



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!

August 2, 2020
10:00 a.m. Livestream
Ninth 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

Processional in D

David N. Johnson

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Song of Gathering

LLANFAIR

**Come, behold! The feast of heaven Alleluia!
has to mortal flesh been given. Alleluia!
Hear the Word of God declared: Alleluia!
“Come! the banquet is prepared.” Alleluia!**

Call to Worship

All who hunger gather here gladly.

We come to feast on the life-giving Word.

Here, love abounds and grace overflows.

Here, blessings multiply as gifts are shared.

Come, let us pour ourselves out in prayer and praise,
and open ourselves to renewal and rest.

Hymn 478

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

LAUDE ANIMA

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of abundance, in your hands meager offerings become bread to feed a multitude. Your mercy overflows to deserted landscapes with hope and grace. In you there is always more than enough. But too often, we see only scarcity: too few resources to share, too little energy to respond. Too often, we turn from those who suffer, rather than offering compassion and care. Forgive and transform us, we pray. Open our hands and our hearts to share freely and graciously.

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.

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven, a free paraphrase of Psalm 103, gains much energy and conviction by including the double “Alleluia!” before the final line of text. That repeated four-note figure descending from the tune’s highest note gives voice to the praise that the rest of the hymn evokes.

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

Matthew 4:1-11

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

Second Lesson

Psalms 91

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

Sermon

The Shelter of the Most High

Dr. Ryan Baer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn 510

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

QUEBEC

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

On Eagle's Wings

Michael Joncas

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in his shadow for life,
say to the Lord: "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

*Refrain: And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.*

The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
and famine will bring you no fear:

under his wings your refuge, his faithfulness your shield. *Refrain*

You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day,
though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come. *Refrain*

For to his angels he's given a command to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. *Refrain*

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts is a 19th-century translation of stanzas of a much longer Latin poem. It is so well shaped that it sounds like an original meditation on the Lord's Supper. The North American tune name seems not to have originated with the English 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.

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.

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

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...

“...and so, with all the company of heaven and earth we praise your holy name singing:”

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

“...Great is the mystery of faith:”

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en,
Christ will come a - gain.

“...all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, forever and ever.”

A - men, a - men, a - men.

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 16

... and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. . .

The musical setting of the communion liturgy is based on the American folk hymn LAND OF REST, arranged by American composer Richard Proulx

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past is a paraphrase of Psalm 90 written by Isaac Watts. Since the middle of the 19th century, it has usually been joined to this tune, named for the London parish where the composer was organist.

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

Breaking of the Bread and Giving of the Cup
Communion of the People
Prayer after Communion

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

Hymn 210 *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past* ST. ANNE

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 *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past* David M. Cherwien

NOTES ON THE SERVICE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Dr. Ryan Baer, *Senior Pastor*
Dr. Carol Strickland, *Associate Pastor*
Dr. John Coble, *Director of Music and Organist*
John Tsao, *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, August 2 - Communion Sunday, Food Sunday

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

Tuesday, August 4

10:00 a.m. American Red Cross Blood Drive, Fellowship Hall
10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting via Zoom
1:00 p.m. Athens Community Council on Aging Pickup & Delivery

Wednesday, August 5

10:00 a.m. Our Daily Bread, First Baptist Church
12:00 p.m. Prayer Service Livestream on Facebook and YouTube

Sunday, August 9

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIVING ALONE?

If you would like to have a fellow member who also lives alone check in with you daily, let us know. We can assign you a buddy who will text or call you each morning to see if you are okay. Especially during this time of social isolation, this can be an important safety measure. If you wish to participate, contact Bill Patterson by August 15 at 970-216-7052 or e-mail wmspatt@gmail.com.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE @FPC

Due to COVID-19 outbreak, hundreds of blood drives are being canceled, and Red Cross is experiencing a severe shortage of lifesaving blood. They are organizing blood drives which will happen in our Fellowship Hall on **August 4**. If you are able and would like to donate, please go to redcrossblood.org and schedule your appointment.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

The church office will close at 2:00 p.m. on Friday afternoons through August 28. Our office hours are: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Friday.

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.

Prayer Service, Wednesday August 5

Please join us on Facebook and YouTube 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.

Love One Another As I Have Loved You . . .

In John 15:12, Jesus says, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." Loving and caring for one another is not just the pastor's job --- it's something Jesus calls us all to do! **Stephen Ministry** is a ministry in which people with special gifts for caring can put those gifts to use in an organized way, bringing Jesus' love and care to those who most need it.

If you know of someone who is going through a difficult time, contact one of our Stephen Leaders about Stephen Ministry. First Presbyterian Stephen Ministers are ready to provide focused, confidential, one-to-one Christian care to help that person experience the healing power of Christ's love.

