



# 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!*

April 19, 2020  
11:00 a.m. Livestream  
Second Sunday of Easter

## GATHERING IN THE NAME OF GOD

### Greeting

Psalm 118:24

This is the day the Lord has made; **let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

### Prelude

*HYFRYDOL*

Craig Phillips

### Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

### Song of Gathering

Hymn 104, stanza 1

**“Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!  
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.  
In the desert all-surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.  
Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.”**

### Call to Worship

With Mary, whose glad tidings signaled hope and summoned joy, we proclaim:

**We have seen the Lord!**

With the disciples, whom Jesus greeted with peace and freed from fear, we declare:

**We have seen the Lord!**

Behold! The risen Lord is in our midst!

**We have seen the Lord!**

### Hymn 151

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*

*DIADEMATA*

### Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

**Risen Lord, you have breathed the Spirit upon us, and sent us forth to testify to what we have heard and seen. Yet we resist this calling, huddling behind locked doors rather than stepping out with confidence. We yearn for more – more proof, more courage, more guidance, more faith – and forget that you have given us all we need: the gift of the Holy Spirit. Forgive us, we pray. Free us from fear and send us forth to proclaim: “We have seen the Lord!”**

### Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

### Assurance of Pardon

**A special word of welcome:** thank you for being with us online for worship this morning. We are delighted and hope that you will join us again next Sunday.

*Crown Him with Many Crowns* is so familiar that it is easy to miss all its paradox, mystery, suffering, and beauty; it rewards careful reading and meditation outside corporate worship. The tune's composer, chapel organist at Windsor Castle, had much experience in creating a royal sound.

## Congregational Response

Hymn 104, Stanza 2

**Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair,  
walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.  
Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend.  
Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.**

## 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.**

## HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

### Prayer for Illumination

**First Lesson** Psalm 40:1-5, page 502  
This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem** *Come Down, O Love Divine* Charles Beaudrot  
Come down, O Love divine, seek thou this soul of mine;  
O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear;  
O, kindle it, thy holy flame within.  
O, let it freely turn 'til earthly passions turn  
to dust and ashes in its flame;  
and let thy glorious light shine on me,  
and light my path and guide me through life's night.

**Second Lesson** Acts 1:1-11, page 993  
This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** *You Will Be My Witnesses* Dr. Carol Strickland

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

**Hymn 423** *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun* DUKE STREET

**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.**

### Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy  
kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the  
power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The anthem is a text by Bianco da Siena, c. 1367, translated by Richard Frederick Littledale in 1867, set to music by contemporary Atlanta composer Charles Beaudrot.

*Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun* is a classic example of how Isaac Watts Christianized the Psalms, in this case Psalm 72, by turning their messianic language to New Testament equivalents. The tune was first nameless and anonymous, but is now called by the address of the supposed composer.

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.

## Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

**Offertory**      *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing*      Paul Manz

### 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 144**      *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!*      HYFRYDOL

### Benediction

**Congregational Response**      Hymn 540, Stanza 1

**God be with you till we meet again;  
loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
with a shepherd's care enfold you:  
God be with you till we meet again.**

**Postlude**      HYFRYDOL      Ralph Vaughan Williams

Please mail your check to the church office or go to our website: [firstpresathens.org/home/giving](http://firstpresathens.org/home/giving)

The author regarded *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!* as a communion hymn, a theme that seems eclipsed by the attention to Christ's exaltation, but a helpful reminder that such hymns are not always quiet and meek. The text is sung to various tunes, but this rousing Welsh tune is a favorite choice.

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

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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*  
Kendall Marie Kookogey, *Soloist*

### SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Rebecca Carlton

### CONGREGATIONAL CARE

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **SEW IMPORTANT**

Help provide protective medical face masks. Volunteer to sew or donate supplies at Facebook group “Mask Making for Athens Area Healthcare Workers.”

### **BLOOD DONORS NEEDED**

Due to COVID-19 outbreak, hundreds of blood drives are being canceled, and Red Cross is experiencing a severe shortage of lifesaving blood. If you are able and would like to donate blood, please go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and schedule your appointment.

### **WEEK OF WONDER (VBS) 2020**

Due to these uncertain times that COVID-19 has brought about, this year’s Week of Wonder (VBS) has been cancelled. Stay tuned for more information about fun Sunday Summer Morning programming for our children! For more information, please contact Natalie Bishop at [natalie@firstpresathens.org](mailto:natalie@firstpresathens.org).

### **PUERTO RICO MISSION TRIP POSTPONED**

Due to the uncertainty of the coronavirus, we are postponing the Puerto Rico Mission Trip to next summer. We are grateful for all the support our church family has shown and hope to have a even bigger group join us next year! If you have questions, please contact Kim Ness at [kness@firstpresathens.org](mailto:kness@firstpresathens.org).

