



# 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 18, 2019  
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.  
Tenth 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!**

The prelude was written for and premiered this summer at the American Guild of Organists 2019 Regional Convention at Myrtle Beach.

### Prelude

*Tuba Tune*

Robert J. Powell

### Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

### Song of Gathering

DUKE STREET

**Let every voice on earth resound,  
and joyful hearts hold God adored;  
in gladness may God's courts abound  
with songs of praise unto the Lord.**

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

The Song of Gathering is part of a paraphrase by Michael Morgan, set to the familiar tune DUKE STREET.

### Call to Worship

God is moving in the world,  
**with flames of justice and waters of mercy.**  
Christ is calling in the world,  
**with whispers of love and cries of compassion.**  
Let us worship the one who creates the world  
**and lend our voices to the Spirit's song.**

\*Hymn 473

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

DIX

\* *Those who are able may stand.*

## \*Call to Confession

### \*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste to the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse the good gifts of your imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

### \*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

### 8:45 a.m. Congregational Prayer for Illumination

TALLIS' CANON

**Eternal light, shine in my heart;  
eternal hope, lift up my eyes;  
eternal power, be my support;  
eternal wisdom, make me wise.**

### 11:00 a.m. Choral Prayer for Illumination

Mark Schweizer

#### First Lesson

Luke 6:31, page 941

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

#### 11:00 a.m. Anthem

*If Mortal Tongues with Angels Sing*

Mark Schweizer

If mortal tongues with angels sing, and joined with them, my praise I bring, yet no love lives within the thing, my clamor is forsaken. And when all prophesies have flown, and mountains moved by faith alone, and if I know what can be known, forsaking love, I'm shaken. For love is patient, love is kind, not envious, or self-inclined, insisting on its way to find, but wends the path rejoicing. Love bears all things, believes all things, to hope it ever after clings, enduring all, love's spirit sings, its expectation voicing. Let prophesies and knowledge cease, and unknown tongues, their joy release, we only know in part the peace that now we are pretending. For faith and hope and love abide, these all within our hearts reside, yet of these three, love opens wide the path of joy unending.

*At "The Peace," worshipers are invited to greet each other by saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and responding, "And also with you."*

*After the Passing of the Peace at the 11:00 a.m. service, children, ages Pre-K - grade 2, are invited to Children's Church with Natalie Bishop held in the Children's Chapel in the Tinsley Stern building.*

The Prayer for Illumination is sung by the congregation at 8:45, and by the Chancel Choir at 11:00 with different music and a slightly different text. The words were written by Alcuin of York (England) in the 8th century.

**Second Lesson** Exodus 20:15, 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*

*Eighth Word: Respect*

Dr. Ryan Baer

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

**\*Hymn Insert** *For the Healing of the Nations*

LAUDA ANIMA

**\*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 eighth commandment?

**“You shall not steal.”**

What do you learn from this commandment?

**God forbids all theft and robbery, including schemes, tricks or systems that unjustly take what belongs to someone else. God requires me not to be driven by greed, not to misuse or waste the gifts I have been given, and not to distrust the promise that God will supply my needs.**

**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**

*Adagio*

Antonio Vivaldi

**\*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 376** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

HYFRYDOL

**\*Benediction**

**\*Congregational Response**

Danish



**Postlude**

HYFRYDOL

Healey Willan

The first line of *For the Healing of the Nations* quotes the declared purpose of the leaves of the tree of life growing beside the river of life in the heavenly Jerusalem (Revelation 22:2). The hymn continues by identifying some of the many ways we are called to share with God in this healing work.

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).

*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 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., are located next to the Children's Ministry Suite and are accessible down the stairs in the Atrium and through the glass door.

**To pick up your child from Children's Church** after the 11:00 a.m. service, please go to the Children's Ministry Suite located down the stairs in the Atrium, through the glass door to the right.

