



# 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!*

September 1, 2019  
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.  
Twelfth 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!**

**Prelude** ROYAL OAK Keith Kolander

*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** Debt Elimination Mixon Robinson

**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.**

*The Song of Gathering is part of a paraphrase of Psalm 100 by Michael Morgan, set to the familiar tune DUKE STREET.*

**Call to Worship** from Psalm 81

Sing aloud to God our strength.  
**Shout for joy to the God of Jacob!**  
God would feed us with the finest of the wheat,  
**and satisfy us with honey from the rock.**

\*Hymn 267 All Things Bright and Beautiful ROYAL OAK

\*Call to Confession

\*Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, though we have heard that the humble ones will be exalted, we live as if we did not know your Word. We seek power and privilege over humility and compassion. We climb ladders of success rather than humble steps of justice. We still wrestle for seats of honor, and we still try to limit the guests at your table. Forgive us in Christ, our model of true humanity, and convict us to reflect the depth of your love.**

*Hymn 267 is one of a series of hymns the author wrote for children on the Apostles' Creed. The text (originally in seven stanzas) expands "Maker of heaven and earth." The first stanza became the refrain when the text was later set to a popular tune from the age of King Charles II.*

\*Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

*\* Those who are able may stand.*

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

On Communion Sundays children are invited to remain in the sanctuary.

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.

The author and composer of Hymn 333 wrote the first stanza and folk-style tune after attending a Bible study on Matthew 6:33. The author of the second stanza is unknown.

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.

## Commissioning of The Reverend Margaret Davis as Parish Associate

### HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

#### 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.**

**First Lesson** Matthew 6:31-34, page 884

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

**Second Lesson** Exodus 20:17, 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*

*Tenth Word: Contentment*

Dr. Ryan Baer

### RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

#### \*Hymn 333

*Seek Ye First*

LAFFERTY

#### \*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 tenth commandment?

**"You shall not covet what is your neighbor's."**

What do you learn from this commandment?

**My whole heart should belong to God alone, not to money or the things of this world. "Coveting" means desiring something wrongfully. I should not resent the good fortune or success of my neighbor or allow envy to corrupt my heart.**

## Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

8:45 a.m. Offertory

NETTLETON

Michael Burkhardt

11:00 a.m. Offertory

Consider

Roland E. Martin

Consider the lilies of the field whose bloom is brief:  
we are as they; like them we fade away, as doth a leaf.  
Consider the sparrows of the air of small account:  
our God doth view whether they fall or mount, he guards us too.  
Consider the lilies that do neither spin nor toil,  
yet are most fair: what profits all this care and all this coil?  
Consider the birds that have no barn nor harvest weeks;  
God give them food: much more our Father seeks to do us good.

### \*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.**

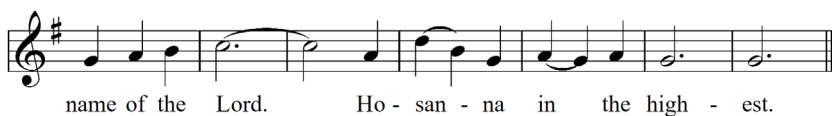
Lift up your hearts.

**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.”



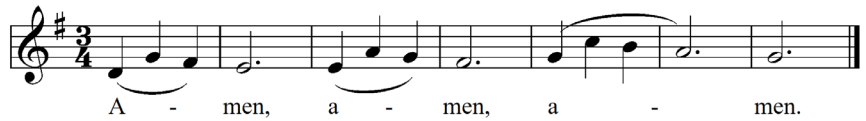
“...Great is the mystery of faith:”



The 11:00 offertory anthem is a setting of a poem by Christina Rossetti based on Matthew 6:26-28, set to music by contemporary American composer Roland Martin.

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

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

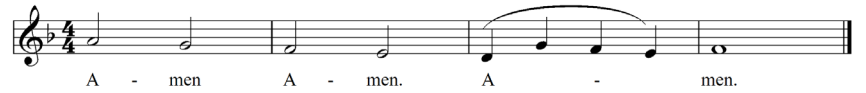


## SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

\***Hymn 356**      *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*      NETTLETON

\***Benediction**

\***Congregational Response**      Danish



\***Postlude**      *These Are the Holy Ten Commandments*      J. S. Bach

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 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.

**Children’s Church** is an important developmental time for children, but there are times when children remaining in worship, watching and learning from their parents, is even more valuable. Children are invited to remain in the sanctuary on Communion Sundays (first Sunday of every month), the 3rd Sunday of Advent (Lessons and Carols), and Easter. We will not have Children’s Church on these special Sundays.

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## 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.** Keith Oelke  
**11:00 a.m.** Kent Burel

### USHERS

**8:45 a.m.** John Simpson (head),  
Terry Nestor, Diane Hartzell

**11:00 a.m.** Matt Bishop (head),  
Kathy Bangle, Abigale Bishop,  
Diane Hudgins, Robyn McDonald,  
Katherine Queen, Leslye Queen

### GREETERS

**8:45 a.m.** Faye Marshall, Keith Oelke,  
Lisa Oelke, Mary Peace

**11:00 a.m.** Carol McKay,  
Dan Nadenicek, Ella Stewart,

### FELLOWSHIP HOST

Grace Lu

### SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Roger Burbage

### FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God.

### 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) or on the prayer cards in the Fellowship Pads.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### LOVE NOTES 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: 180 Keese Ln, Fair Play, SC 29643. Please keep the Kipps in your prayers.

