



November 3, 2019
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
All Saints' 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 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

Aria

Flor Peeters

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

God's 2020 Vision

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.**

Our guest trumpeter today is Tyler Jones, doctoral student at the UGA Hugh Hodgson School of Music.

Call to Worship

We give thanks for all the saints,
who from their labors rest.
We gather to worship God,
who loves beyond life or death.
With the cloud of witnesses,
by the grace of Christ,
in the presence of the Spirit,
let us worship God.

FPC 2nd Graders are our Communion Helpers. Bringing in the bread and cup at the 11:00 a.m. service are William Owens and Art Ryder.

***Hymn 483** *Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above*

MIT FREUDEN ZART

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

As we remember the saints of our faith, and all your children in the church triumphant, look kindly on our memories and forgive us where we have faltered. If we were unkind or unjust, forgive us. If we missed opportunities for compassion, convict us. If we turned our back on a neighbor, heal us. If we failed to recognize your image in the faces of people long gone, enlighten us to your presence and wash us in your mercy.

The regal divine imagery in Hymn 483 will not be new to most singers, but some may not expect the third stanza's image of God as mother. Yet it is part of God's self-description in Isaiah 66:13. The Bohemian Brethren tune resembles both Genevan psalm tunes and French folk songs.

*Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

**Those who are able may stand.*

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Congregational Response**

Jacques Berthier

Glo-ry - to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!
 Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, 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.

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

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

Mark 9:2-4, page 921

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Lesson

1 Kings 18:17-39, page 321

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Contest

Dr. Ryan Baer

It seems odd now to think of singing Hymn 361 to the tune ADESTE FIDELES (O Come, All Ye Faithful), but mainline churches did so well into the 20th century because of a cultural bias against shape note music. The vigor of the present tune seem especially right for the final line’s reference to Hebrews 13:5.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn 361**

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Faithful Departed

Raymond Jones Martin
November 19, 2018

Bettye Hendrix Fabris
July 5, 2019

John Robert Duffett
December 1, 2018

John Stephen Dohany
July 8, 2019

Ethel Tison Chaffin
December 15, 2018

William Robert Hardell, Sr.
July 10, 2019

Hannah Moore Smith
April 12, 2019

Harold Erastus Maxwell
September 18, 2019

Judson Carl Kilpatrick
May 25, 2019

Everett Edward Jones, Jr.
September 26, 2019

Jeffie Landers Rowland
July 4, 2019

Leita Pittard Cobb
October 7, 2019

We remember and celebrate the saints who have joined the Church Triumphant in the past year.

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

8:45 a.m. Offertory

For All the Saints

Flor Peeters

11:00 a.m. Offertory

And I saw a new heaven

Malcolm Archer

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea, for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying: neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

*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.

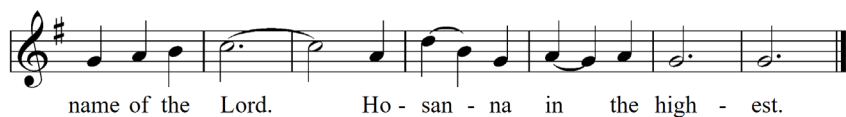
Lift up your hearts.

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:”



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

The anthem is the text of Revelation 21: 1-2, 4 set to music by English organist, conductor, and composer Malcolm Archer. Archer is currently Director of Chapel Music at Westminster College.

The musical setting of the communion liturgy is by contemporary American composer Thomas Pavlechko.



Breaking of the Bread and Giving of the Cup

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 16

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

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

*Hymn 526

For All the Saints

SINE NOMINE

*Benediction

*Congregational Response

AR HYD Y NOS

Go, my children fed and nourished, closer to me.

Grow on love and love by serving, joyful and free.

Here my Spirit's power filled you;

Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

*Postlude

For All the Saints

Donald Busarow

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. Children's Church will resume next Sunday

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. Paul Lee

USHERS

8:45 a.m. Carl Bergmann (head),

Larry Jones, James Seagraves

11:00 a.m. Jacki Macker (head),

Judy Burch, Allen Crowell, Phyllis Crowell,

Kitty Donnan, Susan Haire

GREETERS

8:45 a.m. Terry Caven, Jim Dove, Terry Nestor

11:00 a.m. Jayne Bailey,

Dan Nadenicek, Dewitt Pittman

FELLOWSHIP HOST

⁴ Grace Lu

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Paulo Santos

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 send a card, please mail it to: 180 Keese Ln, Fair Play, SC 29643. Please keep the Kipps in your prayers.

The Congregational Care Commission has a Meal Train scheduled through **December 14**. If you would like to volunteer, please access this link:

www.mealtrain.com/trains/rk2zyl

OUR DAILY BREAD, November 6

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

FLOWER COMMITTEE, November 7

The Flower Committee will gather on Thursday, **November 7** at 4:30 p.m. in the Parlor. Light refreshments will be served and new committee members will meet existing members. Flower tips will be shared along with Advent Season decorating plans and volunteer opportunities.

Signups will be available for monthly flower committees. If you are interested in participating in this committee, please join us so you can learn more about this wonderful group.

