



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!

June 20, 2021
10:00 a.m. Service
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Aria

Craig Phillips

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Song of Gathering

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**From all that dwell below the skies
let the Creator's praise arise: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
through every land, in every tongue.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Call to Worship

The winds and the waves are no match for our God.
Christ speaks peace to the chaos and calm to the storm.
In the midst of the storms of our lives,
let us calm our minds and worship God with gladness.

***Hymn 446** *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* AUSTRIAN HYMN

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

O Christ whose voice brought peace to the waves, we pray for a glimpse of your peace in our lives. When all around us has given way to chaos, ground us in your presence. When the struggle for justice seems endless and we grow tired, refresh us by your mercy. Help us to see that you are in the boat with us, even when we are certain that it is sinking. Forgive us when we doubt the power of your grace, O Lord, and make us agents of your reign.

*Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

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 Nazi appropriation of the tune AUSTRIA for propaganda purposes has clouded a noble piece of music. The tune was first associated with the text *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* in 1889. The author indicated the text is primarily based on Isaiah 33:20-21.

**Those who are able may stand.*

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Congregational Response**

Jacques Berthier

Glo-ry - to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

***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 24

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

Anthem

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Roland E. Martin

Come, thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace!
Streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! O, fix me on it, mount of God's unchanging love.
Here I find my greatest treasure; hither, by thy help, I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.
O, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee:
prone to wander, Lord I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O, take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

Second Lesson

Acts 4:32-5:11

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

Sermon

Truth or Consequences

Dr. Ryan Baer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn 176**

The Earth and All That Dwell Therein

CAITHNESS

***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.**

The anthem is an arrangement of a well-known hymn paired with an accompaniment which quotes the Prelude from Bach's Cello Suite No. 1 in G. The arrangement is by contemporary American composer Roland E. Martin.

The Earth and All That Dwell Therein is a metrical paraphrase of Psalm 24 from The Psalter (1912). It is set to a tune from the 1635 edition of the Scottish Psalter.

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

MONTREAT WOMEN'S CONNECTION CONFERENCE

We have reserved the Georgia Lodge for any of our members who would like to go to the conference. (August 13-15) Wouldn't this be a wonderful way to emerge from sequestering during the pandemic—a relaxing, stimulating, rewarding weekend with other women at beautiful Montreat?

The deadline to sign up to stay at the Georgia Lodge was extended to **July 15**. The cost for two nights is \$65. Conference Registration costs \$237 before June 28 and \$262. Please e-mail Carol McKay at carol@mckay@att.net if you have any questions.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS ON MATTHEW 25

This summer, we invite the congregation to learn more about Matthew 25 through weekly reading and reflection via Zoom (ID 706-543-4338). On Sunday nights, we'll host a community conversation using the study materials in the Summer@First program guide mailed earlier this spring (and available for download on our Web site). The Summer Study will be the foundation for more opportunities to learn and grow together beginning in the fall when we are back together again in person.

Good Shepherd Summer Club

Our June Mini Mission Project is Backpack Blessings! Throughout the month of June we will be collecting school supplies to be donated to Clarke County families in need. Please bring your donations to the church office (Monday-Friday) and in the Atrium (Sunday mornings) by Friday, July 2. If you have any questions, please e-mail Natalie Bishop at natalie@firstpresathens.org.

Needed school supplies:

- ballpoint pens
- #2 pencils
- highlighters
- crayons
- colored pencils
- markers
- glue sticks
- college ruled notebook paper
- 2 pocket folders
- composition notebooks
- spiral notebooks
- three ring binders

THIS WEEK

Sunday, June 20

- 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School (*please check firstpresathens.org for more information*)
- 9:30 a.m. Nursery open for infants to age 3
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
- 11:00 a.m. Refreshments on the Porch
- 4:00 p.m. Mission & Outreach Commission Meeting via Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. Community Conversations on Matthew 25 via Zoom (*Zoom ID: 706-543-4338*)

Sunday, June 20 - Sunday, June 27 - Family Promise Host Week

Tuesday, June 22

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting, Moses Waddel Room
- 11:30 a.m. Chair Yoga via Zoom (*Zoom ID: 558-324-3907, PW: 3636*)
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Parlor

Wednesday, June 23

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday School Wonderful Wednesday
- 4:30 p.m. Shakespeare Group: "Two Noble Kinsmen" via Zoom (*e-mail Ron Bogue at rbogue@uga.edu to join class*)

Sunday, June 27

- 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School (*please check firstpresathens.org for more information*)
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
- 7:00 p.m. Community Conversations on Matthew 25 via Zoom (*Zoom ID: 706-543-4338*)

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 nominees to Jennifer Walden Abbott, Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee, at jabbott@uga.edu, by July 11. You can also fill out the form in the website (www.firstpresathens.org).

