



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!

September 6, 2020
10:00 a.m. Livestream
Fourteenth 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

Prelude from the *Te Deum*

Marc-Antoine Charpentier

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Song of Gathering

Hymn 489, stanza 1

**Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there,
where my soul in joyful duty waits for God who answers prayer;
O how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light, and grace.**

Call to Worship

Jesus says, "Where two or more are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Christ is here.

Calling us to the water, beckoning us to the feast,

Christ is here.

Speaking to our souls, listening to our prayers,

Christ is here.

Binding us as one body, sending us out in service,

Christ is here.

Jesus says, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Christ is here. Let us worship God.

Hymn 481

Praise the Lord, God's Glories Show

LLANFAIR

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Forgiving God, you teach us to seek reconciliation with those who have wronged us; for, above all else, we are to love one another. But we let resentment smolder until anger flares, destroying any chance of peace. We blame others and refuse to repent. Grant us grace, we pray. Make space in our wounded hearts for the possibility of forgiveness, and teach us to turn toward others in love as you have turned toward us.

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.

Our guest trumpeter is Dr. Tyler Jones. Tyler recently completed a DMA in Music Performance at the University of Georgia Hugh Hodgson School of Music.

Originally cast as two eight-line stanzas, *Praise the Lord, God's Glories Show*, a 19th-century paraphrase of Psalm 150, was slightly shortened when it was set to the present tune with recurring Alleluias. The Welsh tune is actually older than the text and bears a name meaning "the church of St. Mary."

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

Luke 19:37-40

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

Second Lesson

Psalm 150

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

Sermon

Created for Doxology

Dr. Ryan Baer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn 229

From All That Dwell Below the Skies

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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

O Praise Ye the Lord

C.H.H. Parry

arr. Mark Schweizer and Richard Shephard

O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height;
rejoice in his word, ye angels of light;
ye heavens, adore him by whom ye were made,
and worship before him in brightness arrayed.
O praise ye the Lord! All things that give sound;
each jubilant chord re-echo around;
loud organs, his glory forth tell in deep tone,
and sweet harp, the story of what he hath done.
O praise ye the Lord and sing a new song,
amid all his saints his praises prolong;
the praise of their Maker his people shall sing,
and children of Zion rejoice in their King.
O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
to him be outpoured all ages along;
for love in creation, for heaven restored;
for grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord. Amen.

Because Psalm 117 contains only two verses, Isaac Watts' paraphrase had only two stanzas. Most later hymnals have created or borrowed additional stanzas. Stanza 2 of *From All That Dwell Below the Skies* is from *A Pocket Hymn Book* (1781).

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.

The offertory is based on a tune found at the end of an extended anthem by the composer. The text is by Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877). Used by permission, SJMP no. 1941.

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

Breaking of the Bread and Giving of the Cup

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

I Come with Joy affirms that Christian unity is not achievement but gift, renewed each time we gather for the Lord's Supper. Each of us enters as an "I" and leaves as part of "we."

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

Hymn 507	<i>I Come with Joy</i>	DOVE OF PEACE
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	<i>Rondeau</i>	Jean Joseph Mouret

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*
Dr. Tyler Jones, *Trumpeter*

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Rebecca Carlton

AUDIOVISUAL TECHNICIANS

Bryan Owens, Jack Palmer

FLOWERS

The flowers in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Kinsey Lee Clark and Joseph Andrew Harrison.

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, September 6 - Communion Sunday

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

Monday, September 7 - Labor Day, Church Office Closed

Tuesday, September 8

1:00 p.m. Athens Community Council on Aging Pickup & Delivery
6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Meeting via Zoom

Wednesday, September 9

1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting via Zoom

Thursday, September 10

6:00 p.m. Stated Session Meeting via Zoom

Sunday, September 13 - 20 - Family Promise of Athens Host Week, Athens Church of Christ

Sunday, September 13

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATHENS COMMUNITY COUNCIL ON AGING

Would you like to help deliver food for those who are homebound? Athens Community Council on Aging is requesting help from First Presbyterian on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. You will load multiple bags of groceries into your vehicle at the Cotton Press at 149 Oneta St. and unload them at the Columbia Brookside office. The route takes no more than 1 hour. There is very little contact, and masks are worn for each pickup and delivery. A large SUV or truck is helpful. If you are interested, contact Sally Vandiver at sally.vandiver@gmail.com and she will put you on the schedule.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

The church office will close at 2:00 p.m. on Friday afternoons through September 25. Our office hours are: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Friday.