---

---

## NOTES ON THE SERVICE

### WORSHIP LEADERS

Dr. Ryan Baer, *Senior Pastor*

Dr. Carol Strickland, *Associate Pastor*

Dr. John Coble, *Director of Music and Organist*

### Lay Readers

**8:45 a.m.** Bill Woolbright

**11:00 a.m.** Kitty Donnan

### USHERS

**8:45 a.m.** Randy Dudley (head),  
Terry Caven, Jim Dove

**11:00 a.m.** Chuck Roberts (head),  
Chris Pope, Heather Roberts,  
Nixon Roberts, Laney Roberts

### BRUNCH HOSTS

Fellowship & Evangelism Commission and  
volunteers

### GREETERS

**8:45 a.m.** Faye Marshall, Terry Nestor,  
Mary Peace

**11:00 a.m.** Jayne Bailey, Cate DeMaria,  
Melinda DeMaria, Carol McKay

### SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Roger Burbage

### FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Michael Warren Reed by Patti Reed. The Atrium flowers are in celebration of the marriage of Lillian Elizabeth Jones and Jack Tobin McCarrick.

### TO AID IN WORSHIP

**If you need to leave the sanctuary** during the service, a live video feed is available in the Atrium and at 11:00 a.m. is on Facebook.

**Available in the Narthex or from an usher:**

- **Personal hearing receivers** usable anywhere in the sanctuary
- **Large-print** hymnals, Bibles, bulletins, and hymnsheets
- **Sermons** from the previous six weeks

### CONGREGATIONAL CARE

**Prayer requests** can be submitted to the church office, 706-543-4338, by the Prayer Request link on our church website ([firstpresathens.org](http://firstpresathens.org)) or on the prayer cards in the Fellowship Pads.

---

---

## FELLOWSHIP@FIRST: FALL KICKOFF BRUNCH

**Today, 9:30 a.m.**

Join us after the 8:45 a.m. service today for brunch in Fellowship Hall as we begin our fall activities. Sunday School information is available in the Atrium.

---

---

## 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.

---

---

## Choir Rehearsals Schedule

HANDBELL CHOIR  
CHANCEL CHOIR  
CHERUB CHOIR  
ST. ANDREWS CHOIR  
CELEBRATION SINGERS

Mondays at 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.  
Wednesdays at 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.  
Sundays at 4:30 - 5:15 p.m.  
Sundays at 4:30 - 5:15 p.m.  
Sundays at 5:30 - 6:00 p.m. starting August 25

Youth & Adults  
Adults  
Age 4 - Grade 1  
Grade 2 - Grade 5  
Grade 6 - Grade 12

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### LOVE NOTES AND MEAL TRAIN FOR THE KIPPS

Blank cards are in your bulletin for those wishing to write encouraging notes to John and Sara Kipp, which will be delivered to them. Baskets to collect the cards are in the Narthex and in the Atrium. If you would like to mail a card, please send it to: 1110 Jeremy Dr., Watkinsville, GA 30677. Please keep the Kipps in your prayers.

The Congregational Care Commission has set up a Meal Train for the Kipps. If you would like to volunteer, please access this link:

[www.mealtrain.com/trains/rk2zyl](http://www.mealtrain.com/trains/rk2zyl)

### STEPHEN MINISTRY

On August 25 in worship we will recognize retiring Stephen Leader Larry Gray and commission two new Stephen Leaders, Bob Frisch and Lisa Oelke. Please offer your thanks to them at the reception following.

### FAMILY PROMISE (FORMERLY IHNA) HOST WEEK, August 18-25

Thank you to all our volunteers. Please pray for our guests and volunteers as we show God's love this week through hospitality.

### TUESDAY SUPPERS AT THE PSC

Sunday Suppers at the Presbyterian Student Center are now Tuesday Suppers at the PSC. If you like to see hungry, appreciative young adults eat a delicious meal prepared by you (or you and some friends), please go to [www.PSCuga.org/worship](http://www.PSCuga.org/worship) and click on the Sign Up Genius link to see the fall schedule.

### BOOKS FOR KEEPS ANNUAL BOOK SALE, August 15-18 & 24-25

Thank you for donating three carloads of books to our spring book drive! Now it's time for the BFK sale, held this year at 1860 South Barnett Shoals Road. For details please visit: [booksforkeeps.org/bfk-book-sale](http://booksforkeeps.org/bfk-book-sale).

### First Things

#### Sunday, September 8, 3:00-6:00 p.m.

First Things in Moses Waddel Room (3<sup>rd</sup> floor)

*Child care is available upon request*

First Things is an opportunity to learn about First Presbyterian Church, to meet the staff and other newcomers, and for us to have some conversations about what it means to live out our discipleship as members of Christ's church.

