



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 25, 2021
10:00 a.m. Service
Ninth 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

Improvisation on Rendez à Dieu

John Coble

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Song of Gathering

DUKE STREET

**Let every voice on earth resound,
and joyful hearts hold God adored;
in gladness may God's courts abound
with songs of praise unto the Lord.**

Call to Worship

Come, you who hunger for food.

Worship the Lord who turns wants into plenty.

Come, you who hunger for justice.

Worship the Lord who turns weeping into laughter.

Come, you who hunger for life.

Worship the Lord who is our hope and our strength.

*Hymn 218

New Songs of Celebration Render

RENDEZ À DIEU

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

O Christ, when the crowds surrounded you, hungry for bread and for your word, you took an offering - five loaves, two fish - and made for them a feast. Still, O Lord, we doubt the abundance of your grace. Still, O Lord, we are hesitant to share the gifts we have. Still, O Lord, we wonder whether there is enough for all. Forgive us, O God, and make of us a more generous people. Empower us to share the gift of our lives, and enlighten us to see the miracles around us. For you are the giver of grace upon grace, the one who turns want into plenty.

*Silent Prayer

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

**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.

In accordance with the latest CDC guidance, for your own health and safety and for the health and safety of our community, for now we request that those who have not yet been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 wear a mask, maintain social distancing, and refrain from communal singing while in the building.

New Songs of Celebration Render is a 20th-century paraphrase of Psalm 98. The Genevan tune was written for Psalm 118, but it is has been paired with Psalm 98 since the 1562 edition of the Genevan Psalter.

***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.

The anthem text is Psalm 100, paraphrased by William A. Pasch. It is set to the hymn tune NORTH HILL, written by Robert J. Weaver. Pasch and Weaver together created this anthem setting. Pasch has served churches in the Atlanta area and is Professor Emeritus at Clayton State University. Weaver is Professor Emeritus of Mathematics and Computer Science at Mount Holyoke College, and he is active in the Lutheran Church.

In Christ There Is No East or West expands and enhances the inclusiveness of an early 20th-century text by pairing it with the melody of a traditional spiritual. This 1940 pairing was the first use of African American music in a mainline North American hymnal.

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.

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson Psalm 98

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

Anthem *From All the Earth Send Up the Song!* Robert J. Weaver and William A. Pasch

From all the earth send up the song! Shout glad hosannas loud and long!
Serve joyfully! Our God adore. Acclaim God's honor evermore!
Great God, Creator, Source of all, both keeps and guards us when we fall.
One flock in our Good Shepherd's fold, we feast on bounties yet untold.
The gates of glory beckon here. Come, bless God's name. Give thanks!
Draw near.
God's mercies last through all our days. New psalms, spring forth in grateful praise!
Our God is true from age to age. Our God is good beyond our gauge.
Our God is faithful, ever sure. God's kindness, love, and grace endure!

Second Lesson Acts 10:23-48

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

Sermon *Peter and Cornelius* Dr. Ryan Baer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn 440** *In Christ There Is No East or West* MCKEE

***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.

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Andante tranquillo* Felix Mendelssohn

***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**

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

***Hymn 538** *Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing*
SICILIAN MARINERS

***Charge and Benediction**

***Congregational Response** Hymn 535

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way
through this and every coming day,
that in your Spirit strong and true
our lives may be our gift to you.

Postlude *Prelude and Fugue in C* Bach circle

You may mail your check, set up an automatic payment of your pledge through your bank, or donate online using this QR code or at firstpresathens.org/home/giving. Thank you for your generosity.



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A special word of welcome to our guests: thank you for joining us for worship this morning. Please fill out the Fellowship Pad so that we may be in touch. We are delighted you are here and look forward to seeing you again.

Nurseries for children 3 years old and younger, available from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., are located next to the Children's Ministry Suite and are accessible down the stairs in the Atrium and through the glass door. Our fully vaccinated nursery staff is excited to welcome our youngest members.

NOTES ON THE SERVICE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Dr. Ryan Baer, *Senior Pastor*
Dr. John Coble, *Director of Music and Organist*
Kitty Donnan, *Liturgist*
Allen Crowell, *Lay Reader*

USHERS

John Simpson, Jimbo LaBoon III

GREETERS

Susan and Tom Landrum

AUDIOVISUAL TECHNICIAN

Bryan Owens

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGERS

Rebecca Carlton, Stephen Kreyenbuhl

FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Frank and Sue Parker by Mary Peace.

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).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NAME BADGES

As more members and friends return to in person worship, we are excited to get reacquainted with one another. You can help by wearing a name tag each Sunday. Supplies will be in the Narthex and Atrium.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS ON MATTHEW 25

On Sunday nights, we are hosting a community conversation via Zoom (ID 706-543-4338) using the study materials in the Summer@First program guide (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.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Summer should be a carefree, relaxing time. But sometimes personal problems can get in the way of that. If you know someone who is struggling to enjoy the summer, First Presbyterian Stephen Ministers can help! Contact our Stephen Leaders for more information:

Margaret Davis: margaret@firstpresathens.org,
706-206-9896

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

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

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

Food Sunday, August 1 and 6

You may bring donations of **school supplies** (packs of college-ruled paper, # 2 pencils, ballpoint pens, crayons, markers, colored pencils, highlighters, glue sticks, erasers, composition notebooks, pocket folders, spiral notebooks, 3-ring binders, box of tissues, hand sanitizer) on **Sunday, August 1**. You can also bring your donations to church 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. on **Friday, August 6**. Please bring supplies in plastic bags and put them in the open trunk.

