



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!

August 4, 2019

10:00 a.m.

Eighth 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!**

Prelude

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

James Biery

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 of Mission

Family Promise (Formerly IHNA)

Susan Boatwright

Song of Gathering

LLANFAIR

**Come, behold! the feast of heaven Alleluia!
has to mortal flesh been given. Alleluia!
Hear the Word of God declared: Alleluia!
"Come! the banquet is prepared." Alleluia!**

Call to Worship

Come worship the God who creates us,
who breathes life into dust and water into the earth.
Come worship the God who challenges us,
who calls the poor blessed and makes the hungry full.
Come worship the God who calls us,
who binds us in community and beckons us to follow.

*Hymn 455

All Creatures of Our God and King

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Holy God, forgive us when we fail to live in the light of your good news; when we choose politeness instead of kindness, fear instead of love, and routine instead of revelation. Help us to hear your Spirit calling us to new life.

*Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

** Those who are able may stand.*

Sometimes called "The Cantic of the Sun," Hymn 455 is a cosmic roll call that allows human beings to give voice to all creation. One of the earliest religious poems in the Italian language, it is made even more expansive by the broad, repetitive melody with interspersed "Alleluias."

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.

Hymn 450 is a text on peace 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.

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

Luke 22:47-51, page 963

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

Second Lesson

Exodus 20:13, 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

Sixth Word: Life

Dr. Ryan Baer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Hymn 450

O Day of Peace

JERUSALEM

*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 sixth commandment?

"You shall not murder."

What do you learn from this commandment?

God forbids anything that harms my neighbor unfairly. Murder or injury can be done not only by direct violence but also by an angry word or a clever plan, and not only by an individual but also by unjust social institutions. I should honor every human being, including my enemy, as a person made in God's image.

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether* Harold W. Friedell

Draw us in the Spirit's tether; for when humbly, in thy name,
two or three are met together, thou art in the midst of them;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Touch we now thy garment's hem.
As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,
then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluia! Alleluia! So knit thou our friendship up.
All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of thee,
that by caring, helping, giving, we may true disciples be.
Alleluia! Alleluia! We will serve thee faithfully.

***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**

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

"...with all the company of heaven and earth we praise your holy name singing:"

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na
in the high- est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical setting of the communion service is by Thomas Pavlechko, a Lutheran composer and church musician serving in Austin, Texas. This setting is found in the new Presbyterian hymnal *Glory to God*.

"...Great is the mystery of faith:"

Christ has died; Christ is ris - en;
Christ will come a - gain.

“...all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, forever and ever.”



The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 16

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

Breaking of the Bread and Giving of the Cup

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

***Hymn 507**

I Come with Joy

DOVE OF PEACE

A Time for Children

***Benediction**

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| May God bless you, | (children) |
| May God bless you, | (congregation) |
| and keep you. | (children) |
| and keep you. | (congregation) |
| May you know God loves you, | (children) |
| May you know God loves you, | (congregation) |
| and gives you peace. | (children) |
| and gives you peace. | (congregation) |

***Choral Response**

Amen

McNeil Robinson

Postlude

JERUSALEM

Mark Sedio



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

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*

Jean Martin-Williams, *Lay Reader*

USHERS

Chuck Roberts (head),

Robbie Bryan, Leslye Queen, Heather Roberts,

Laney Roberts, Nixon Roberts

RECEPTION HOST

Sydney Jackson

GREETERS

Diane Hartzell, Mary Peace

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Roger Burbage

FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the 63rd anniversary of the marriage of Bertis E. Downs, IV (1933-1964) and Ann Bryan Downs at Jermain Memorial Presbyterian Church in Watervliet, New York, August 4, 1955 by Bertis Downs.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 4 - Communion Sunday, 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

Tuesday, August 6

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Bride's Room
- 6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Meeting, Moses Waddel Room

Wednesday, August 7

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday School Wonderful Wednesday
- 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

Friday, August 9 - Sunday, August 11 - Women's Connection Retreat in Montreat

Sunday, August 11 - Back-to-School Blessing

- 10:00 a.m. Service, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
- 11:05 a.m. Children's Ministry Open House, Children's Ministry Suite

LOOKING AHEAD

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

August 27 - First Friends, Akademia Brewing Company, 150 Crane Dr.

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.

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.

Children's Ministry Open House

August 11, 11:05 a.m.

Parents and children (infants – 5th Grade) are invited to our 2019-2020 Children's Ministry Open House on Sunday, August 11. We will get started right after the worship service (11:05 a.m.) in the Children's Ministry Suite.

Fellowship@First: Fall Kickoff Brunch

August 18, 9:30 a.m.

Join us for brunch in Fellowship Hall as we begin two worship services and look forward to the beginning of our fall activities. Sunday School information will be available.

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 _____