



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!

June 28, 2020
10:00 a.m. Livestream
Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

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

LOBE DEN HERREN

Johann Sebastian Bach

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Song of Gathering

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

From all that dwell below the skies

let the Creator's praise arise:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let the Redeemer's name be sung

through every land, in every tongue. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Call to Worship

Come, all you whose souls thirst for the living God.

We come in search of help and hope.

Come, you who are acquainted with grief or oppression.

We come bearing our doubts, our wounds, and our fears.

Come, you who are in need of good news.

We come in search of joy, truth, and light.

Come and find refuge in God your rock.

Let us again praise the One who is our help and our hope.

Hymn 482

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have sinned by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have sinned by what we have said, and by what we have left unsaid. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, to the glory of your holy name.

Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

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.

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty, a 17th-century German hymn, employs many phrases from the psalms, especially Psalm 150 and 103. It did not receive an effective English translation until the mid-19th century, but has remained popular ever since, thanks in part to its stirring tune.

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.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Romans 5:1-5

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

Solo

A Gaelic Meditation

Charles Callahan

Spirit seeking light and beauty, heart that longest for thy rest,
soul that asketh understanding, only thus can ye be blest.
Through the vastness of creation, though your restless thought may roam,
God is all that you can long for, God is all his creatures' home.
Taste and see him, feel and hear him, hope and grasp his unseen hand;
though the darkness seems to hide him, faith and love can understand.
God who lovest all thy creatures, all our hearts are known to thee;
lead us through the land of shadows to thy blest eternity.

Second Lesson

Psalm 42

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

Sermon

Hope Does Not Disappoint

Dr. Ryan Baer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn

Psalm 42

PROSPECT

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

... God, for your grace, **we give you thanks.**
... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our 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, (cont.)**

The text of the solo is a poem by Janet Stuart (1857-1914) set to a Gaelic folk tune by contemporary American composer Charles Callahan. This morning's singing is the premier of the piece, written by Callahan in April, 2020.

This setting of Psalm 42 is a paraphrase by Michael Morgan sung to a shape note tune using only five tones of the scale.

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.

After each thanksgiving and petition, please respond as indicated.

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.

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *FINLANDIA* Robert J. Powell

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 *Be Still, My Soul* FINLANDIA

Charge and 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 *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty* David Cherwien

You may mail your check, set up an automatic payment of your pledge through your bank, or donate online at firstpresathens.org/home/giving. Thank you for your generosity.

Be Still, My Soul is a meditative text rooted in Psalm 46, while also reaching forward to 1 Thessalonians 4:17. Much of the appeal of this hymn comes from its tune, named for the tone poem on which it is based.

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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

AUDIOVISUAL TECHNICIANS

Bryan Owens, Jack Palmer

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).

THIS WEEK

Sunday, June 28

10:00 a.m. Service Livestream on Facebook, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
11:15 a.m. Online Adult Sunday School via Zoom (last class of the semester)

Monday, June 29

5:00 p.m. Lay Callers Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday, June 30

10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting via Zoom
1:00 p.m. Athens Community Council on Aging Pickup & Delivery

Friday, July 3 - Church Office Closed

Sunday, July 5 - Communion Sunday, Food Sunday

10:00 a.m. Service Livestream on Facebook, Dr. Carol Strickland preaching
12:00 p.m. Fellowship & Evangelism Commission Meeting via Zoom

ANNOUNCEMENTS

21 DAY CHALLENGE

This month, our youth and families began a 21 Day Challenge, where we commit to spend intentional time learning about issues of race, power, and privilege. We'd like to invite the larger congregation to join us as well. For more information, please click the link on FPC website (firstpresathens.org) or our youth website (fpcathenspitt.com), where you will find resources and a pledge to sign. Let us continue to learn what it means to be a good neighbor.

At the end of the Challenge, please join us online for small group reflections. Sign the pledge at www.fpcathenspitt.com to receive Zoom log-in information.

PARENTS OF YOUTH: Sunday, June 28 at 7:00 p.m.

MS/HS YOUTH: Sunday, June 28 at 8:00 p.m.

PARENTS OF CHILDREN: Tuesday, July 14 at 8:00 p.m.

OTHER ADULTS: Tuesday, July 28 at 8:00 p.m.

May peace be with you. *Kim Ness*

SUMMER SCHEDULE

We began our summer schedule of one service at 10:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School will meet during the month of June via Zoom at 11:15 a.m.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

The church office will close at 2:00 p.m. on Friday afternoons through July 31. Our office hours are: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Friday. If you need assistance on Friday afternoons, please refer to the Church Life App to contact Dr. Baer.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE NEW FPC YOUTUBE CHANNEL!

As we work to improve our online worship experience, we recently launched our YouTube channel. If you don't have Facebook, this is a new way for you to follow worship live.

