



# 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!*

February 28, 2021  
10:00 a.m. Service  
Second Sunday in Lent

## GATHERING IN THE NAME OF GOD

*Welcome to all who are worshipping with us. As we enter a holy space this morning, please silence your cell phone. Consult an usher if you need a personal hearing device, large-print bulletin or large-print hymnal.*

### Greeting

Psalm 118:24

This is the day the Lord has made; **let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

### Prelude

*Organ Hymn*

Raymond Haan

### Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

### Song of Gathering

AUS DER TIEFE RUFTE ICH

**Forty days and forty nights you were fasting in the wild;  
forty days and forty nights tempted, and yet undefiled.**

### Call to Worship

We gather in the season of Lent, a time to examine our hearts and our lives **and journey with Christ through the suffering of the world.**

Let us pick up our crosses and follow Christ

**on a path that is lined with God's love.**

God has marked us as beloved dust

**and called us together to worship.**

### \*Hymn 420

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

CWM RHONDDA

### \*Call to Confession

### \*Prayer of Confession

**O God, you have made us your covenant people, marked us as your own, and charged us for lives of service. Forgive us when we live as if success were the worthiest aim or independence the highest virtue. Call us once more to take up our crosses, and show us how to follow you. Forgive us, O God, and wash us in your mercy. Forgive us, O God, and free us to try again.**

### \*Silent Prayer

*\*Those who are able may stand.*

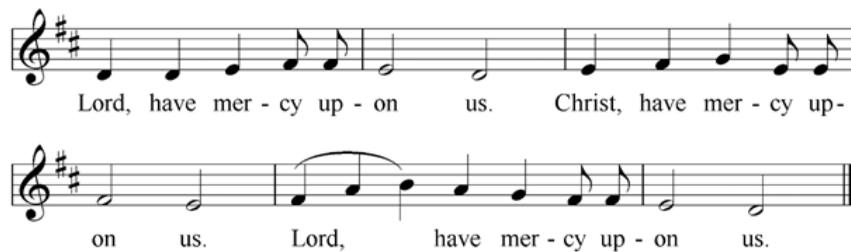
### A special word of

**welcome:** thank you for being with us for worship this morning. We are delighted and hope that you will join us again next Sunday.

The Riverside Church in New York was built for Harry Emerson Fosdick, one of America's foremost preachers. The church opened on October 5, 1930, and Fosdick wrote *God of Grace and God of Glory* to mark the occasion. The hymn calls us to be disciples and to pray for wisdom and courage to face the hour, rather than to glory in it.

**\*Congregational Response**

Healey Willan



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

**\*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** Psalm 122

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

**Solo** *O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem* Moonyeen Albrecht

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem. They shall prosper that love thee.  
Peace be within thy walls and plenteousness be in thy palaces

**Second Lesson** Luke 13:1-9, 31-35

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

**Sermon** *Fruits of Repentance* Dr. Ryan Baer

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD**

**\*Hymn 391** *Take My Life* HENDON

**\*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 a portion of Psalm 122 set to music by American composer Moonyeen Albrecht (1936-2020). She was a church musician and college professor, serving St. John's Episcopal Church in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan and teaching at Central Michigan University.

*Take My Life* was written by Frances R. Havergal during a visit with friends. "Before I left the house everyone had got a blessing," she wrote. On the last night of her visit, she came up with the hymn dealing with true consecration, which involves mind, body, words, deeds, intellect, will, money, possession, and the whole self.

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.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CHAIR YOGA

**Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m. via Zoom**  
**Zoom ID: 558-324-3907 (PW: 3636)**

Join Mel Berzack for a Yoga practice via Zoom on Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m. You will need a practical chair (preferably no arm rests or side restrictions) and (if you have one) a mat for a small amount of standing poses. The practice will be around one hour long. All are welcome.

### BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The Josephine Paine Bible Study meets 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. on 2nd and 4th Thursdays via Zoom (*ID: 706 543 4338, PW 185185*). The scripture passage for each class will be the same text addressed by the upcoming Sunday's sermon. Carol Strickland will lead the study which is open to all. Next meeting will be Thursday, **March 11** to study Luke 16:19-31.

### LIMITED IN-PERSON WORSHIP

If you would like to join us next Sunday for limited in-person worship, please click on the Eventbrite link on the church website. Alternatively, you can contact the church office at (706) 543-4338 and we will add you to the list. Please make sure to read the additional instructions that are posted on the website. If you are over 65 or have underlying health conditions, we encourage you to stay home and join us via Facebook or YouTube.

### "SUNDAY CONVERSATIONS"

**Sundays at 11:30 a.m.**

Join Dr. Ryan Baer for "Sunday Conversations" as we reflect on the morning worship service and take a deeper dive into the Bible texts read and proclaimed from the pulpit.

