



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!

April 7, 2024
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
Second Sunday of Easter

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.

Greeting Psalm 118:24
This is the day the Lord has made; **let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Prelude Good Christian All, Rejoice and Sing Marilyn Keiser

Words of Welcome

Song of Gathering Hymn 121, stanza 1
That Easter day with joy was bright,
the sun shone out with fairer light,
when, to their longing eyes restored,
the apostles saw their risen Lord.

Call to Worship
Come to the mountain.
We come to meet Jesus.
Jesus sends us out to serve.
We will be his witnesses to all the world.

***Hymn 151** Crown Him with Many Crowns DIADEMATA

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**
Risen God, we confess to you, to ourselves, and to one another that we have caused harm by the things we have said and done, and by the things we have not said and not done. Take away our sins that we might fully embody your commandment to love you with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

***Silent Prayer**
Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad, making note of new and old friends, check in on Facebook, and follow us on Instagram (firstpresathensga).

Crown Him with Many Crowns is so familiar it’s easy to miss its paradox, mystery, suffering, and beauty: it rewards careful reading outside corporate worship. The tune’s composer was chapel organist at Windsor Castle.

**Those who are able may stand.*

At “The Peace,” worshipers are invited to greet each other by saying, “The peace of Christ be with you,” and responding, “And also with you.”

Children are invited to remain in the Sanctuary on Communion Sundays.

11:00 Lay Reader:
Dan Nadenicek

The author of *Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!* has stressed his intention to affirm the social implications of Easter faith: “Christian peace and justice action finds its wellspring, not in moral zeal or guilty conscience, but in the resurrection.”

Scholars debate whether this powerfully poetic text is an early Christian hymn which Paul is quoting or his own composition. It is one of the best-known and most influential passages in the Pauline corpus.



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

*Congregational Response

Jacques Berthier



*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

Hymn 339, stanza 1

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
nought be all else to me, save that thou art –
thou my bests thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

First Lesson

Mark 6:7-13, page 917

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

Second Lesson

Acts 1:1-14, page 993

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

Sermon

Take a Beat

The Rev. Whitney Booth Lockard

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Hymn 104

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

HYMN TO JOY

*Affirmation of Faith

Philippians 2:5-11

**Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.**

**And being found in human form, he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death –
even death on a cross.**

**Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name
that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and
under the earth, and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

8:45 Offertory

Good Christian All, Rejoice and Sing

Paul Manz

11:00 Offertory

Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me

K. Lee Scott

*Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be;
help me now thy grace to see, I would be like thee;
and, with words that help and heal, thy life would mine reveal;
and, with actions bold and meek, for Christ, my Savior, speak.
Truthful Spirit, dwell with me, I would truthful be; (cont.)*

*help me now thy truth to see, I would be like thee;
 and, with wisdom kind and clear, thy life in mine appear;
 and, with actions brotherly, speak Christ's sincerity.
 Holy Spirit, dwell with me, I would holy be;
 show thy mercy tenderly, make me more like thee;
 separate from sin, I would and cherish all things good,
 and whatever I can be give him who gave me thee.
 Mighty Spirit, dwell with me, I would mighty be;
 help me now thy power to see, I would be like thee;
 'gainst all weapons hell can weild, be thou my strength and shield;
 let thy word my weapon be, Lord, thine the victory.
 Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would be like thee!*