COMMITMENT SUNDAY, November 10

During worship we will dedicate our financial commitments for 2020. Thank you for prayerfully considering your pledge as we share our stories of generosity with Athens and the world!

THANKSGIVING FOOD BAG SUNDAY

This year we continue our annual tradition of filling grocery bags with Thanksgiving meals for our less fortunate neighbors. Bags are available through November 10. Please return them filled with a Thanksgiving meal for four on or before **November 17**.

THORNWELL SPECIAL OFFERING

Thornwell has been helping children and families all across South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida since 1875. Today, Thornwell continues its long history by offering a foster care program and other family and educational support programs. Give generously to the Special Offering for Thornwell the Sunday before Thanksgiving, **November 24**.

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING WORSHIP, November 24, 4:00 p.m.

All are invited to join our Athens friends and neighbors in the Meeting House at Piedmont College for this worship experience for all faith groups (Christians, Jews, Muslims, et al.). The sponsor, Interfaith Clergy Partnership of Greater Athens, includes representatives of more than 50 congregations in the Athens area. In a time when there is so much division, let's unite in thanksgiving.

Holiday Meals on Wheels

Every Thanksgiving, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day volunteers from First Presbyterian Church deliver nutritional meals to homebound seniors. By assisting on these days, we allow year-long volunteers to take a break during the holiday season. FPC also pays for the meals on these three days. The cost is generally around \$1,000. Volunteers meet at the Council on Aging at 135 Hoyt St. at 10:00 a.m. The routes take 30 minutes to an hour to complete.

If you are interested in delivering meals, or in making a donation to help pay for the meals on these 3 dates, please contact Sally Vandiver at sally.vandiver@gmail.com or contact the church office at 706-543-4338. Since this is a popular family event, please be sure to sign up early as the slots fill quickly.

Donations can be made by writing a check to First Presbyterian with "Meals on Wheels Holiday Donation" noted on the bottom.

Wed@First: Dinner and Conversation, Wednesday, November 6

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.** If you made reservations earlier but cannot come please notify us by Monday.

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."

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.

- November 3 - led by guest Dr. Ryan Baer
- *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, Natalie Siegman

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, Jean Martin-Williams, and Erik Ness. TODAY: *Fire from Heaven, Elijah at Mt. Carmel.*

CONFIRMATION CLASS

There are thirteen 8th and 9th graders in this year's confirmation class. Through lessons and service opportunities, youth are given 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). Led by Ryan Baer, Kim Ness and Leighton Parker. *Confirmation class resumes on 11/10. Blessing of confirmands and mentors during 11:00 a.m. worship on 11/10.*

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

Youth Group is held 2-3/month (visit 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.*

THIS WEEK

Sunday, November 3, All Saints Sunday, Daylight Savings Time Ends, Food Sunday

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 2:00 p.m. Family Promise of Athens (formerly IHNA) Training, Moses Waddel Room
- 4:30 p.m. Cherub Choir, Room 203
- 4:30 p.m. St. Andrews Choir, Room 202
- 5:30 p.m. Celebration Singers, Room 202

Monday, November 4

- 10:00 a.m. Circle 2, Staff Conference Room
- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Room 205
- 5:30 p.m. Debt Elimination Committee Meeting, Moses Waddel Room

Tuesday, November 5

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday School Bulb Planting, Courtyard
- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Room 304
- 2:00 p.m. Circle 3/4, Home of Nonie Hale, 115 Woodhaven Terrace
- 5:30 p.m. New Elder Training, Staff Conference Room
- 6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training, Moses Waddel Room
- 7:00 p.m. Circle 6, Home of Ann Dunn

Wednesday, November 6

- 12:00 p.m. Our Daily Bread, First Baptist Church
- 12:00 p.m. Weekday School Ballet, Atrium
- 12:00 p.m. Weekday School Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 2:00 p.m. Bridge, Room 302
- 4:30 p.m. Chair Yoga, Room 310
- Shakespeare *Henry VIII*, Room 301
- 5:00 p.m. Prayers for Healing, Sanctuary
- Ukulele Class, Room 203
- 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, November 7

- 11:00 a.m. Congregational Care Commission Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 2:00 p.m. Mellows, Highland Hills, 1660 Jennings Mill Road
- 4:30 p.m. Flower Committee Meeting, Parlor
- 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

Friday, November 8

- 9:05 a.m. WDS Chapel, Sanctuary

Sunday, November 10 - Commitment Sunday, Puerto Rico Mission Trip Meeting

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

LOOKING AHEAD

November 13 - Bookless Book Group, Last Wed@First of the semester

November 17 - Thanksgiving Food Bag Sunday, 30 Hour Famine, Bethlehem Ministry Update

November 19 - First Friends

November 24 - Thornwell Offering, Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship Service

December 1 - First Sunday of Advent

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!

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, *Middle School Ministry*
Ms. Jordan Osborne, *Middle School Ministry*
Ms. Natalie Siegman, *High School Ministry*

WADDEL FELLOWS

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

PLEASE SEE FIRSTPRESATHENS.ORG

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.