



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 28, 2019

10:00 a.m.

Senior Adult Sunday

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!**

Prelude

Alla siciliana and *Presto* George Frideric Handel

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

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Moment for Mission

Senior Adult Sunday

Greta Covington

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

Come, O God, and fill this space.

Come, Holy Spirit, and fill our hearts.

Come, Lord Jesus, and lead the way.

Teach us to worship the living God.

*Hymn 481

Praise the Lord, God's Glories Show

LLANFAIR

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Holy God, hear our prayers. Your love is constant and your grace is abundant. Forgive us of the help we have not given, the hospitality we have not offered, the prayers we have not spoken, and the faithful steps we have not taken. Forgive us, God, and through your forgiveness, embolden us to be your servants in your reign of peace.

Originally cast as two eight-line stanzas, Hymn 481, a 19th-century paraphrase of Psalm 150, was slightly shortened when it was set to the present tune with recurring Alleluias. The Welsh tune is actually older than the text and bears a name meaning "the church of St. Mary."

*Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

** Those who are able may stand.*

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 Psalm 119:33, set to music by English composer Thomas Attwood. Among other posts, Attwood served as organist at St. Paul's Cathedral, and he was a friend of Felix Mendelssohn.

Hymn 419, a reflection on Christian vocation, was written to provide new text for a pre-existing tune. The poet has crafted his words so well that the two parts mesh smoothly. The tune is named for a noted British boarding school, whose music director was a friend of the composer.

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).

*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 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

John 19:26-27, page 990

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

Anthem

Teach Me, O Lord

Thomas Attwood

Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes;
and I shall keep it unto the end.

Second Lesson

Exodus 20:12, 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

Fifth Word: Honor

Dr. Ryan Baer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Hymn 419

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

REPTON

*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 fifth commandment?

"Honor your father and your mother."

What do you learn from this commandment?

Though I owe reverence to God alone, I owe genuine respect to my parents, both my mother and father. God wills me to listen to them, be thankful for the benefits I receive from them, and be considerate of their needs, especially in old age.

Are there limits to your obligation to obey them?

Yes. No mere human being is God. Blind obedience is not required, for everything should be tested by loyalty and obedience to God. When it seems as though I should not obey, I should always be alert to possible self-deception on my part, and should pray that we may all walk in the truth of God's will.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

We give thanks for the gifts of older adults and honor **those here today and those who have gone on.**

We thank you for their knowledge and wisdom learned through experience,

for their love and mercy deepened by years of practice,
for their patience and perspective,
their guidance and grace.

We give thanks for their extraordinary journeys **through joy and sorrow, rough going and smooth.**

We are grateful for their example of faithfulness.

We are grateful for their commitment and service.

We ask your blessing on the older adults of our congregation.

Grant them strength of body, mind, and spirit.

Assure them of your abiding presence.

We pray also for all caregivers of the elderly,
that they may find daily renewal for their calling
and act with gentleness and compassion.

Enable us all continually to grow in love of you and service to one another throughout our span of years.

In times of diminishment and loss, comfort us.

Fill young and old alike with your Holy Spirit,
that, as a community of faith, we may all share in the
accomplishment of your work in the world
and together reflect the fullness of your image
from generation to generation,

through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray,

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

A Time for Children

Offertory

REPTON

Robert J. 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**



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

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

***Hymn 210** *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past* ST. ANNE

***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 *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past* Charles Callahan

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*
Charlie Young, *Lay Reader*

USHERS

Kitty Donnan (head),
Mark Hopkins, Larry Jones, Caroline Randa,
Frank Sherrill, Gail Wilfong

RECEPTION HOSTS

Congregational Care Commission

GREETERS

Kathy Bangle, Faye Marshall, Leslye Queen

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Roger Burbage

FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Michael Peace by Mary Peace. The Narthex flowers are in memory of Judson Carl Kilpatrick by Jeremy and Cardee Kilpatrick.

This is our seventh year honoring our senior saints and celebrating our Senior Adult Ministry with a special Sunday. We want to recognize those who set an example for us and continue to lead the way in promoting the health and growth of First Presbyterian Church.

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 28 - Senior Adult Sunday

- 9:15 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal, Room 202
10:00 a.m. Service, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
11:00 a.m. Reception Senior Adult Sunday, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, July 30

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

Wednesday, July 31

- 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

Thursday, August 1

- 10:00 a.m. Congregational Care Commission Meeting, Room 301
12:00 p.m. Weekday School Opening Teacher Luncheon

Sunday, August 4 - Communion Sunday, Food Sunday

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

LOOKING AHEAD

August 7 - Last Weekday School Wonderful Wednesday

August 9-11 - Montreat Women's Conference

August 11 - Back-to-School Blessing

August 12 - Handbell Choir Resumes

August 14 - Chancel Choir Rehearsals Resume

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

August 18 - Two Worship Services Resume, Fall Kickoff Brunch, Children's Church and Children's Choirs Rehearsals Resume, Youth Kickoff Potluck

August 25 - Sunday School Resumes, Stephen Leader Retirement/Commissioning, Celebration Singers Choir Resumes

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 August 9. 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 THE KIPPS

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

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.

OUR DAILY BREAD

August 7

A team from FPC buys, prepares, and serves meals to our neighbors in need on the first Wednesday of each month. For details and to help, please contact Ann Dunn at anndunn8@gmail.com or Fran Lane at fjlane@uga.edu.

HOSPITAL VISITATION POLICY

Piedmont Athens Regional Medical Center is no longer able to provide our pastors and lay callers a list of FPC members who are in the hospital.

If you are in the hospital, please call the church office so we can provide pastoral care.

Words to Live By: The Ten Commandments

Our summer sermon series, "Words to Live By: The Ten Commandments," continues through September 1. If you've missed a sermon in the series, manuscripts and audio recordings are available on our website.

Food Sunday, August 4

On Sunday, August 4, we will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Athens-Area Emergency Food Bank. This month they are requesting kid friendly snacks (individual lunch-box or normal cupboard packaging): chips, fruit snacks, granola bars, and snack crackers. Thank you so much for the **1,034** items donated in July!!!

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 school uniforms, pencil sharpeners, erasers, pens, glue sticks, scissors, 3-ring binders, spiral notebooks (single or multi-subject), and folders with pockets and prongs.

Next Family Promise (Formerly IHNA) 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.

Grand Connections

Church family is especially important when biological family may live far away or even be deceased. Session's Congregational Care Commission would like to help facilitate cross-generational relationships within our congregation. We're calling it "Grand Connections." If you would like to be paired with a person(s) of another generation for the purpose of occasionally sharing a meal, praying for one another, attending worship together, etc., please fill this out, tear it off, and place in the offering plate.

Name _____ Phone _____

Email _____