***Doxology** LASST UNS ERFREREN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Prayer of Dedication**

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

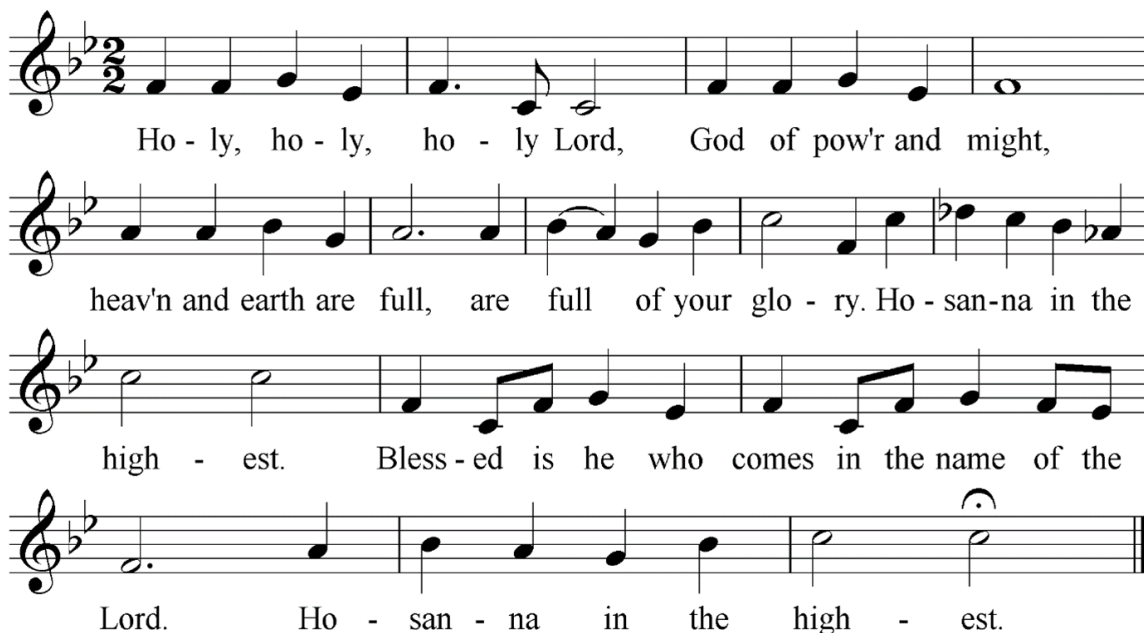
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise....

The musical setting of
 the communion liturgy
 is by contemporary
 American composer
 Hal Hopson.

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n and earth are full, 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.

Memorial Acclamation



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

The Great Amen



Alleluia! Sing to Jesus! was regarded by the author as a communion hymn, a theme that seems eclipsed by the attention to Christ's exaltation, but a helpful reminder that communion hymns are not always quiet and meek.

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

The Lord's Prayer Hymnal, p. 16
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.
Breaking of the Bread and Giving of the Cup
Communion of the People
Prayer after Communion

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

*Hymn 144	<i>Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!</i>	HYFRYDOL
*Charge and Benediction		
*Congregational Response		Hymn 121, stanza 3
From every weapon death can wield, your own redeemed forever shield; O Lord of all, with us abide in this our joyful Eastertide.		
Postlude	<i>Gaudeamus Pariter</i>	James Biery

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 4 years old and younger, available from 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., are located next to the Children's Ministry Suite and are accessible down the stairs in the Atrium and through the glass door.

Children's Church is an important developmental time for children, but there are times when children remaining in worship with the larger church family and watching and learning from their parents is also very valuable. Children are invited to remain in the sanctuary on Communion Sundays.

2024 Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering

The Presbyterian Women's Birthday Offering is a cherished tradition that allows women to celebrate the blessings in their lives while supporting meaningful projects. All Women are invited to join the PW on April 14 at 2:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall to celebrate and collect our local contributions to the Birthday Offering. Following the party, Reverend Whitney Booth Lockard will lead our study from *Sacred Encounters* (Lesson Eight, Lydia Lydia Encounters Jesus in Worship; Scripture Readings: Acts 16:11-15).

For more information, please contact Jamie Baer at jamielbaer@yahoo.com.

NOTES ON THE SERVICE

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Whitney Booth Lockard, *Associate Pastor*
The Rev. Margaret Davis, *Parish Associate*
Dr. John Coble, *Director of Music and Organist*

Lay Reader

11:00 a.m. Dan Nadenicek

USHERS

8:45 a.m. John Simpson (head),
Diane Hartzell

11:00 a.m. Chuck Toney (head),
Larry Baer, Laura Toney

GREETERS

8:45 a.m. Mary Peace

11:00 a.m. Carol McKay, Lisa Oelke

AUDIOVISUAL TECHNICIAN

Bryan Owens

FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the wedding of Rachel Carleen Gerald and Forrest Garrett Sincoff Gard.

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Aiden Dowling

APRIL FLOWER TEAM

Greta Covington (chair),
Tootsie Adams, Judy Burch, Lauren Cook,
Andrea Doornbos, Jennifer Trapnell

TO AID IN WORSHIP

If you need to leave the sanctuary during the service, a live video feed is available in the Atrium, on Facebook, and YouTube.

Available in the Narthex or from an usher:

- **Personal hearing receivers** usable anywhere in the sanctuary
- **Large-print** hymnals, Bibles, bulletins, and hymnsheets
- **Sermons** from the previous six weeks

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Prayer requests can be submitted to the church office, 706-543-4338, by the Prayer Request link on our church website (firstpresathens.org) or on the prayer cards in the Fellowship Pads.

