



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!

July 5, 2020
10:00 a.m. Livestream
Fifth 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

O God, Beyond All Praising

Charles Callahan

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Song of Gathering

LLANFAIR

Praise the Lord, God's glories show, Alleluia!

Saints within God's courts below, Alleluia!

Angels round the throne above, Alleluia!

All that see and share God's love. Alleluia!

Call to Worship

Who will save us from the ways of death?

Romans 7:24-25

Jesus Christ our Lord; thanks be to God!

God's grace is sufficient for us;

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

in Christ, the weak are made strong.

Weeping may linger for the night,

Psalm 30:5

but joy comes with the morning.

Hymn 457

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

TOULON

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.**

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.

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.

The original French text of *I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art*, sometimes attributed to John Calvin, seems to be a Protestant reworking of a Roman Catholic hymn, not a typical practice for Calvin. The text and tune (adapted from GENEVAN 124) clearly date from the early years of the Reformed tradition.

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

I John 1:5-9

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

Second Lesson

Psalm 51

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

Sermon

Confession

Dr. Carol Strickland

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn 347

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

DETROIT

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.**

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Solo

There's A Wideness in God's Mercy

Calvin Hampton

There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in his justice which is more than liberty.

There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good;
there is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.

There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven;
there is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgement given.

There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed;
there is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head.

For the love of God is broader than the measure of the mind;
and the heart of the eternal is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more faithful, we should take him at his word;
and our life would be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.

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

Few petitions of the Lord's Prayer are as difficult to pray as *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive*, and we would not dare to pray it if we had to depend on ourselves rather than the example of forgiveness we are given in Jesus Christ. The shape note tune sets these words with appropriate sparseness.

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.

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.

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The 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....

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.

Breaking of the Bread and Giving of the Cup

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

Hymn 564 *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies* MATERNA

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 *The Rejoicing from Fireworks Music* G. F. Handel

The text *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies* inspired by the vista from Pike's Peak and by a visit to Chicago's World Exposition) and tune (named MATERNA because it was composed for "O Mother, Dear Jerusalem") were joined in 1912. The combination provide immensely popular during World War I and afterwards.

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

NOTES ON THE SERVICE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Dr. Carol Strickland, *Associate Pastor*
The Rev. Margaret Davis, *Parish Associate*
Dr. John Coble, *Director of Music and Organist*
John Tsao, *Soloist*
Meghan Bawcum, *Cellist*

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).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BICENTENNIAL 2020

The dedication of the Moses Waddel headstone marker, scheduled for Tuesday, July 21, 2020 at Oconee Hill Cemetery, is **postponed** to a later date.

21 DAY CHALLENGE

Last 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 (fpcathenspit.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.fpcathenspit.com to receive Zoom log-in information.

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

During the summer, we have one service broadcast live via Facebook and YouTube at 10:00 a.m. Sunday school is on break.

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.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, July 5 - Communion Sunday, Food Sunday

10:00 a.m. Service Livestream on Facebook, Dr. Carol Strickland preaching
7:00 p.m. Youth Check in (Middle School)
8:00 p.m. Youth Check in (High School)

Tuesday, July 7

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

Thursday, July 9

9:30 a.m. Congregational Care Commission Meeting via Zoom
6:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting via Zoom

Sunday, July 12

10:00 a.m. Service Livestream on Facebook, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching

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 recommendations to Megham Bawcum, Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee, at meghanbawcum@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 _____

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

457 I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

TOULON 10.10.10

Attr. John Calvin

French Psalter, Strassburg, 1545

Trans. Elizabeth Lee Smith, 1868

Adapt. from Genevan 124

Genevan Psalter, 1551

1. I greet Thee, who my sure Re - deem - er art,
 2. Thou art the King of mer - cy and of grace,
 3. Thou art the life, by which a - lone we live,
 4. Thou hast the true and per - fect gen - tle - ness,

My on - ly trust and Sav - ior of my heart,
 Reign - ing om - nip - o - tent in ev - ery place:
 And all our sub - stance and our strength re - ceive;
 No harsh - ness hast Thou and no bit - ter - ness:

Who pain didst un - der - go for my poor sake;
 So come, O King, and our whole be - ing sway;
 Sus - tain us by Thy faith and by Thy power,
 O grant to us the grace we find in Thee,

I pray Thee from our hearts all cares to take.
 Shine on us with the light of Thy pure day.
 And give us strength in ev - ery try - ing hour.
 That we may dwell in per - fect u - ni - ty.

5. Our hope is in no other save in Thee;
 Our faith is built upon Thy promise free;
 Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure,
 That in Thy strength we evermore endure.

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

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DETROIT CM

Rosamond E. Herklots, 1969, 1983

Supplement to Kentucky Harmony, 1820
Harm. Margaret W. Mealy (b. 1922)

Dm Gm Dm F Am Dm

1. "For - give our sins as we for - give," You taught us, Lord, to pray,
2. How can Your par - don reach and bless The un - for - giv - ing heart
3. In blaz - ing light Your cross re - veals The truth we dim - ly knew:
4. Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls And bid re - sent - ment cease.

B \flat Am F Gm Am Dm

But You a - lone can grant us grace To live the words we say.
That broods on wrongs and will not let Old bit - ter - ness de - part?
What triv - ial debts are owed to us, How great our debt to You!
Then, bound to all in bonds of love, Our lives will spread Your peace.

Text: By permission of Oxford University Press.

564 O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

MATERNA CMD

Katharine Lee Bates, 1893

Samuel Augustus Ward, 1882

1. O beau-ti-ful for spa-cious skies, For am-ber waves of grain,
 2. O beau-ti-ful for pil-grim feet, Whose stern, im-pas-sioned stress
 3. O beau-ti-ful for he-ros proved In lib-er-at-ing strife,
 4. O beau-ti-ful for pa-triot dream That sees be-yond the years

For pur-ple moun-tain maj-es-ties A-bove the fruit-ed plain!
 A thor-ough-fare for free-dom beat A-cross the wil-der-ness!
 Who more than self their coun-try loved, And mer-cy more than life!
 Thine al-a-bas-ter cit-ies gleam, Un-dimmed by hu-man tears!

A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God shed His grace on thee,
 A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God mend thine ev-ery flaw,
 A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! May God thy gold re-fine
 A-mer-i-ca! A-mer-i-ca! God shed His grace on thee

And crown thy good with *broth-er-hood From sea to shin-ing sea!
 Con-firm thy soul in self-con-trol, Thy lib-er-ty in law!
 Till all suc-cess be no-ble-ness And ev-ery gain di-vine!
 And crown thy good with *broth-er-hood From sea to shin-ing sea!

*Or "servanthood."