FLOWER DEDICATIONS

The following dates are available to dedicate flowers for Sunday worship: September 13, October 18, November 1 and 15. The cost for the two arrangements is \$100. Please contact Lucy Bell Johnson, lbell@firstpresathens.org or (706) 543-4338 to schedule a date.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE NEW FPC YOUTUBE CHANNEL!

As we work to improve our online worship experience, we have launched our YouTube channel. If you don't have Facebook, this is another 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.

Volunteers Needed! Family Promise Host Week, September 13-20

The Family Promise Host Week for FPC is this week (September 13-20) and we need you. For the past months Athens Church of Christ has served as "home" for the homeless families being served by Family Promise. Congregations have provided support through volunteering to take a day or evening host shift or to provide an evening meal. There are multiple preventive measures in place to socially distance, prevent contact, and keep everyone safe. If you are interested in volunteering, click on the link on FPC website (www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f4ca5aa29a4fe3-fpainterfaith) or contact Susan Boatwright at boatwrightsusan@gmail.com or Frank Sherrill at frankwsherrill@gmail.com.

You Can Play an Important Role in Our Stephen Ministry...

...Because you may know of a friend, neighbor, co-worker, or relative who is going through a difficult time and who could benefit from the focused care, encouragement, and support of a Stephen Minister. If you know of someone who is hurting, talk with one of our Stephen Leaders:

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

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

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

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

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 to show how much you care!

Praise the Lord, God's Glories Show 481

LLANFAIR 7.7.7.7 with alleluias

Henry Francis Lyte, 1834; alt.

Robert Williams, 1817
Harm. David Evans, 1927

1. Praise the Lord, God's glo - ries show,
2. Earth to heaven and heaven to earth, Al - le - lu - ia!
3. Praise the Lord, great mer - cies trace,

Saints with - in God's courts be - low,
Tell the won - ders, sing God's worth, Al - le - lu - ia!
Praise this prov - i - dence and grace,

An - gels round the throne a - bove,
Age to age and shore to shore, Al - le - lu - ia!
All that God for us has done,

All that see and share God's love.
Praise God, praise for - ev - er - more! Al - le - lu - ia!
All God sends us through the Son.

PSALM 117

229 From All That Dwell Below the Skies

LASST UNS ERFREUEN LM with alleluias

Isaac Watts, 1719

Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623; alt.
Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Unison

1. From all that dwell be - low the skies Let the Cre - a - tor's praise a -
2. In ev - ery land be - gin the song, To ev - ery land the strains be -
3. E - ter - nal are Thy mer - cies, Lord; E - ter - nal truth at - tends Thy

Harmony *Unison*

rise: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Let the Re - deem - er's
long: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! In cheer - ful sound all
word: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Thy praise shall sound from

Harmony

name be sung Through ev - ery land, in ev - ery tongue.
voic - es raise And fill the world with joy - ful praise. Al - le - lu - ia!
shore to shore, Till suns shall rise and set no more.

Unison

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

I Come with Joy

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DOVE OF PEACE 8.6.8.6.6

Brian Wren, 1968; rev. 1977

American folk melody
Arr. Austin C. Lovelace, 1977

1. I come with joy to meet my Lord, For - giv - en, loved, and
2. I come with Chris - tians far and near To find, as all are
3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, Each proud di - vi - sion
4. And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His pres - ence, al - ways
5. To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, We'll go our dif - ferent

free, In awe and won - der to re - call His
fed, The new com - mu - ni - ty of love In
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, And
near, Is in such friend - ship bet - ter known: We
ways, And as His peo - ple in the world, We'll

life laid down for me, His life laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, In Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
stran - gers now are friends, And stran - gers now are friends.
see and praise Him here, We see and praise Him here.
live and speak His praise, We'll live and speak His praise.

Alternate tune: LAND OF REST, 522

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