Wednesday@First Spring Programs 2024 February 21 - April 24

4:00 – 5:30 p.m. Knitting Purls 2, Parlor

4:30 – 5:30 p.m. Shakespeare and Friends Homer's Odyssey, Room 308

5:00 – 5:30 p.m. St. Andrews Choir, Room 202

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Dinner (Olive Garden), Fellowship Hall

*Dinner menu: Traditional Lasagna, Fettucine Alfredo, Salad, Breadsticks,
Cheesecake, Iced Tea; Gluten-free option: Rotini Pasta in Marinara Sauce*

***6:30 – 7:30 p.m.** *Feeding our neighbors at the Table, Conversations about food insecurity*, Fellowship Hall Breakout Room

***6:30 – 8:00 p.m.** Chancel Choir, Room 202

**Childcare Provided*

Wednesday Night Dinner 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall



\$12 adults, \$45 max per family (complimentary for children 5 and under). Please RSVP in the Atrium, online at tinyurl.com/WedAtFirst, using the QR code, or by contacting the church office (e-mail frontdesk@firstpresathens.org or call 706-543-4338) by Mondays at 12:00 p.m.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 7, Communion Sunday, Food Sunday

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, The Rev. Whitney Booth Lockard preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Godly Play
- 12:00 p.m. Atrium Refreshments, Atrium
- 3:30 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsals, Room 205
- 5:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Group, The PIT
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Dinner, Fellowship Hall Breakout Area
- 6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group, The PIT

Monday, April 8

- 10:00 a.m. Congregational Care Commission Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 2:00 p.m. Circle 2, Staff Conference Room
- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Room 205

Tuesday, April 9

- 7:00 a.m. Our Daily Bread Breakfast, First Baptist Church
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls 1, Parlor

Wednesday, April 10

- 9:15 a.m. Circle 7, Presbyterian Village of Athens
- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 4:00 p.m. Knitting Purls 2, Front Office Reception Area
- 4:30 p.m. Shakespeare & Friends Homer's *Odyssey*, Room 308
- 5:00 p.m. St. Andrews Choir Rehearsal, Room 203
- 5:30 p.m. Wed@First Dinner - Olive Garden, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. *Feeding our neighbors at the Table*, Conversations about food insecurity, Fellowship Hall Breakout Area
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Room 202

Thursday, April 11

- 2:00 p.m. Mellows, Avery Place
- 5:00 p.m. Administration Commission Meeting, Staff Conference Room

Sunday, April 14

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Godly Play
- 12:00 p.m. Fellowship in the Atrium
- 2:00 p.m. Presbyterian Women's Annual Meeting
- 3:30 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal, Room 205
- 3:30 p.m. St. Andrews Choir Rehearsal, Room 203
- 4:20 p.m. Celebration Singers Rehearsal, Room 202
- 5:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Group, The PIT
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Dinner, Fellowship Hall Breakout Area
- 6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group, The PIT

Week of Wonder (VBS) 2024

Week of Wonder (VBS) 2024 Registration is now open! Children going into Pre-Kindergarten through 6th Grade are invited to join us for this super fun week at First Presbyterian Church of Athens Sunday, **July 14 – Wednesday, July 17**. This summer's Week of Wonder is all about God's Gift of Food! Stay tuned for more exciting details.

Registration Link: tinyurl.com/FPCWoW2024. Please register by **Friday, May 10**, to guarantee a spot. If you have any questions, please contact Natalie Bishop, Director of Children's Ministry, at natalie@firstpresathens.org.

EDUCATION – FAITH FORMATION

SUNDAYS FOR CHILDREN

Director of Children's Ministries: Natalie Bishop

Nursery Coordinator: Rita Raines

Nursery Play, 8:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Children's Playroom • Infants – 4 Year Olds

Little ones are invited to Nursery Play during worship and Sunday school. Children will enjoy playtime, Bible stories, and a light snack with church friends.

Godly Play, 9:45 a.m.–10:45 a.m.

Children's Ministry Suite • Pre-K – 5th Grade

Children are invited to Godly Play during the Sunday School hour. Godly Play is an innovative way of teaching and learning that helps children “discover” who God is rather than being “told” who God is. The structure and routine of Godly Play offer children a safe and nurturing space to explore, connect, wonder, and worship God.