**Zoom ID: 706-543-4338 (PW: 185185)**

*Led by Dr. Ryan Baer (ryan@firstpresathens.org)*

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## Food Sunday Drop-off

You may bring donations of **canned fruit, canned pasta, and canned soup** to church 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. on **Friday, March 5**. Please bring food in plastic bags and put them in the open trunk. 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. Thanks for your donations in February - our neighbors in need are grateful.

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## Lent and Holy Week Services & Activities

**Labyrinth in Fellowship Hall, Mondays through Thursdays throughout Lent, 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

No reservations needed, masks required. Please check-in with church staff to let them know that you are here to walk the Labyrinth.

**Palm Sunday, March 28**

Limited in-person worship at 10:00 a.m. with livestreaming on Facebook and YouTube.

**Downtown Prayer Walk, Holy Week**

You are invited to pick up a palm branch and map beside the church office door, available Palm Sunday through Holy Week. Walk the suggested route, stopping at 14 points to offer prayer. A "virtual walk" will be available on our website.

**Maundy Thursday Service via Zoom, April 1, 7:00 p.m., (Zoom ID: 706-543-4338)**

We will gather over Zoom for the Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 p.m. You are invited to have available for hand or foot washing a tub of hot water and towel (soap, washcloth, and lotion, optional).

**Good Friday, April 2**

Presbyterian Community Virtual Service. Pre-recorded and shared with Athens Area Presbyterian Churches, the service will be available online at 9:00 a.m.

**Easter, April 4, One Great Hour of Sharing Offering**

Limited in-person worship at 10:00 a.m. with livestreaming on Facebook and YouTube.

## THIS WEEK

### Sunday, February 28

- 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School (*please check firstpresathens.org for more information*)
- 10:00 a.m. Service Livestream on Facebook and YouTube, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching  
Limited in-person worship (please go to firstpresathens.org to register)
- 11:30 a.m. "Sunday Conversations" with Dr. Ryan Baer (*Zoom ID: 706-543-4338, PW:185185*)
- 3:00 p.m. Dr. John Coble Organ Recital @The Cathedral of St. Philip in Atlanta
- 7:00 p.m. Youth Group Family Game Night: Chopped

### Monday, March 1 - Thursday, March 4 - Walk the Labyrinth, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

#### Monday, March 1

- 10:00 a.m. Circle Two via Zoom
- 5:00 p.m. Campus Kitchen, Main Kitchen
- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

#### Tuesday, March 2

- 10:00 a.m. Congregational Care Commission Meeting via Zoom
- 11:30 a.m. Chair Yoga via Zoom (*Zoom ID: 558-324-3907, PW: 3636*)
- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting via Zoom
- 2:00 p.m. Circle Three-Four via Zoom
- 5:00 p.m. Campus Kitchen, Main Kitchen
- 7:00 p.m. Circle Six via Zoom

#### Wednesday, March 3

- 10:00 a.m. Our Daily Bread Lunch, First Baptist Church
- 4:30 p.m. Shakespeare: "Twelfth Night" via Zoom (*e-mail Ron Bogue at rbogue@uga.edu to join class*)

#### Friday, March 5

- 9:30 a.m. Food Sunday drop-off (9:30-11:00 a.m.), Church Office parking lot

### Sunday, March 7 - Communion Sunday

- 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School (*please check firstpresathens.org for more information*)
- 10:00 a.m. Service Livestream on Facebook and YouTube, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching  
Limited in-person worship (please go to firstpresathens.org to register)
- 11:30 a.m. "Sunday Conversations" with Dr. Ryan Baer (*Zoom ID: 706-543-4338, PW:185185*)

## LOOKING AHEAD

**March 9** - Our Daily Bread Breakfast, First Baptist Church Kitchen

**March 11** - Josephine Paine Bible Study via Zoom (*Zoom ID: 706-543-4338, PW:185185*)

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### A Bicentennial History • 1820-2020 is now available

If you preordered the book, you can schedule an appointment to pick up your copy at the church office or have it delivered or mailed to your residence. If you would like to order, each copy is available for \$55.00 (price includes sales tax).

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### Montreat Women's Connection Conference

In hopes that enough of us will be vaccinated by the end of summer to make a gathering possible, Montreat is planning its 2021 Women's Connection Conference. The dates are **August 13 - 15**, Friday through Sunday. Again this year we have reserved the Georgia Lodge for any of our members who would like to go to the conference.

The cost of the conference registration is \$237 before June 28 and \$262 after. The cost of lodging and meal arrangements have yet to be determined. We would like to get a preliminary count of those of you who plan to come this year.

