



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 19, 2020
10:00 a.m. Livestream
Seventh 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 *Grave and Adagio* from *Sonata II* Felix Mendelssohn

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
We have come to worship the living God,
who knit us together when we were yet unnamed.
We have come to worship the almighty God,
who searches us and knows our hearts.
We have come to worship the eternal God,
who seeks us wherever we are and shepherds us with a guiding hand.

Hymn 487 *When Morning Gilds the Skies* LAUDES DOMINI

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession
O Lord, you have searched us and known us. You know when we cultivate kindness and our lives bear fruit that blesses the world. You know, too, when our words sow seeds of discord and our actions choke out generosity and grace. As we wait with eager longing for your reign to be revealed in our midst, plant within us gifts of love and mercy, so that we might live as children of the kingdom and bear fruit that enriches your harvest.

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.

For focus of *When Morning Gilds the Skies* is praise to Jesus Christ, and it is essentially a hymn of praise, not just a morning hymn. The original text had 14 stanzas, and hymnal editors make different choirs, which creates slightly different versions. The tune was composed for this text.

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

Philippians 4:4-9

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

Solo

I Will Sing of Thy Great Mercies

Felix Mendelssohn

I will sing of thy great mercies, O Lord, my Savior.
I will sing of thy great mercies, O Lord,
and of thy faithfulness evermore.

Second Lesson

Psalm 77

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

Sermon

Holy Remembering

Dr. Ryan Baer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn 272

God of the Sparrow

ROEDER

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 solo is from Mendelssohn's oratorio *St. Paul*. The text is from Psalm 89.

Though lack of punctuation makes *God of the Sparrow* appear freeform and the flowing tune enhances a sense of movement, each stanza is firmly anchored by a final weighty word (praise, save, thanks, life, peace, home), a sign of God's eternal presence in an ever-changing world.

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 *When We Are in Deepest Need* Johann Sebastian Bach

Doxology

**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.**

Hymn 592

Prayer of Dedication

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

Hymn 145 *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!* MARION

Charge and Benediction

Congregational Response

**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.**

Hymn 540, Stanza 1

Postlude

Fugue

Felix Mendelssohn

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.

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart! was written for a Diocesan Festival in Peterborough Cathedral in 1865. The original had 11 stanzas, necessary to get the large procession in. The hymn is based on Psalm 20:4, Psalm 147:1, and Philippians 4:4.

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

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, July 19

10:00 a.m. Service Livestream on Facebook and YouTube, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
4:00 p.m. Mission & Outreach Commission Meeting via Zoom
8:00 p.m. Youth - Family Game Night: The Quarantined Family Game

Tuesday, July 21

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

Thursday, July 23

9:00 a.m. Program Staff Meeting via Zoom

Sunday, July 26

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

To subscribe to our channel, click on the button on the 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.

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.

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 the 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.

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

May peace be with you. *Kim Ness*

Prayer Service, Wednesday August 5

Please join us on Facebook on **August 5** at noon for a Prayer Service. This will be an opportunity to lift up our concerns about social issues, the pandemic, the economy, and any other concern, as a community of faith. We will livestream on Facebook and YouTube, where you can comment with your prayer requests.

Stephen Ministry

In recent months our lives have been turned upside down by the COVID-19. The degree of this negative impact varies from person to person. Do you have a friend, neighbor, co-worker or relative who has been struggling with life changes due to the virus, loss of a loved one, loneliness, cancer, a layoff, relocation, divorce, a spiritual crisis, recuperation, single parenthood, or any of countless other life changes? Our Stephen Ministers can provide them with the focused care, encouragement, and support they need to make it through the crisis. If anyone you know is hurting, talk with one of our Stephen Leaders.

They can talk with you about how we can connect the person you know with one of our Stephen Ministers. It's a great way for you to show how much you care. First Presbyterian Stephen Ministers are ready to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care. Male Stephen Ministers are always matched with men, and female Stephen Ministers are matched with women. Our Stephen Ministry team works with church members and non-members. If you or someone you know is struggling, find out more about Stephen Ministry by talking with one of our Stephen Leaders.

Bob Frisch: rpfisch@aol.com, 914-262-1078

Dawn Frisch: dawnmfrisch@aol.com, 914-255-3447

Lisa Oelke: lisakoelke@gmail.com, 706-540-4251

Carol Strickland: cstrickland@firstpresathens.org, 706-765-7671

Our Stephen Ministers are here to care!