Children and Worship, 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

All children are welcome to remain in worship with their families every Sunday. Children's bulletins, Bibles, and books are available at the children's tables located in the Narthex and on both sides of the choir loft.

Children's Church, 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Children, Pre K – 5th Grade are invited to Children's Church after the passing of The Peace. We will continue worshipping together in the Children's Ministry Suite by listening to God's Word, singing to God, praying to God and giving to God.

**No Children's Church on the first Sunday of the month, Communion Sunday. All children are invited to remain in the sanctuary on this special Sunday to take part in worship and Communion with family.*

SUNDAYS FOR YOUTH

Director of Youth Ministries: Kim Ness

Middle School Coordinator: Erin Osborne

The PIT (basement level) • 6th – 12th Grade

Sunday School (9:45 a.m.)

Middle School class is using the Sparkhouse curriculum called Echo: The Story. Each class begins with a video, then we delve into the Bible. In just 36 weeks, we'll travel from Genesis to Revelation, through stories, games and activities!

Youth Group

Sunday night youth group is a fast hour of games, get-to-know you activities, devotionals and discussion. This year our theme is Pieces of Faith. Youth will gather in the PIT to talk about different aspects of faith and the spiritual practices we need to help our faith grow stronger.

Middle School meets 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

High School meets 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Combined Youth Dinner (6:00 p.m.)

Between MS and HS youth groups, everyone will gather in Fellowship Hall for a shared meal. If you'd like to help provide a meal for our youth, please email Kim at kness@firstpresathens.org.

For more information about youth ministry at FPC, visit www.fpcathenspit.com.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

9:45–10:40 a.m.

IN PERSON

Builders • Room 301

This class is an invitation for parents of children and youth to come join for a time of fellowship and support.
Coordinator: Dr. Ryan Baer (ryan@firstpresathens.org)

NEW Bible Study Class • Moses Waddel Room

We hope you'll join us for this NEW 8-week Sunday School class for Bible study and discussion. This group (name TBD) has roots in the historic W.D. Hooper Bible class and is now growing into something new. Come and grow with us in faith!

For more information, please e-mail Elaine Johnson at elaine@firstpresathens.org.

HYBRID (*in person and over Zoom*)

Del Dunn Sunday School Class • Room 308

An in-depth study and discussion of scripture, offering a collegial environment and welcoming all who seek to enrich their understanding of the Bible and its application to our daily lives.

Coordinator: Susan Landrum (slandrum@uga.edu)

Zoom ID: 380 330 5940, PW: 245449

New Voices • Room 310

This class explores theological and church issues. Class leaders engage participants by inviting them to share their stories and perspectives on the topics being discussed.

Led by: Lewis Hudgins (lewisahudgins@gmail.com)

Zoom ID: 674 533 8902

Wayne F. Middendorf Men's Bible Class

Bride's Room, Tinsley Stern

Open and honest discussion in a nonjudgmental atmosphere about various aspects of Christianity.

Contacts: Ian Hardin (ianhardin1@gmail.com),

Jim Scanlon (jjtscanlon@yahoo.com)