### **WOMEN’S MONTREAT CONFERENCE**

Join FPC women attending the Women’s Connection Conference August 14-16 in the beautiful NC mountains. Register on our website to stay with us at the Georgia Lodge and register for the conference itself at [montreat.org](http://montreat.org). The keynoter is popular author, speaker, blogger Jen Hatmaker. Contact Carol McKay at [carol\\_mckay@att.net](mailto:carol_mckay@att.net) with questions and Carol Strickland at [cstrickland@firstpresathens.org](mailto:cstrickland@firstpresathens.org) for scholarship help.

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## **Wed@First Online and Online Sunday School**

Please join us for Wed@First Online and Online Sunday School on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Sundays at 9:45 a.m. via Zoom. Zoom is a web-based audio and video conferencing tool that can be used through desktop computers, laptops and smartphones. Information on how to set up Zoom and join the conversation can be found on the website.

Shortly before the starting time of the event, please go to <https://zoom.us/j/7065434338>. The meeting ID is the main church number (7065434338) and the password is 185185.

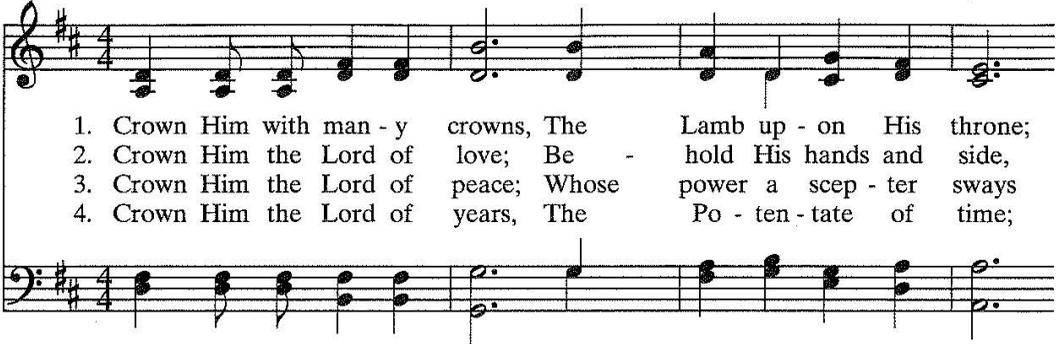
## Crown Him with Many Crowns

151

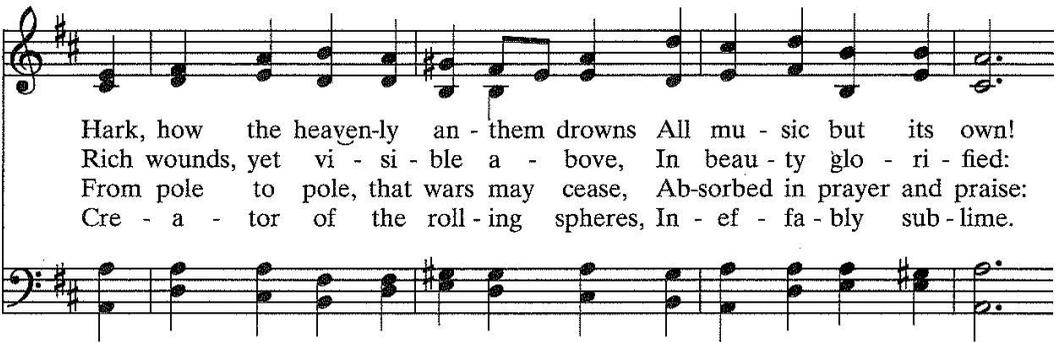
DIADEMATA SMD

Matthew Bridges, 1851

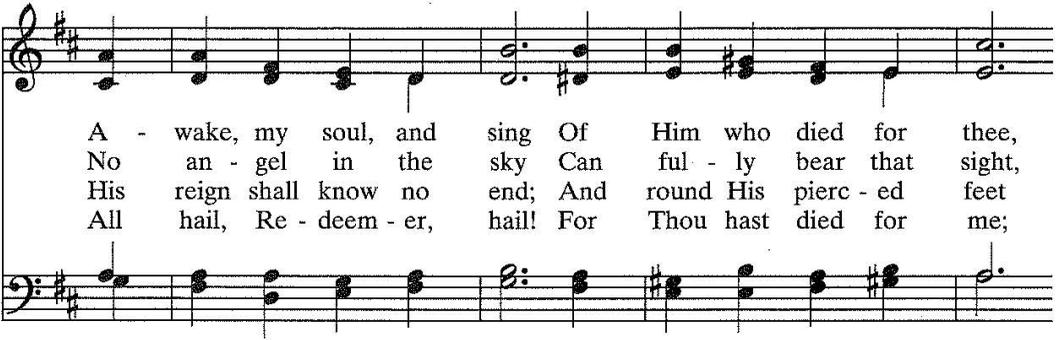
George Job Elvey, 1868



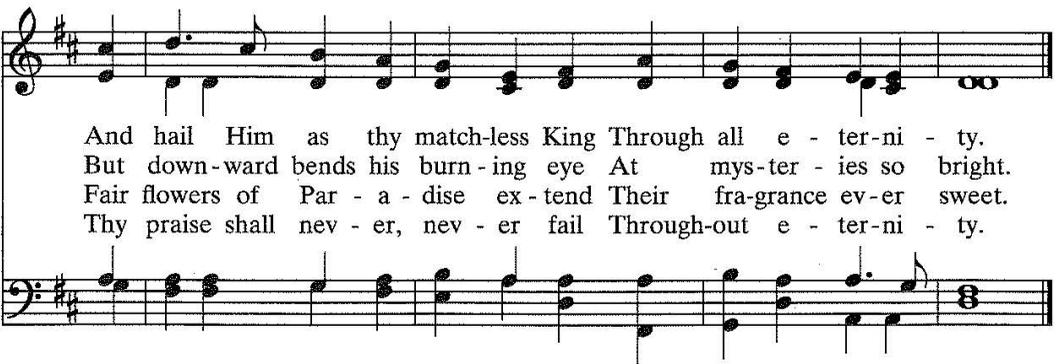
1. Crown Him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on His throne;  
 2. Crown Him the Lord of love; Be - hold His hands and side,  
 3. Crown Him the Lord of peace; Whose power a scep - ter sways  
 4. Crown Him the Lord of years, The Po - ten - tate of time;



Hark, how the heav - en - ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own!  
 Rich wounds, yet vi - si - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri - fied:  
 From pole to pole, that wars may cease, Ab - sorbed in prayer and praise:  
 Cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, In - ef - fa - bly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee,  
 No an - gel in the sky Can ful - ly bear that sight,  
 His reign shall know no end; And round His pier - ed feet  
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For Thou hast died for me;



And hail Him as thy match - less King Through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 But down - ward bends his burn - ing eye At mys - ter - ies so bright.  
 Fair flowers of Par - a - dise ex - tend Their fra - grance ev - er sweet.  
 Thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail Through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

# 423 Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

DUKE STREET LM

John Hatton (d. 1793)

Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.

Desc. David McKinley Williams, 1959

*Descant*

5. Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring Hon - ors pe -

1. Je - sus shall reign where - e'er the sun Does its suc -  
 2. To Him shall end - less prayer be made, And prais - es  
 3. Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue Dwell on His  
 4. Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er He reigns; The pris - oners

cu - liar to our King; An - gels de - scend with

ces - sive jour - neys run, His king - dom stretch from  
 throng to crown His head; His name, like sweet per -  
 love with sweet - est song, And in - fant voic - es  
 leap to lose their chains, The wea - ry find e -

songs a - gain, And earth re - peat the loud A - men!

shore to shore, Till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
 fume, shall rise With ev - ery morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
 shall pro - claim Their ear - ly bless - ings on His name.  
 ter - nal rest, And all who suf - fer want are blest.

5. Let every creature rise and bring  
 Honors peculiar to our King;

Angels descend with songs again,  
 And earth repeat the loud Amen!

*Music:* Descant © 1959 H. W. Gray Co., Inc. Copyright renewed H. W. Gray, Inc., a division of Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7 D

William Chatterton Dix, 1866

Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1831

1. Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus! His the scep - ter,  
 2. Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans Are we left in  
 3. Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of an - gels, Thou on earth our  
 4. Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Thee the Lord of

His the throne! Al - le - lu - ia! His the tri - umph,  
 sor - row now. Al - le - lu - ia! He is near us;  
 food, our stay. Al - le - lu - ia! Here the sin - ful  
 lords we own; Al - le - lu - ia! Born of Ma - ry,

His the vic - to - ry a - lone! Hark! the songs of peace - ful  
 Faith be - lieves nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -  
 Flee to Thee from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of  
 Earth Thy foot - stool, heaven Thy throne. Thou with - in the veil hast

Zi - on Thun - der like a might - y flood; Je - sus out of  
 ceived Him, When the for - ty days were o'er, Shall our hearts for -  
 sin - ners, Earth's Re - deem - er, plead for me, Where the songs of  
 en - tered, Robed in flesh, our great High Priest; Thou on earth both

ev - ery na - tion Hath re - deemed us by His blood.  
 get His prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more"?  
 all the sin - less Sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.  
 Priest and Vic - tim In the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.

## 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](http://FIRSTPRESATHENS.ORG)  
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.**