Room

Tuesday, July 16

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Bride's Room

Wednesday, July 17

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday School Wonderful Wednesday
12:30 p.m. Prayers for Healing, Sanctuary
3:00 p.m. Bridge, Room 302
4:00 p.m. Chair Yoga, Room 310
5:30 p.m. Nominations & Elections Committee Meeting, Staff Conference Room

Sunday, July 21

- 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

LOVE NOTES FOR JOHN

Blank cards are available for those wishing to write encouraging notes to John Kipp. Baskets to collect the cards are in the Narthex and in the Atrium. Please keep John and Sara in your prayers.

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 Susan Boatwright at boatwright.susan@gmail.com or Frank Sherrill at frankwsherrill@gmail.com to volunteer.

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. Adults, youth, and children are all welcome.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLESSING

August 11, 10:00 a.m.

We invite all students to bring their bookbags and backpacks Sunday, August 11, for a special blessing as we begin another school year. Please fill your bookbags with extra school supplies that will be donated to students in Athens and surrounding counties who need additional school materials.

Needed School Supplies: bookbags, notebook paper, pencils, new or gently used uniforms, pencil sharpeners, erasers, pens, glue sticks, scissors, 3-ring binders, spiral notebooks (single or multi-subject), and folders with pockets and prongs.

Application Deadline Tomorrow

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 tomorrow, 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 jlp@uga.edu for additional information on current teams and needs. Thank you!