Zoom ID: 883 5159 0923

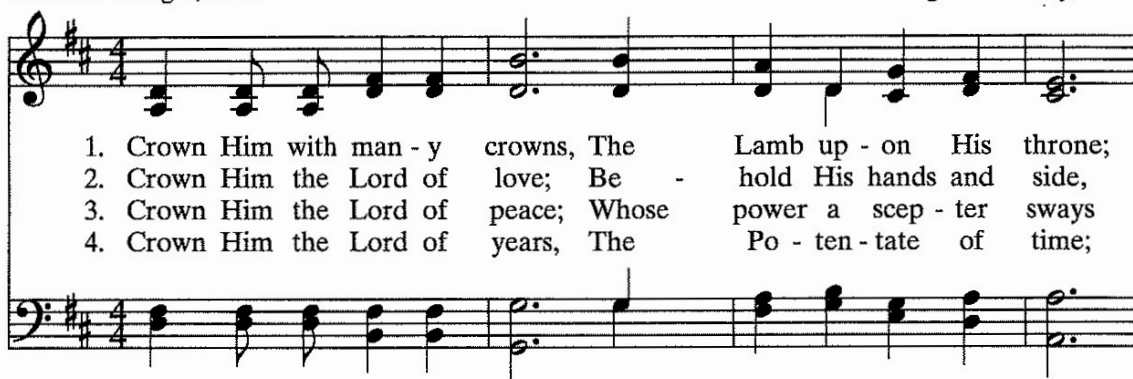
Crown Him with Many Crowns

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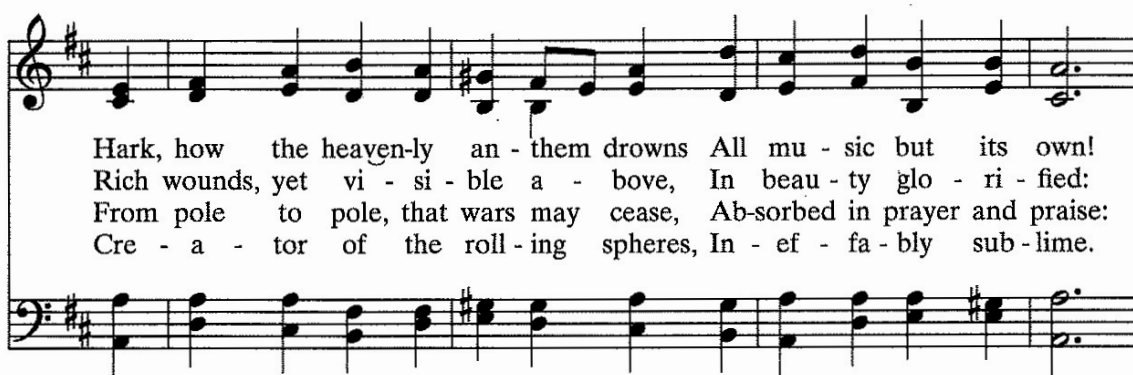
DIADEMATA SMD

Matthew Bridges, 1851

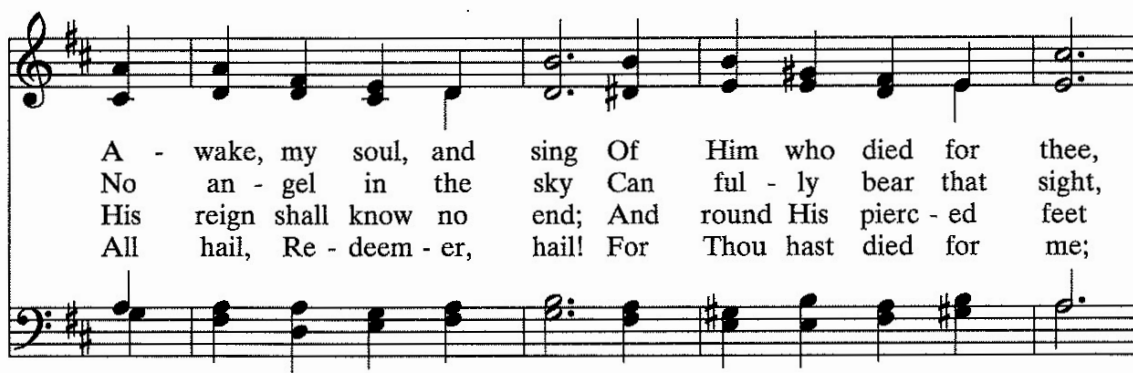
George Job Elvey, 1868



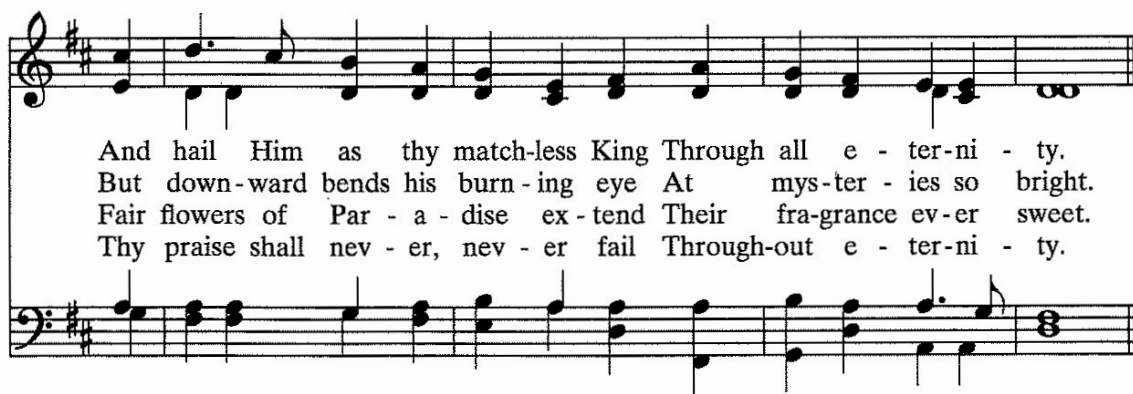
1. Crown Him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on His throne;
 2. Crown Him the Lord of love; Be - hold His hands and side,
 3. Crown Him the Lord of peace; Whose power a scep - ter sways
 4. Crown Him the Lord of years, The Po - ten - tate of time;