#### Sunday, September 15, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

After attending First Things, if you're feeling called to become a member of FPC, you're invited to the New Member Tea to meet the session and be received into membership. The New Member Tea is informal and will be hosted by Ed and Shannon Ferguson, 1790 Lakewood Manor Drive, Athens, 30606. Children are welcome!

#### Sunday, September 22, 8:45 or 11:00 a.m.

New members will be introduced to the congregation during the morning worship services, and receptions will be held after both services to welcome the newest members of FPC.

Please confirm your attendance by Wednesday, **September 4** by emailing Lucy Bell Johnson at [lbell@firstpresathens.org](mailto:lbell@firstpresathens.org) or calling the church office.

---

### Grand Connections

When family members live far away or may even be deceased, church family is especially important. 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 \_\_\_\_\_



# SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS AUGUST 25

Sunday School Classes are available for all ages and meet 9:45-10:40 a.m.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN

Children's Ministry Suite • Infants - 5th Grade

Director of Children's Ministries: Natalie Bishop

Nursery Coordinator: Rita Raines

**Infants** • Nursery Baby Room

Room Lead: Rita Raines

**Toddlers - Preschoolers** • Nursery Playroom

Room Lead: Mary Smith

Our toddler and preschooler curriculum is Group Publishing's *Play-n-Worship*. It is filled with music, activities, and storyboards that encourage little ones to interact with Bible stories.

**Pre-Kindergarten - 5th Grade**

Our elementary aged children will experience Godly Play during Sunday School. Godly Play helps children to explore their faith through story, to gain religious language, and to grow their spiritual experience through wonder and play.

**Pre-Kindergarten - 1st Grade** • Godly Play Room 127

**2nd - 3rd Grade** • Godly Play Room 126

**4th - 5th Grade** • Godly Play Room 124

Godly Play Guides: Jennifer Abbott, Carol Ashmore, Natalie Bishop, Charlotte Chromiak, Jody Corry, Greta Covington, Jill Crim, Margaret Davis, Susan Ferguson, Madie Fischetti, Julie Hayes, Denise Horton, Sydney Jackson, Matt Jones, Paul Lee, Carmen Meadows, Lisa Oelke, Heather Roberts, Carol Strickland, Dan Trier, Gail Wilfong

## SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

**Christian Issues** • Room 308

Study of *The Story* - one continuing story of God and His people (NIV version). The Bible in chronological order, related as a story.

Coordinator: Sandy Boyles

**Inquirers** • Moses Waddel Room

Thoughtful introspection and lively group discussion covering contemporary issues and daily Christian living, with guest speakers or DVD studies.

- DVD, *The Holy Land Revealed*, by Professor Jody Magness

Facilitators: Carl Bergmann, Carla Buss

**Living on a Prayer** • Room 303

Devotionals based on scripture, led by different class members. Monthly community engagement project.

Coordinator: Karen Burg

**New Voices** • Room 310

Study of the book, *Holy Envy - Finding God in the Faith of Others* by Barbara Brown Taylor.

Led by: Lewis Hudgins

**W. D. Hooper** • Room 309

Study of the New Testament book of Revelation.

Led by: Jerris Hayes

**Wayne F. Middendorf Men's Bible Class**

Bride's Room, Tinsley Stern

**Women's Bible Class** • Room 301

Beginning Exodus in our verse-by-verse approach.

Teacher: Wanda Wilcox

## SUNDAYS FOR YOUTH

Director of Youth Ministries: Kim Ness

The youth are fortunate to have their own special space, lovingly called "The PIT," located on the basement level. The PIT features small group break-out rooms, a kitchen, pool tables, and comfortable couches to just hang out.

**SUNDAY MORNINGS** 9:45 - 10:40 a.m.

This year our youth will be following along with the Narrative Lectionary during Sunday School. After a time of fellowship and donuts, youth in grades 6-12 will come together for an introduction to the day's scripture and discussion about how it applies to life today. The leadership team will be: Kathy Bangle, Meghan Bawcum, Susan Boatright, Robbie Bryan, Don DeMaria and Jean Martin-Williams.

**Confirmation** will be open to current 8th and 9th graders this year. This class gives students an opportunity to deepen and confirm their faith in Jesus Christ, learn the basic theology of the Christian faith, and what it means to identify with the PC(USA). We will meet for eight sessions on Sundays from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. in addition to days of service and opening and closing retreats. Confirmation begins with an informational meeting and dinner on Sunday, September 8. Please contact Kim Ness (kness@firstpresathens.org) to sign up.