Current Elders:
(Not eligible for recommendation)

CLASS OF 2021	CLASS OF 2022	CLASS OF 2023
Jennifer Walden Abbott	Karen Burg	Sarah Bryan
Michelle Clendenen-Shaw	Kitty Donnan	Judy Burch
Elizabeth Earl	Larry Jones	Kent Burel
Ed Ferguson	Andy Jordan	Rod Canfield
Rob Haire	Jimbo LaBoon	Melinda DeMaria
Grace Lu	Tom Landrum	Jim Dove
Chris Pope	Beverly Phares	Mark Hopkins
Mixon Robinson	Smith Wilson	Matt Jones
Rosemary Stancil		Robyn McDonald
		Keith Oelke

I prayerfully recommend the following for Elder:

Name _____	Reasons _____	

Name _____	Reasons _____	

Name _____	Reasons _____	

Name _____	Reasons _____	

Members of the Nominations and Elections Committee are Jennifer Walden Abbott (Chair), Beverly Phares (Vice-Chair), Robbie Bryan, Greta Covington, Julie Knowlton, and Joe Neighbors.

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

AUSTRIAN HYMN 8.7.8.7 D

Franz Joseph Haydn, 1797
Desc. Michael E. Young, 1979

John Newton, 1779; alt.

Descant

3. Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - ering, See the cloud and

1. Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y
2. See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, Spring - ing from e -
3. Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - ering, See the cloud and

fire ap - pear For a glo - ry

of our God; God, whose word can - not be
ter - nal love, Well sup - ply thy sons and
fire ap - pear For a glo - ry and a

cov - ering, Show - ing that the Lord is near.

bro - ken, Formed thee for a blest a - bode.
daugh - ters And all fear of want re - move.
cov - ering, Show - ing that the Lord is near.

Thus: de - riv - ing light by night and

On the rock of a - ges found - ed, What can shake thy
 Who can faint while such a riv - er Ev - er flows their
 Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner Light by night and

shade by day, Safe they feed on

sure re - pose? With sal - va - tion's walls sur -
 thirst to as - suage? Grace, which like the Lord the
 shade by day, Safe they feed up - on the

man - na Which God gives them when they pray.

round - ed, Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
 giv - er, Nev - er fails from age to age.
 man - na Which God gives them when they pray.

The Earth and All That Dwell Therein 176

CAITHNESS CM

The Psalter, 1912; alt. 1986

Scottish Psalter, 1635
Harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

1. The earth and all that dwell there-in, With all its wealth un - told,
 2. O who shall stand be - fore the Lord On Zi - on's ho - ly hill?
 3. O ev - er - last - ing doors, give way, Lift up your heads, O gates!
 4. Who is this glo - rious King that comes To sit up - on the throne?

Be - longs to God, who found-ed it Up - on the seas of old.
 The clean of hand, the pure of heart, The just who do God's will.
 For now, be - hold, to en - ter in The King of glo - ry waits.
 The Lord of Hosts, that one is King Of glo - ry, God a - lone.

We Give Thee but Thine Own 428

SCHUMANN SM

William Walsham How, c. 1858

Mason and Webb's *Cantica Laudis*, 1850

1. We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;
 2. May we Thy boun-ties thus As stew-ards true re - ceive,
 3. To com-fort and to bless, To find a balm for woe,
 4. The cap - tive to re - lease, To God the lost to bring,

All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
 And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first - fruits give.
 To tend the lone - ly in dis - tress, Is an - gels' work be - low.
 To teach the way of life and peace—It is a Christ-like thing.

5. And we believe Thy Word,
 Though dim our faith may be;
 Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord,
 We do it unto Thee.