Stephen Ministers connect weekly with their care receivers. The caring relationship lasts for as long as the person needs care. Men are matched with male Stephen Ministers, and women are matched with female Stephen Ministers.

It's a great way to share Jesus' love!

To find out more about Stephen Ministry for you or someone you know, talk with one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders:

Bob Frisch: rpfrisch@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

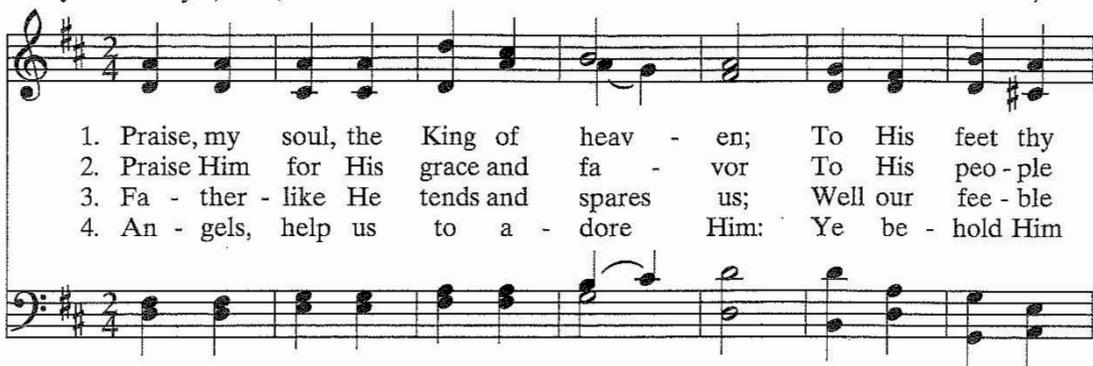
Our Stephen Ministers are here to care!

478 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

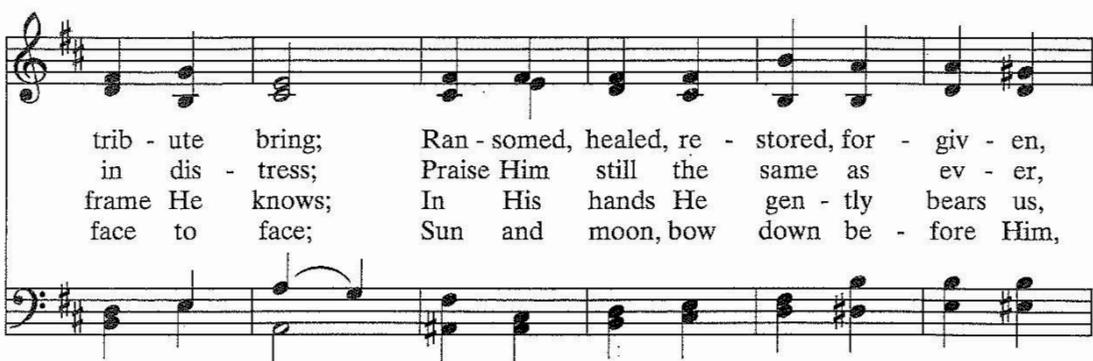
LAUDA ANIMA 8.7.8.7.8.7

Henry Francis Lyte, 1834; alt.