## SUNDAY EVENINGS

On Sunday evenings, youth will meet together for dinner and fellowship before breaking into middle school and high school small groups.

**Youth Kickoff Potluck, Sunday, August 18, 6:00-7:30 p.m.**

Join us in Fellowship Hall for a potluck dinner and kickoff meeting. All MS and HS youth and their parents are encouraged to attend!

### New Sunday Evening Schedule:

5:30-6:00 Celebration Singers rehearsal

6:00-6:30 Dinner, Fellowship Hall

6:30-7:30 Youth Group

## THIS WEEK

**Sunday, August 18 - Sunday, August 25 - Family Promise (Formerly IHNA) Host Week**

### **Sunday, August 18**

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
- 9:30 a.m. Fall Kickoff Brunch, Fellowship Hall
- 11:00 a.m. Children's Church Resumes, Children's Chapel, second floor of the Tinsley Stern building
- 3:00 p.m. Weekday School Parents Meeting, Sanctuary
- 4:30 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal, Room 203
- 4:30 p.m. St. Andrews Choir Rehearsal, Room 202
- 4:30 p.m. Mission & Outreach Commission Meeting, Moses Waddel Room
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Kickoff Potluck, Fellowship Hall

### **Monday, August 19**

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday School Begins, Weekday School
- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Room 205

### **Tuesday, August 20**

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

### **Wednesday, August 21**

- 12:30 p.m. Prayers for Healing, Sanctuary
- 3:00 p.m. Bridge, Room 302
- 4:00 p.m. Chair Yoga, Room 310
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Room 202

### **Sunday, August 25**

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Carol Strickland preaching
- 9:45 p.m. Sunday School Begins

## LOOKING AHEAD

**August 25-** Sunday School Begins, Stephen Leader Retirement/Commissioning, Celebration Singers Rehearsal

**August 27 -** First Friends, Akademia Brewing Company, 150 Crane Dr.  
Project Safe Work Day, Project Safe Thrift Store, 955 Hawthorne Ave.  
Stephen Ministry, Training and Supervision, Moses Waddel Room

**August 28 -** Bookless Book Group, Taziki's, 227 Prince Ave.

**September 4 -** Our Daily Bread, First Baptist Church, 355 Pulaski St.

**September 5 -** Family Promise (Formerly IHNA) Volunteer Training, First Baptist Church, 355 Pulaski St.

---

## **Wed@First: Dinner and Class** **Beginning September 18, Fellowship Hall**

**Dinner: 5:45 p.m.**

\$8/adult, \$5/child (12 and under), \$20 max per family. Please make reservations for dinner on the Fellowship Pad, online, or by contacting the church office **by Mondays at 12:00 p.m.**

**Class: 6:30-7:30 p.m. led by Dr. Ryan Baer - "Making Sense of Scripture"**

Year after year, more bibles are sold than any other book; yet the bible is challenging reading, with strange names and customs on almost every page. Join Dr. Baer on Wednesday nights this fall for a conversation entitled, "Making Sense of Scripture." We'll address questions like, "What is the Bible?", "Is the Bible True?", "Where Did the Bible Come From?", "How is the Bible the Word of God?", and more.

# For the Healing of the Nations

LAUDA ANIMA 8.7.8.7.8.7

Fred Kaan, 1965

John Goss, 1869

1. For the heal-ing of the na - tions, Lord, we pray with one ac - cord; for a just and  
2. Lead us for-ward in - to free - dom; from de - spair yourworld re - lease, that, re - deemed from  
3. All that kills a - bun - dant liv - ing, let it from the earth be banned: pride of sta - tus,  
4. You, Cre - a - tor God, have writ - ten your greatname on hu - man - kind; for our grow - ing

e - qual shar - ing of the things that earth af - fords; to a  
war and ha - tred, all may come and go in peace. Show us  
race, or school - ing, dog - mas that ob - scure your plan. In our  
in your like - ness, bring the life of Christ to mind, that by

life of love in ac - tion help us rise and pledge our word  
how through care and good - ness fear will die and hope in - crease.  
com - mon quest for jus - tice may we hal - low life's brief span.  
our re - sponse and ser - vice earth its des - ti - ny may find.

---

## 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