Alternatively, you may take your donations directly to the Athens Area Emergency Food Bank 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 supplies on loading dock at far end of building. Thanks for your donations in July - our neighbors in need are grateful.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, July 25

- 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. Fellowship, Atrium
- 7:00 p.m. Community Conversations on Matthew 25 via Zoom (*Zoom ID: 706-543-4338*)

Tuesday, July 27

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Parlor

Wednesday, July 28

- 4:30 p.m. Shakespeare Group: "Two Noble Kinsmen" via Zoom (*e-mail Ron Bogue at rbogue@uga.edu to join class*)
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Chancel Choir Room

Sunday, August 1 - Communion Sunday, Food Sunday

- 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*)

218 New Songs of Celebration Render

RENDEZ À DIEU 9.8.9.8 D

Erik Routley, 1972; alt. 1984

Louis Bourgeois, 1543; rev. 1551

1. New songs of cel - e - bra - tion ren - der To God who
 2. Joy - ful - ly, heart - i - ly re - sound - ing, Let ev - ery
 3. Riv - ers and seas and tor - rents roar - ing, Hon - or the

has great won - ders done; Love sits en - throned in age - less splen - dor;
 in - stru - ment and voice Peal out the praise of grace a - bound - ing,
 Lord with wild ac - claim; Moun - tains and stones, look up a - dor - ing,

Come and a - dore the might - y One. God has made known the great sal -
 Call - ing the whole world to re - joice. Trum - pets and or - gans, set in
 And find a voice to praise God's name. Righ - teous, com - mand - ing, ev - er

va - tion Which all the saints with joy con - fess. God has re -
 mo - tion Such sounds as make the heav - ens ring; All things that
 glo - rious, Prais - es be sung that nev - er cease: Just is our

vealed to ev - ery na - tion Truth and un - end - ing righ - teous - ness.
 live in earth and o - cean, Sound forth the song, your prais - es bring.
 God, whose truth vic - to - rious Es - tab - lish - es the world in peace.

In Christ There Is No East or West

MC KEE CM

African-American spiritual
Jubilee Songs, 1884

John Oxenham, 1908; alt.

Adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1940

C G C F B \flat F C F Am Dm7 G7 C F C



1. In Christ there is no east or west, In Him no south or north;
2. In Christ shall true hearts ev-ery-where Their high com-mu - nion find;
3. Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, What-e'er your race may be.
4. In Christ now meet both east and west, In Him meet south and north;



Am C Am C G7 C G7 C F C Am C G7. C



But one great fel - low - ship of love Through - out the whole wide earth.
 His ser - vice is the gold - en cord Close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
 All chil - dren of the liv - ing God Are sure - ly kin to me.
 All Christ - ly souls are one in Him Through - out the whole wide earth.



Text: Reprinted by permission of the American Tract Society, Garland, Texas.

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.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION

Ryan Baer, Moderator Kitty Donnan, Clerk of Session
Carol Strickland, Associate Pastor

CLASS OF 2021

Jennifer Walden Abbott
Michelle Clendenen-Shaw
Elizabeth Earl
Ed Ferguson
Rob Haire
Grace Lu
Chris Pope
Mixon Robinson
Rosemary Stancil

CLASS OF 2022

Karen Burg
Kitty Donnan
Larry Jones
Andy Jordan
Jimbo LaBoon
Tom Landrum
Beverly Phares
Smith Wilson

CLASS OF 2023

Sarah Bryan
Judy Burch
Kent Burel
Rod Canfield
Melinda DeMaria
Jim Dove
Mark Hopkins
Matt Jones
Robyn McDonald
Keith Oelke

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Ryan Baer, *Senior Pastor* (ryan@firstpresathens.org)
Dr. Carol Strickland, *Associate Pastor* (cstrickland@firstpresathens.org)
The Rev. Margaret Davis, *Parish Associate* (margaret@firstpresathens.org)
Dr. John Coble, *Director of Music and Organist* (jcoble@firstpresathens.org)
Mrs. Kim Ness, *Director of Youth Ministries* (kness@firstpresathens.org)
Mrs. Natalie Bishop, *Director of Children's Ministries* (natalie@firstpresathens.org)
Mrs. Elaine Johnson, *Director of Weekday School* (elaine@firstpresathens.org)
Mr. Roger Burbage, *Church Administrator* (rburbage@firstpresathens.org)
Mrs. Lucy Bell Johnson, *Administrative Assistant for Congregational Care & Membership* (lbell@firstpresathens.org)
Mr. Paulo Santos, *Communications Specialist* (paulo@firstpresathens.org)
Mrs. Jennifer Sunderlin, *Receptionist/Administrative Assistant* (frontdesk@firstpresathens.org)
Mrs. Angie Townsend, *Accountant* (angie@firstpresathens.org)
Mrs. Marcy Fabris, *Weekday School Administrative Assistant* (wds@firstpresathens.org)
Ms. Rita Raines, *Nursery Coordinator*
Mrs. Charlotte Chromiak, *Children's Music Assistant* (charlotteposs@gmail.com)
Mrs. Madeline Van Dyck, *Parish Nurse*