



# 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 15, 2019

8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Fourteenth 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

*Prelude on SLANE*

Craig Phillips

### Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

#### Moment for Mission

*Puerto Rico Mission Trip*

Kim Ness

### Song of Gathering

UNSER HERRSCHER

**Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there,  
where my soul in joyful duty waits for God who answers prayer;  
O how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light, and grace.**

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

### Call to Worship

We come to this place in search for God,  
**but God is already searching for us.**

We come to this place to speak to God,  
**but God is already speaking to us.**

Let us worship and listen for God,

**for God calls us together and leads us home.**

### \*Hymn 138

*Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*

NICEA

### \*Call to Confession

### \*Prayer of Confession

**O Lord, you love and care for us, the sheep of your fold. You provide for us and nurture us with the food of your presence and the waters of your grace. Still, O Lord, we wander astray, as if we did not need your love. Still, O Lord, we wander astray, as if we could live this life on our own. Forgive us, Lord, and call us back with a gentle word and a reminder of your promises. Forgive us, Lord, and call us back with a shepherd's crook and a glimpse of your providence. For we fear we cannot find our way home without the sound of your voice to guide us.**

*Much of the imagery of Hymn 138 comes from Revelation 4:2-11, which its author, an Anglican bishop, knew as a reading for Trinity Sunday. The tune was written specifically for this text.*

### \*Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

*\* Those who are able may stand.*

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Congregational Response**

Jacques Berthier

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le -  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - lia, al - le - lu - ia.

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."

**\*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.

After the Baptism at the 11:00 a.m. service, children, ages Pre-K - grade 1, are invited to Children's Church with Natalie Bishop held in the Children's Chapel in the Tinsley Stern building.

**11:00 a.m. Sacrament of Baptism**

Through baptism, we welcome Palmer Layne Bush, daughter of Jonathan and Amber Estes Bush, into the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

**\*Question to the Congregation**

Do we, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Palmer by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging her to know and follow Christ? If so, please stand.

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

*The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God the Father almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;  
the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body;  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Baptism Hymn 492**

*Baptized in Water*

BUNESSAN

**HEARING THE WORD OF GOD**

**Congregational Prayer for Illumination**

Hymn 454, Stanza 1

**Blessed Jesus, at your word  
we are gathered all to hear you;**



**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 Chapel, which is across from the Church Library on the 2nd floor of the Tinsley Stern Building.

## NOTES ON THE SERVICE

### WORSHIP LEADERS

Dr. Ryan Baer, *Senior Pastor*  
Dr. Carol Strickland, *Associate Pastor*  
Dr. John Coble, *Director of Music and Organist*  
Meghan Bawcum, *Cellist*

### *Acolytes*

**11:00 a.m.** Benjamin Crim, Jennings Holloway

### *Call to Worship Liturgist*

**11:00 a.m.** Jimmy Bishop

### *Lay Readers*

**8:45 a.m.** Scott Collins  
**11:00 a.m.** Bruce Miller

### *Baptism Elder*

Matt Bishop

### *Child Representative for Baptism*

Celeste Fischetti

### USHERS

**8:45 a.m.** Jim Dove (head),  
Diane Hartzell, Terry Nestor

**11:00 a.m.** Phyllis Crowell (head),  
Judy Burch, Allen Crowell, Jerris Hayes,  
Peggy Reigle, Tom Reigle

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING HOSTS

Debt Elimination Committee

### GREETERS

**8:45 a.m.** Jim Boyles, Sandy Boyles,  
Faye Marshall

**11:00 a.m.** Kitty Lay, Dan Nadenicek,  
Dewitt Pittman, Ella Stewart

### SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Roger Burbage

### FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Jane and Jim McGown's 47th wedding anniversary by Jane McGown.

### 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.

## 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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, Today, 12:15 p.m.**

The Session has called a congregational meeting today in Fellowship Hall at 12:15 p.m. to receive a report from the Nominating Committee, elect Elders, and hear a report regarding efforts to eliminate the congregation's remaining indebtedness. Light refreshments will be provided, and nursery care will be available.

### **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.

The Congregational Care Commission has extended the Meal Train for the Kipps. We have dates available through October 5. If you would like to volunteer, please access this link: [www.mealtrain.com/trains/rk2zyl](http://www.mealtrain.com/trains/rk2zyl)

### **BIBLE STUDY GROUP**

The Josephine Paine Bible Study meets at 10:00 a.m. on the 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. Carol Strickland leads the study, which is open to all.

### **PRAYERS FOR HEALING**

Prayers for Healing will change its time starting September 18 to 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary, followed by the Wed@First dinner.

### **WAYS TO SERVE FORMS**

#### **Deadline Today!**

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 are also available on the website. Return baskets are in the Narthex, Atrium and church office.

### **FELLOWSHIP@FIRST: PICNIC WITH UGA BAND, September 20, 5:30 p.m.**

Pack your picnic basket, blanket, frisbee, and chairs and join friends of all ages at the Intramural Practice Fields to enjoy hearing and watching the UGA Redcoat Marching Band practice. FPC's own Brett Bawcum is the Acting Director of the band. Come early for parking, if desired. Directions are on our website.

### **BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS**

#### **September 28, 10:00 a.m.**

Join us for the Blessing of the Animals, held this year in the Courtyard. Dr. Carol Strickland will offer a blessing for our furry and feathered companions. All pets are welcome. Invite your animal-loving neighbors and friends!

### **PUERTO RICO MISSION TRIP**

#### **MEETING, September 29, 12:15 p.m.**

Next summer our church will send a group of high school students and adults to serve in the mountainous area of Puerto Rico called Utuado (5/31-6/6) with Taino Volunteers. Work will include hurricane clean up, house repairs and cultural learning experiences. If you are interested in joining the mission team, please email Kim Ness at [kness@firstpresathens.org](mailto:kness@firstpresathens.org) and plan to attend this important meeting in Fellowship Hall after 11:00 a.m. worship.

