



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!

February 16, 2020

8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Presbyterian Student Center - Campus Ministry 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

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

Presbyterian Student Center

Song of Gathering

Hymn 474, Stanza 1

**O splendor of God's glory bright,
from light eternal bringing light;
thou light of life, light's living spring,
true day, all days illumining.**

PSC members in the MFM: Clark Henderson, Student Minister for Worship and Treasurer of PSC, and Emmaline Michael, President of PSC student organization. Both are currently serving as Student Representative of the Board of Directors.

Call to Worship

Jay Bangle

Who may abide in the presence of God?

Who may live on God's holy mountain?

All those who walk blamelessly and do what is right.

All those who speak truth from their heart.

*Hymn 267

All Things Bright and Beautiful

ROYAL OAK

Call to Confession

Tyler Campbell

*Prayer of Confession

God of light, we confess that we live in the shadows of hypocrisy and self-righteousness. We honor you with our lips, but we have not served you in our hearts. We are satisfied with human traditions and norms and avoid your liberating truth. We have confused meekness with weakness, holiness with social conformity, and anger with righteousness. Forgive us, we pray. By the power of your word save us from the prison of our conceit so that we may serve you with sincere hearts; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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

*Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

*Assurance of Pardon

**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."

After "The Peace" at the 11:00 a.m. service, children, ages 4 - grade 1, are invited to Children's Church with Natalie Bishop held in the Children's Chapel in the Tinsley Stern building.

***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!

***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 327, Stanza 1
**O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
 O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky;
 we praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
 a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.**

First Lesson Psalm 51:1-3, 6-7 , page 509 Emily Lent
 This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Lesson Mark 7:1-23, page 919 Emma Atchley
 This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *Getting Dirty* The Rev. Will Norman

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn**

As a Chalice Cast of Gold

DIX

1. As a chal-ice cast of gold, bur-nished, bright and brimmed with wine,
 2. Save me from the sooth-ing sin of the emp - ty cul - tic deed
 3. When I bend up - pon my knees, clasp my hands, or bow my head,
 4. When I dance or chant your praise, when I sing a psalm or hymn,

make me, Lord, as fit to hold grace and truth and love di - vine.
 and the pi - ous, bab-ling din of the claimed but un - lived creed.
 let my spo - ken, pub - lic pleas be di - rect - ly, sim - ply said,
 when I preach your lov - ing ways, let my heart add its A - men.

Let my praise and wor - ship start with the cleans - ing of my heart.
 Let my ac - tions, Lord, ex - press what my tongue and lips pro - fess.
 free of tan - gled words that mask what my soul would plain - ly ask.
 Let each cher - ished out - ward rite thus re - flect your in - ward light.

***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.**

Next to the Nicene Creed, The Apostles' Creed is the most universally accepted doctrinal statement in Christendom. Although not written by apostles, it reflects the theological formulations of the first century church. Arising from an early baptismal creed, it underwent development, attaining its present form in the eighth century.

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 *Justice Will Roll Down* Sandra McCracken

Oh my love, you have grown so cold
 To the world outside, to the house next door
 She who has been loved much, has so much to give
 Mercy is the fragrance, of the broken

*Refrain: Justice will roll down, oh justice will roll down
 From high upon those mountains with a mighty river sound
 It will roll down / It will roll down*

Oh my child, I will be your light
 In your secret pain, in the dark of night
 No enemy, no conqueror, will steal your life from me
 I am your salvation, and your victory. *Refrain*
 Soon oh soon, when the trumpet sounds
 Every knee shall bend, every heart will pound
 I have made a new world, where the servant is the King
 Oppression will be over, and the slave set free

The Offertory will be sung by members of the PSC.

The text of Hymn 466 comes from an eighteen-stanza hymn Charles Wesley wrote to mark the first anniversary of his life-changing conversion experience. It is now customarily the first hymn in Methodist hymnals.

Following worship, all are invited for a time of fellowship in the Atrium.

Texts and music for hymns and sung responses reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-714861

***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** Emma Atchley

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

***Hymn 466** *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* AZMON

***Benediction**

***Congregational Response** Hymn 535

**Go with us, Lord, and guide the way
through this and every coming day,
that in your Spirit strong and true
our lives may be our gift to you.**

***Postlude** *Prelude and Fugue in G* attr. J. S. Bach

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*
The Rev. Will Norman, *Campus Minister,*
Presbyterian Student Center
Emma Atchley, *Liturgist*
Tyler Campbell, *Liturgist*

Acolytes

Jimmy Bishop and Lizzie Simmons

Call to Worship Liturgist

Jay Bangle

Lay Reader

Emily Lent

USHERS

8:45 a.m. Jim Dove (head),
Don Lowe, JoAnne Lowe

11:00 a.m. Richard Lane (head),
Stan Kays, Tom Lane, Jim London,
David Mendenhall, Marcia Talmadge

GREETERS

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

11:00 a.m. Kitty Lay, Jane Mann, Dan Nadenicek

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Rebecca Carlton

FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor and celebration of the first year anniversary of Dr. Ryan Baer serving as Senior Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, by the Pastor Nominating Committee.

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

BLOOD DRIVE UPDATE

Thank you all who volunteered for our Blood Drive. We have collected 27 units of blood towards our FPC Bicentennial goal of 31 units of blood, one for each founding member and former FPC Minister. If you were not able to attend the blood drive but would like to donate, please go to the Red Cross Donor Center (3533 Atlanta Highway, Athens). When donating, let the receptionist know you are donating on behalf of FPC and our drive will receive credit for your donation.