Please Subscribe to our Channel: click on the button on FPC website or search for "First Presbyterian Church of Athens GA" on YouTube and you will find us. If you have any questions, please contact Paulo Santos at paulo@firstpresathens.org.

Food Sunday

You may bring donations of **dry/powdered milk, sweet peas, and spaghetti sauces** to church 10:30 a.m. - noon on **Thursday, July 3**. Please bring food in plastic bags and put them in the open trunk. If it is more convenient, Oconee residents may leave them on Kitty Donnan's front porch anytime from **Monday, June 29 through Wednesday, July 1**.

Alternatively, you may take your donations directly to the Athens Area Emergency Food Bank between 9:00 a.m.-noon, Monday-Friday at 640 Barber Street, Athens, 30601 (don't confuse this with the Northeast Georgia Food Bank on Newton Bridge Rd). Please put food on loading dock at far end of building. The Food Bank will be **closed** on Friday, July 3.

Thanks for your donations in June - our neighbors in need are grateful.

Communion Sunday, July 5

Next Sunday, we will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (Communion). To participate, you'll need to have enough bread and wine on hand for everyone worshipping with you. Note that grape juice will also do, or if neither of those options are available or possible, any other bread product (crackers, etc.) and beverage that you have on hand will do in a pinch.

Recommendations for Elders

The Nominations and Elections Committee encourages your participation in the process for nominating Elders. Elders should be persons of faith, dedication, and good judgment. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian Gospel, both within the church and in the world at large.

Please e-mail your nominees to Megham Bawcum, Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee, at megghanbawcum@gmail.com, by July 19. You can also fill out the form in the website (www.firstpresathens.org).

Current Elders: *(Not eligible for recommendation)*

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 III
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	

I prayerfully recommend the following for Elder:

Name _____	Reasons _____	

Name _____	Reasons _____	

Name _____	Reasons _____	

Name _____	Reasons _____	

Name _____	Reasons _____	

Members of the Nominations and Elections Committee are Meghan Bawcum (Chair), Jennifer Walden Abbott (Vice-Chair), Patty Reid, Jerry Rogers, Arlene Shirley, and Chuck Toney.

Descant

3. Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

1. Praise ye the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2. Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so won - drous - ly
 3. Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

dore Him! All that hath life and breath, come now with
 a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy
 reign - eth, Shel - ters thee un - der His wings, yea, so
 dore Him! All that hath life and breath, come now with

prais - es be - fore Him! Let the a - men Sound from His
 health and sal - va - tion! All ye who hear, Now to His
 gen - tly sus - tain - eth! Hast thou not seen How thy de -
 prais - es be - fore Him! Let the a - men Sound from His

peo - ple a - gain; Glad - ly for aye we a - dore Him.

tem - ple draw near; Join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sires e'er have been Grant - ed in what He or - dain - eth?
 peo - ple a - gain; Glad - ly for aye we a - dore Him.

Psalm 42



1. Cool streams a breath - less deer de - sires. So longs my
2. "Where is your God?" they ask of me, when tears have
3. Deep calls to deep, and o - ceans roar, their thun - der
4. Why grieves my soul and stirs my heart when shal - low



soul for you, my Lord; I thirst to see your
been my on - ly food; how long, O Lord, till
my de - struc - tion brings; yet stead - fast love_ my
threats of death as - sail? My hope, my rock, my



face, O God, my heart, your dwell - ing place a - dored.
doubts dis - pel my tat - tered mem' - ries of your good?
hope sus - tains, my tongue di - vine as - sur - ance sings.
sure de - fense re - mains the God of Is - ra - el.

TEXT: Michael Morgan, 2010

MUSIC: Walker's Southern Harmony, 1835

Be Still, My Soul

1 Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side. Bear pa-tient-ly the
 2 Be still, my soul: thy God doth un-der-take to guide the fu-ture
 3 Be still, my soul: the hour is has-tening on when we shall be for-

cross of grief or pain. Leave to thy God to or-der and pro- vide,
 sure-ly as the past. Thy hope, thy con-fi-dence let noth-ing shake;
 ev-er with the Lord; when dis-ap-point-ment, grief, and fear are gone,

who through all chang-es faith-ful will re-main. Be still, my soul: thy
 all now mys-te-rious shall be bright at last. Be still, my soul: the
 sor-ow for-got, love's pur-est joys re-stored. Be still, my soul: when

best, thy heaven-ly Friend through thorn-y ways leads to a joy-ful end.
 waves and winds still know his voice who ruled them while he dwelt be-low.
 change and tears are past all safe and bless-ed we shall meet at last.

TEXT: Katharina von Schlegel, 1752; trans. Jane Laurie Borthwick, 1855, alt.
MUSIC: Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr. The Hymnal, 1933, alt.