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## **Wed@First: Dinner and Conversation Beginning this Wednesday, September 18**

### **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.

# 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 - The Bible as 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 15 - *Getting Immigrant Children to College* led by guest Dr. Linda Harklau
- Facilitators: Carl Bergmann, Carla Buss, Larry Jones

**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

Study of *The Wired Word*. A lively discussion of current events through the lens of faith.

Led by: Jim Scanlon

**Women's Bible Class** • Room 301

Study of Exodus in our verse-by-verse approach.

Teacher: Wanda Wilcox

## SUNDAYS FOR YOUTH

Director of Youth Ministries: Kim Ness

College Interns: Kathryn Kent, Jordan Osborne, Leighton Parker

Youth in grades 6-12 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 Youth Sunday School will follow the Narrative Lectionary. After a time of fellowship and donuts, we will read the day's scripture and talk about how it applies to our lives today. Rotating leadership by: Kathy Bangle, Meghan Bawcum, Susan Boatright, Robbie Bryan, Don DeMaria, Jean Martin-Williams, and Erik Ness. *TODAY: God gives a promised child.*

**Confirmation Class** begins this morning for current 8th and 9th graders. 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). Class meets from 9-11 a.m. in the PIT. Led by Ryan Baer, Kim Ness and Leighton Parker. *TODAY: An introduction to confirmation and history of the church.*

**SUNDAY EVENINGS** 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Youth Group is held 2-3 times/month (visit [www.fpcathenspit.com](http://www.fpcathenspit.com) for full calendar). We first gather for dinner in Fellowship Hall provided by volunteers before moving to the PIT for middle school and high school small groups. *TONIGHT: There is no youth group tonight. See you next week!*

## THIS WEEK

### Sunday, September 15

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
- 9:00 a.m. Confirmation Class, The PIT
- 9:45 p.m. Sunday School
- 12:15 p.m. Called Congregational Meeting, Fellowship Hall
- 4:00 p.m. New Member Tea, Home of Ed and Shannon Ferguson, 1790 Lakewood Manor Dr.
- 4:30 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal, Room 203
- 4:30 p.m. St. Andrews Choir Rehearsal, Room 202
- 5:30 p.m. Celebration Singers Rehearsal, Room 202

### Monday, September 16

- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal, Handbell Choir Room

### Tuesday, September 17

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Bride's Room
- 6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry, Training, Moses Waddel Room
- 7:00 p.m. Circle 6, Home of Ann Dunn

### Wednesday, September 18 - Wed@First Begins

- 12:00 p.m. Weekday School Ballet, Atrium
- 3:00 p.m. Bridge, Room 302
- 4:00 p.m. Chair Yoga, Room 310
- 4:30 p.m. Shakespeare *Henry VIII*, Room 308
- 5:00 p.m. Prayers for Healing, Sanctuary
- 5:00 p.m. Ukulele Class, Children's Ministry Suite
- 5:00 p.m. St. Andrews Choir, Room 202
- 5:45 p.m. Wed@First Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Making Sense of Scripture with Dr. Baer, Moses Waddel Room
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Room 202

### Thursday, September 19

- 2:00 p.m. Mellows, Avery Place, 124 Avery St., Winterville

### Friday, September 20

- 5:30 p.m. Fellowship@First: Picnic with UGA Redcoat Marching Band, UGA Intramural Practice Fields

### Sunday, September 22

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
- 9:35 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. New Member Receptions

## LOOKING AHEAD

**September 25** - Bookless Book Group, White Tiger

**September 28** - Blessing of the Animals, Courtyard

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

**October 3** - Family Promise of Athens (Formerly IHNA) Volunteer Training

**October 6** - World Communion Sunday Peace and Global Witness Offering

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### Family Promise of Athens (formerly IHNA)

The next Family Promise of Athens (formerly IHNA) host week is October 27–November 3. The sign-up poster is available in the Atrium. Please contact Susan Boatwright at [boatwrightsusan@gmail.com](mailto:boatwrightsusan@gmail.com) or Frank Sherrill at [frankwsherrill@gmail.com](mailto:frankwsherrill@gmail.com) with questions.

# Lord of All Hopefulness

SLANE 10.10.9.10

Jan Struther, 1931

Irish ballad



1. Lord of all hope-ful-ness, Lord of all joy, whose trust, ev - er
2. Lord of all ea - ger-ness, Lord of all faith, whose strong hands were
3. Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace, your hands swift to
4. Lord of all gen - tle- ness, Lord of all calm, whose voice is con-



child-like, no cares could de - stroy; be there at our wak - ing, and  
skilled at the plane and the lathe; be there at our la - bors, and  
wel - come, your arms to em - brace; be there at our hom - ing, and  
tent - ment, whose pre - sence is balm: be there at our sleep - ing, and



give us, we pray, your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.  
give us, we pray, your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.  
give us, we pray, your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.  
give us, we pray, your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

When first published in 1931, *Lord of All Hopefulness* seemed daring for not using traditional archaic pronouns to address Christ. Current pronouns no longer disturb, but the comforting Jesus portrayed here needs to be balanced by his call to discipleship.

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## Ukulele Class

Charlotte Chromiak will lead a ukulele class for all ages on Wednesdays beginning on September 18, from 5:00 to 5:40 p.m. in the Children's Ministry Suite. Parents must stay with their children for this class. Adults and children with ukuleles should bring them. Those interested in purchasing instruments will get further information from Mrs. Chromiak.