Hark, how the heaven-ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own!
 Rich wounds, yet vi - si - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri - fied:
 From pole to pole, that wars may cease, Ab - sorbed in prayer and praise:
 Cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, In - ef - fa - bly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee,
 No an - gel in the sky Can ful - ly bear that sight,
 His reign shall know no end; And round His pierc - ed feet
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For Thou hast died for me;



And hail Him as thy match-less King Through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 But down - ward bends his burn - ing eye At mys - ter - ies so bright.
 Fair flowers of Par - a - dise ex - tend Their fra - grance ev - er sweet.
 Thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail Through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

HYMN TO JOY 8.7.8.7 D

Brian Wren (b. 1936)

Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824
Adapt. Edward Hodges (1796–1867); alt.

1. Christ is ris - en! Shout Ho - san - na! Cel - e - brate this day of days!
 2. Christ is ris - en! Raise your spir - its From the cav - erns of de-spair.
 3. Christ is ris - en! Earth and heav-en Nev - er - more shall be the same.

Christ is ris - en! Hush in won - der: All cre - a - tion is a - mazed.
 Walk with glad-ness in the morn-ing. See what love can do and dare.
 Break the bread of new cre - a - tion Where the world is still in pain.

In the des - ert all - sur-round-ing, See, a spread-ing tree has grown.
 Drink the wine of res - ur - rec - tion, Not a ser - vant, but a friend.
 Tell its grim, de - mon-ic cho - rus: "Christ is ris - en! Get you gone!"

Heal - ing leaves of grace a-bound-ing Bring a taste of love un-known.
 Je - sus is our strong com-pan - ion. Joy and peace shall nev - er end.
 God the First and Last is with us. Sing Ho - san - na, ev - ery-one!

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7 D

William Chatterton Dix, 1866

Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1831

1. Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus! His the scep - ter,
 2. Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans Are we left in
 3. Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of an - gels, Thou on earth our
 4. Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Thee the Lord of

His the throne! Al - le - lu - ia! His the tri - umph,
 sor - row now. Al - le - lu - ia! He is near us;
 food, our stay. Al - le - lu - ia! Here the sin - ful
 lords we own; Al - le - lu - ia! Born of Ma - ry,

His the vic - to - ry a - lone! Hark! the songs of peace - ful
 Faith be - lieves nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -
 Flee to Thee from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of
 Earth Thy foot - stool, heaven Thy throne. Thou with - in the veil hast

Zi - on Thun - der like a might - y flood; Je - sus out of
 ceived Him, When the for - ty days were o'er, Shall our hearts for -
 sin - ners, Earth's Re - deem - er, plead for me, Where the songs of
 en - tered, Robed in flesh, our great High Priest; Thou on earth both

ev - ery na - tion Hath re - deemed us by His blood.
 get His prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more?"
 all the sin - less Sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 Priest and Vic - tim In the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION

Ryan Baer, Moderator Pat Waldrip, Clerk of Session

CLASS OF 2023

Sarah Bryan
Judy Burch
Kent Burel
Rod Canfield
Mark Hopkins
Matt Jones
Keith Oelke

CLASS OF 2024

Shannon Brooks
Phyllis Crowell
Denise Horton
Paul Lee
Sharon Logan Neff
Bruce Middendorf
Randy Riner
Chuck Toney

CLASS OF 2025

Lindsay Griffeth
Angela Hunt
Dan Nadenicek
Karen Phillips
Ethelyn Simpson
Jeffrey Trapnell
Pat Tritt
John Turner
Pat Waldrip

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Ryan Baer, *Senior Pastor* (ryan@firstpresathens.org)
The Rev. Whitney Booth Lockard, *Associate Pastor* (whitney@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)
Mrs. Lucy Bell Johnson, *Office Administrator* (lbell@firstpresathens.org)
Mr. Paulo Santos, *Director of Communications* (paulo@firstpresathens.org)
Ms. Jennifer Adams, *Church Accountant* (jadams@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*
Mr. Wayne Brock, *Sexton*