RIDE SHARE PROGRAM

The Congregational Care Commission wants to thank those who are participating in the Ride Share program, agreeing to provide transportation for a church member to attend church, make a doctor's appointment or go to the grocery store. There is a need of volunteers for church members who attend the early service on Sunday mornings. To learn more about becoming a Ride Share volunteer, please contact Judy Scanlon at judy.s.scanlon@gmail.com.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

We are providing a Lenten Devotional for our church family written by members and staff. Our theme is favorite hymns. Please share yours. For details, please contact Jennifer Poole at jsnp5462@gmail.com.

FAMILY PROMISE OF ATHENS

The next Family Promise of Athens host week is March 22 - 29. The sign-up poster is available in the Atrium. Please contact Susan Boatwright at boatwrightsusan@gmail.com or Frank Sherrill at frankwsherrill@gmail.com with questions.

NEW FPC T-SHIRTS FOR SALE!

In celebration of our church's 200th birthday, we are selling new t-shirts. Adult sizes are \$20 and child sizes are \$10. All proceeds benefit the Puerto Rico Mission Trip. Contact Kim Ness to purchase yours!

The Wayne F. Middendorf Concert Series

presents

Through the Church the Song Goes On

A musical celebration of the bicentennial of First Presbyterian Church.

**Led by the Chancel Choir with special guests, including
the Bulldog Brass Society and Dallas Bono, tenor**

Today, February 16, 4:00 p.m., Sanctuary

First Things for Newcomers

Sunday, February 23, 3:00-6:00 p.m.

First Things for Newcomers in Staff Conference Room (1st floor)

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, February 19 by emailing Lucy Bell Johnson (lbell@firstpresathens.org) or calling the church office.

Sunday, March 1, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

After attending First Things for Newcomers, 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 Sandy and Jim Boyles, 1021 Maple Court, Athens, 30606. Children are welcome!

Sunday, March 8, 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.

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.

- February 16: DVD series *The Other Side of History*.
- *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

Finishing the study of the book, *Holy Envy* by Barbara Brown Taylor and study of the book, *The Book of Job* by Donald Kraus.

Led by: Lewis Hudgins, Andrew Marshall

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 *John Calvin for the Armchair Theologian*, by Christopher Elwood.

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: 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: *What makes you unclean.*

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: *No youth group tonight due to Winter Mystery Retreat.*

Please keep our youth in your prayers as they participate in a retreat focused on justice and mercy. They spent Saturday in Montgomery, AL visiting Dexter Avenue Baptist Church, the Civil Rights Memorial Center, and the National Memorial for Peace and Justice. Now they are enjoying a day of rest and reflection at Pensacola Beach, FL before returning home tomorrow night.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 16, Campus Ministry Sunday

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Rev. Will Norman preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 12:00 p.m. Mission and Outreach Commission Meeting, Moses Waddel Room
- 4:00 p.m. Wayne F. Middendorf Concert Series,
Through the Church the Song Goes On, Sanctuary
- 5:00 p.m. Concert Reception, Atrium

Monday, February 17, Presidents' Day, Church Office Closed

Tuesday, February 18

- 7:00 a.m. Our Daily Bread Breakfast, First Baptist Church
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Brides Room

Wednesday, February 19

- 12:00 p.m. Weekday School Ballet, Atrium
- 12:30 p.m. Prayers for Healing, Sanctuary
- 12:45 p.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 2:00 p.m. Bridge, Room 302
- 4:30 p.m. Chair Yoga, Room 310
- 4:30 p.m. Shakespeare Class, *The Merchant of Venice*, Room 308
- 5:45 p.m. Wed@First Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Room 202
- 6:30 p.m. A conversation about the Book of Psalms, Dr. Baer, Moses Waddel Room

Thursday, February 20

- 2:00 p.m. Mellows, Highland Hills, 1660 Jennings Mill Road, Watkinsville
- 5:15 p.m. Education and Discipleship Commission Meeting, The PIT

Sunday, February 23

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching, First Things for Newcomers, Puerto Rico Mission Trip Meeting

LOOKING AHEAD

- February 25** - Prime Time Presbyterians Trip to Madison, First Friends, Family Promise of Athens La Table
- February 26** - Ash Wednesday, Service and Dinner
Bookless Book Group
- February 27** - Josephine Paine Bible Study Class
- March 1** - Communion Sunday, Food Sunday, First Things for Newcomers Tea
- March 4** - Our Daily Bread, Lunch
- March 5** - Family Promise of Athens Volunteer Training

Wed@First: Dinner and Conversation February 19, 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.** Please contact Rosemary Stancil (rstancil@charter.net) if you would like to help cook or clean up.

Conversation: 6:30-7:30 p.m led by Dr. Ryan Baer - *The Book of Psalms*

What is a psalm? Who wrote the psalms, and why? Why should we bother reading, praying, and singing the psalms today? Join us in the Moses Waddel room from 6:30-7:30 during Wed@First as Dr. Ryan Baer leads us in a conversation about the Book of Psalms.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION

Ryan Baer, Moderator Kitty Donnan, Clerk of Session
Carol Strickland, Associate Pastor

CLASS OF 2020	CLASS OF 2021	CLASS OF 2022
Jeff Bangle	Jennifer Walden Abbott	Karen Burg
Meghan Bawcum	Sandy Boyles	Kitty Donnan
Bob Burton	Michelle Clendenen-Shaw	Larry Jones
Julie Hayes	Elizabeth Earl	Andy Jordan
Sydney Jackson	Ed Ferguson	Jimbo LaBoon
Avery McLean	Rob Haire	Tom Landrum
Jeanne Nadenicek	Grace Lu	Beverly Phares
Carl Nichols	Chris Pope	Courtney Pittman
Tom Reigle	Mixon Robinson	Smith Wilson
Judy Scanlon	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*
Ms. Katherine Worsham, *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. Naina Amballa, *Website Technician*
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.