### WAYS TO SERVE FORMS

#### September 15 Deadline

The “Ways to Serve” form is an invaluable tool for our church and is revised annually to reflect current ministries. The 2019-20 forms are inserted in the bulletins and return baskets are in the Narthex, Atrium and church office. Forms are also available on the website.

### OUR DAILY BREAD, September 4

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](mailto:anndunn8@gmail.com) or Fran Lane at [fjlane@uga.edu](mailto:fjlane@uga.edu).

### FAMILY PROMISE (formerly IHNA) TRAINING, September 5, 5:30 p.m.

If you would like to become a volunteer with Family Promise of Athens, please attend a training session. No registration is needed. Please contact Susan Boatwright at [boatwright.susan@gmail.com](mailto:boatwright.susan@gmail.com) or Frank Sherrill at [frankwsherrill@gmail.com](mailto:frankwsherrill@gmail.com) if you have any questions. Training session will be held at the FPA Day Center which is located in First Baptist Church (355 Pulaski Street).

### BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The Josephine Paine Bible Study will begin September 12 and meet 10:00 - 11:15 a.m. on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays in the Staff Conference Room. The scripture passage for each class will be the same text addressed by the upcoming Sunday’s sermon. These passages are all from the OT and follow the “Narrative Lectionary.” Carol Strickland will lead the study which is open to all.

### 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.

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.

#### 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.

### Called Congregational Meeting September 15, 12:15 p.m.

The Session calls the congregation to meet in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, September 15, at 12:15 p.m., for the purposes of receiving a report from the Nominating Committee, electing officers to their respective terms, and hearing a report regarding efforts to eliminate the congregation’s remaining indebtedness. Light refreshments will be provided, and nursery care will be available for infants and toddlers.

# SUNDAY SCHOOL

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.

- September 1 - DVD, *The Old Testament*, by Amy-Jill Levine

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.

### TONIGHT

There is no youth group tonight. See you next see you next WEEKEND at Fall Retreat.

### 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, September 1

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching

9:45 p.m. Sunday School

### Monday, September 2 - Church Office & Weekday School Closed for Labor Day

### Tuesday, September 3

1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Bride's Room

2:00 p.m. Circle 3/4, Home of Linda Childers, 153 West Lake Court, Athens 30606

6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry, Training, Moses Waddel Room

### Wednesday, September 4

12:00 p.m. Our Daily Bread, First Baptist Church

12:00 p.m. Weekday School Ballet, Atrium

12:30 p.m. Prayers for Healing, Sanctuary

1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room

3:00 p.m. Bridge, Room 302

4:00 p.m. Chair Yoga, Room 310

6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Room 202

### Thursday, September 5

10:00 a.m. Congregational Care Commission Meeting, Room 301

2:00 p.m. Mellows Rehearsal, Room 202

5:30 p.m. Family Promise of Athens (formerly IHNA) Volunteer Training, First Baptist Church

5:30 p.m. Weekday School Committee Meeting, Staff Conference Room

### Saturday, September 7 - Sunday, September 8 - Youth Fall Retreat

### Sunday, September 8

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching

## LOOKING AHEAD

**September 8** - Youth Confirmation Dinner and Blessing, Fellowship Hall

**September 9** - Circle 2, Staff Conference Room

**September 11 & 25** - Bookless Book Group

**September 12** - Josephine Paine Bible Study Begins

**September 17** - Circle 6, Home of Ann Dunn

**September 18** - Wed@First: Dinner and Conversation

**September 20** - Fellowship@First: Picnic with UGA Redcoat Band

**September 22** - New Member Reception

**September 29** - Puerto Rico Mission Trip Meeting

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### Wed@First: Dinner and Conversation 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.**

**Conversation: 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.

## 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

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Ryan Baer, *Senior Pastor*  
Dr. Carol Strickland, *Associate Pastor*  
The Rev. Margaret Davis, *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/Administrative Assistant*  
Mrs. Laura McHugh, *Accountant*  
Mrs. Marcy Fabris, *Weekday School Administrative Assistant*  
Ms. Rita Raines, *Nursery Coordinator*  
Mrs. Charlotte Chromiak, *Children's Music Assistant*  
Mrs. Madeline Van Dyck, *Parish Nurse*

### STUDENT INTERNS

Ms. Pavani Gadde, *Website Technician*  
Ms. Kathryn Kent, *Youth Ministry*  
Ms. Jordan Osborne, *Youth Ministry*

### WADDEL FELLOWS

Ms. Emmaline Michael, *Mission & Outreach*  
Ms. Leighton Parker, *Youth Ministry*

PLEASE SEE [FIRSTPRESATHENS.ORG](http://FIRSTPRESATHENS.ORG)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.