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 **today, 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	Michelle Clendenen-Shaw	Kitty Donnan
Bob Burton	Elizabeth Earl	Larry Jones
Julie Hayes	Ed Ferguson	Andy Jordan
Sydney Jackson	Rob Haire	Jimbo Laboon III
Avery McLean	Grace Lu	Tom Landrum
Jeanne Nadenicek	Chris Pope	Beverly Phares
Carl Nichols	Mixon Robinson	Courtney Pittman
Tom Reigle	Rosemary Stancil	Smith Wilson
Judy Scanlon		

I prayerfully recommend the following for Elder:

Name _____	Reasons	_____

Name _____	Reasons	_____

Name _____	Reasons	_____

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.

When Morning Gilds the Skies

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LAUDES DOMINI 6.6.6 D

German hymn, c. 1800

Trans. Edward Caswall, 1853, 1858; alt.

Joseph Barnby, 1868

1. When morn - ing gilds the skies, My heart a - wak - ing cries:
 2. Does sad - ness fill my mind? A sol - ace here I find:
 3. Let earth's wide cir - cle round In joy - ful notes re - sound:
 4. Be this, while life is mine, My can - ti - cle di - vine:

May Je - sus Christ be praised! A - like at work and prayer
 May Je - sus Christ be praised! Or fades my earth - ly bliss?
 May Je - sus Christ be praised! Let air and sea and sky
 May Je - sus Christ be praised! Be this the e - ter - nal song

To Je - sus I re - pair: May Je - sus Christ be praised!
 My com - fort still is this: May Je - sus Christ be praised!
 From depth to height re - ply: May Je - sus Christ be praised!
 Through all the a - ges long: May Je - sus Christ be praised!

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God of the Sparrow

ROEDER 5.4.6.7.7

Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1983

Carl F. Schalk, 1983

1. God of the spar - row God of the whale
 3. God of the rain - bow God of the cross
 5. God of the neigh - bor God of the foe

God of the swirl - ing stars How does the crea-ture say
 God of the emp - ty grave How does the crea-ture say
 God of the prun - ing hook How does the crea-ture say

Awe How does the crea-ture say Praise
 Grace How does the crea-ture say Thanks
 Love How does the crea-ture say Peace

Descant on stanzas 2, 4, 6

2. God of the earth-quake God of the storm God of the trum - pet
 4. God of the hun - gry God of the sick God of the prod - i -
 6. God of the a - ges God near at hand God of the lov - ing

blast How does the crea-ture cry Woe
 gal How does the crea-ture say Care
 heart How do your chil-dren say Joy

How does the crea-ture cry Save How do your chil-dren say Home
 How does the crea-ture say Life

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

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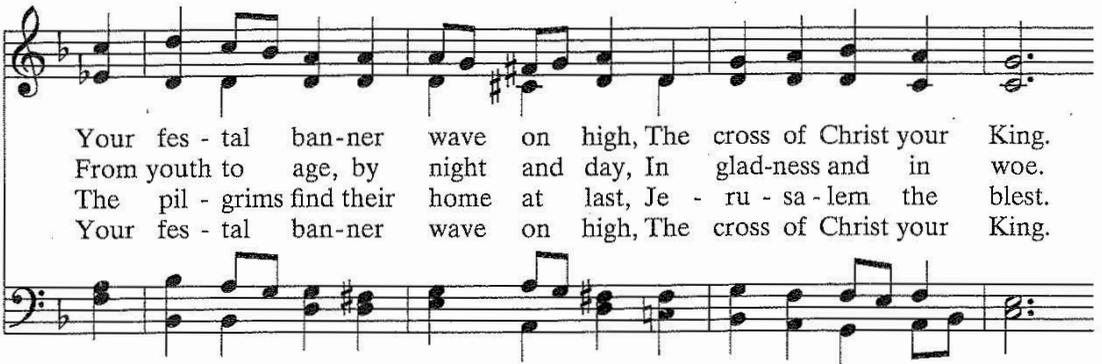
MARION SM with refrain

Edward Hayes Plumptre, 1865

Arthur Henry Messiter, 1883



1. Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!
2. Yes, on through life's long path, Still chant-ing as ye go;
3. At last the march shall end; The wea - ried ones shall rest;
4. Then on, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!



Your fes - tal ban-ner wave on high, The cross of Christ your King.
From youth to age, by night and day, In glad-ness and in woe.
The pil - grims find their home at last, Je - ru - sa - lem the blest.
Your fes - tal ban-ner wave on high, The cross of Christ your King.

Refrain



Re - joice! re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!
Re - joice! re - joice!