More information about and registration for the Women's Connection Conference can be found at [montreat.org/events/wc2021](http://montreat.org/events/wc2021). Please email Carol McKay at [carol\\_mckay@att.net](mailto:carol_mckay@att.net) if you would like to attend.

## God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7

Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930; alt.

John Hughes, 1907

1. God of grace and God of glo - ry, On Thy peo - ple  
 2. Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us Scorn Thy Christ, as -  
 3. Cure Thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, Bend our pride to  
 4. Set our feet on loft - y pla - ces; Gird our lives that

pour Thy power; Crown Thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;  
 sail Thy ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
 Thy con - trol; Shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,  
 they may be Ar - mored with all Christ - like gra - ces,

Bring its bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 Free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 Rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 Pledged to set all cap - tives free. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

For the fac - ing of this hour, For the fac - ing of this hour.  
 For the liv - ing of these days, For the liv - ing of these days.  
 Lest we miss Thy king - dom's goal, Lest we miss Thy king - dom's goal.  
 That we fail not them nor Thee! That we fail not them nor Thee!

5. Save us from weak resignation  
 To the evils we deplore;  
 Let the gift of Thy salvation  
 Be our glory evermore.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
 Serving Thee whom we adore,  
 Serving Thee whom we adore.

## Take My Life

HENDON 7.7.7

Frances Ridley Havergal, 1874

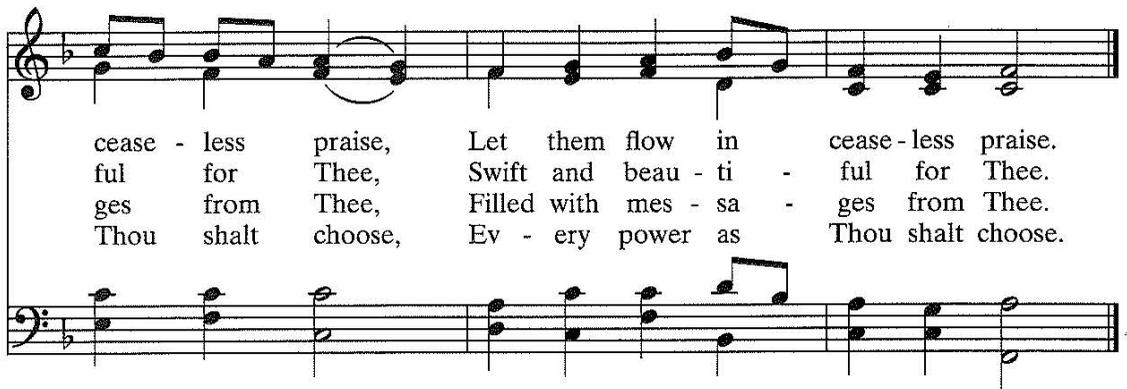
H. A. César Malan, 1827



1. Take my life, and let it be Con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee.  
 2. Take my hands, and let them move At the im - pulse of Thy love.  
 3. Take my voice, and let me sing, Al - ways, on - ly, for my King.  
 4. Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with-hold;



Take my mo - ments and my days; Let them flow in  
 Take my feet, and let them be Swift and beau - ti -  
 Take my lips, and let them be Filled with mes - sa -  
 Take my in - tel - lect, and use Ev - ery power as



cease - less praise, Let them flow in cease - less praise.  
 ful for Thee, Swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee.  
 ges from Thee, Filled with mes - sa - ges from Thee.  
 Thou shalt choose, Ev - ery power as Thou shalt choose.

5. Take my will, and make it Thine;  
 It shall be no longer mine.  
 Take my heart, it is Thine own;  
 It shall be Thy royal throne,  
 It shall be Thy royal throne.

6. Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
 At Thy feet its treasure store.  
 Take myself, and I will be  
 Ever, only, all for Thee,  
 Ever, only, all for Thee.

## Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

SICILIAN MARINERS 8.7.8.7.8.7

Attr. John Fawcett, 1773

Stanza 1, line 6, alt. 1774, Conyer's *Collection of Psalms*

Stanza 3 alt. Godfrey Thring (1823-1903)

Sicilian melody

1. Lord, dis - miss us with Thy bless - ing; Fill our hearts with  
 2. Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion For Thy gos - pel's  
 3. So that when Thy love shall call us, Sav - ior, from the

joy and peace; Let us each, Thy love pos - sess - ing,  
 joy - ful sound; May the fruits of Thy sal - va - tion  
 world a - way, Let no fear of death ap - pall us,

Tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us,  
 In our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,  
 Glad Thy sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,

O re - fresh us, Trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.  
 Ev - er faith - ful To the truth may we be found;  
 May we ev - er Reign with Thee in end - less day.