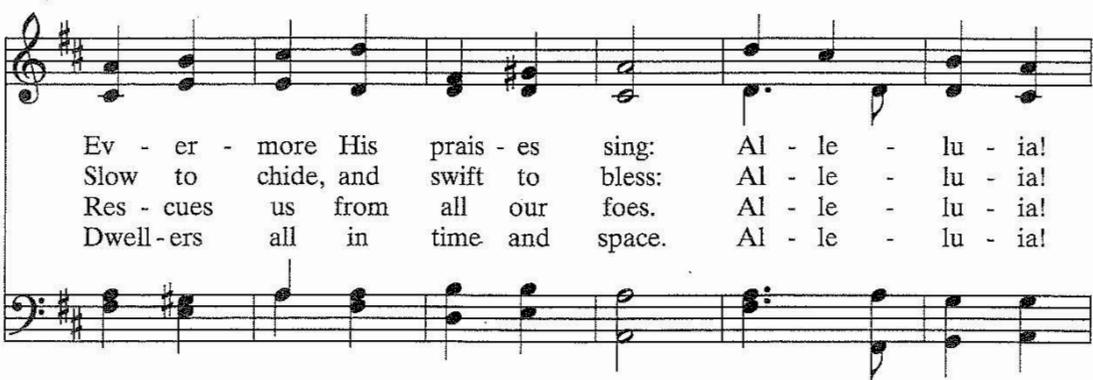
John Goss, 1869



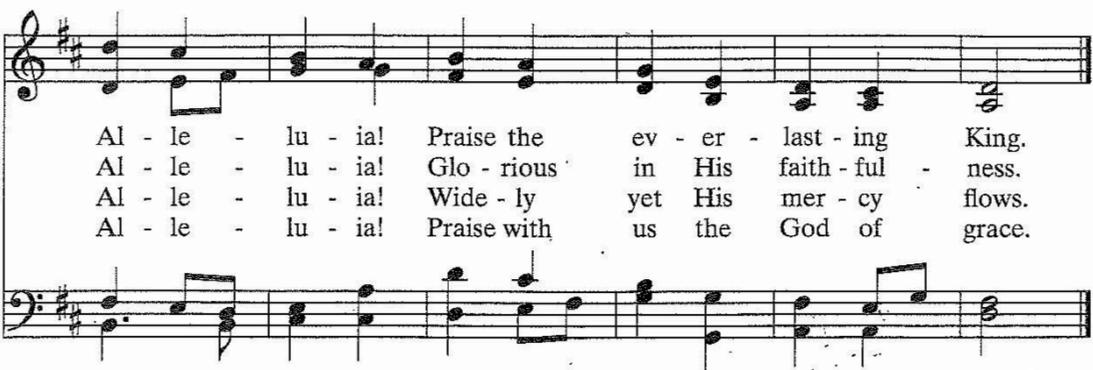
1. Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; To His feet thy
 2. Praise Him for His grace and fa - vor To His peo - ple
 3. Fa - ther - like He tends and spares us; Well our fee - ble
 4. An - gels, help us to a - dore Him: Ye be - hold Him



trib - ute bring; Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
 in dis - tress; Praise Him still the same as ev - er,
 frame He knows; In His hands He gen - tly bears us,
 face to face; Sun and moon, bow down be - fore Him,



Ev - er - more His prais - es sing: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Slow to chide, and swift to bless: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Res - cues us from all our foes. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Dwell - ers all in time and space. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in His faith - ful - ness.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet His mer - cy flows.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

510

Attr. Bernard of Clairvaux (1091-1153)

QUEBEC LM

Trans. Ray Palmer, 1858; alt.

Henry Baker, 1854

1. Je - sus, Thou joy of lov - ing hearts, Thou fount of
 2. Thy truth un - changed hath ev - er stood; Thou sav - est
 3. We taste Thee, O Thou liv - ing bread, And long to
 4. Our rest - less spir - its yearn for Thee, Wher-e'er our

life, Thou light of all, From the best bliss that
 those that on Thee call; To them that seek Thee
 feast up - on Thee still; We drink of Thee, the
 change - ful lot is cast, Glad when Thy gra - cious

earth im - parts We turn, un - filled, to heed Thy call.
 Thou art good, To them that find Thee, all in all.
 foun - tain - head, And thirst our souls from Thee to fill.
 smile we see, Blest when our faith can hold Thee fast.

5. O Jesus, ever with us stay,
 Make all our moments calm and bright;

O chase the night of sin away,
 Shed o'er the world Thy holy light.

Alternate tune: JESU DULCIS MEMORIA, 511

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

210

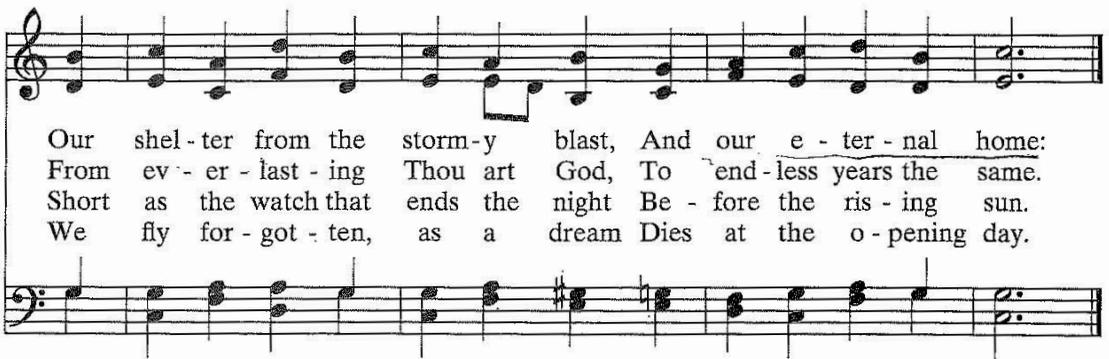
ST. ANNE CM

Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

Attr. William Croft, 1708



1. Our God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
 2. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, Or earth re - ceived its frame,
 3. A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone;
 4. Time, like an ev - er roll - ing stream, Soon bears us all a - way;



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
 From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.
 Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.
 We fly for - got - ten, as a dream Dies at the o - pening day.

5. Our God, our help in ages past,
 Our hope for years to come,
 Be Thou our guard while life shall last,
 And our eternal home.