



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 14, 2024
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
Third 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

Shalom

Dan Locklair

Words of Welcome

Song of Gathering

Hymn 474, stanza 1

**O splendor of God's glory bright,
from light eternal bringing light;
thou light of life, light's living spring,
true day, all days illumining.**

Call to Worship

Come as you are into the presence of God.

We come in need of grace and healing.

Let the mystery of God's love transform you.

We trust God to provide all we need.

*Hymn 470

O Day of Radiant Gladness

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN

*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.**

*Assurance of Pardon

**Those who are able may stand.*

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

In O Day of Radiant Gladness, the first day of the week represents the threefold commemoration of Creation, Resurrection, and Pentecost – each an encounter with a part of the Trinity. The tune name recalls the German song adapted for use as a hymn.

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.”

After the Passing of the Peace at the 11:00 a.m. service, children, ages Pre-K - grade 5, are invited to Children’s Church held in the Children’s Ministry Suite on the first floor.

Lay Readers:
8:45: Karen Burg
11:00: Nathan Baer

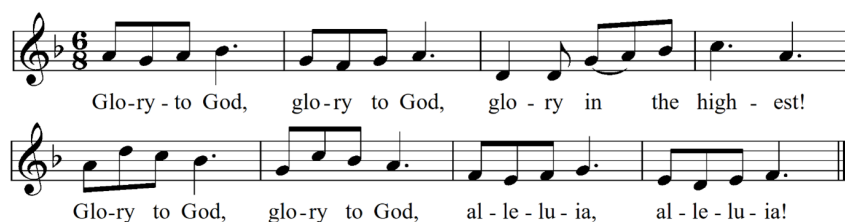
The anthem is a text from the Book of Hours, Sarum, 1514, set to music by contemporary English composer Andrew Carter.

Take My Life, a hymn of consecration, radiates from the repeated word “take,” resulting in a full survey of a person’s attributes and possessions, giving weight to the “all” at the end. The composer of the tune was influential in the renewal of Reformed hymnody in French.

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.

*Congregational Response

Jacques Berthier



*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

Congregational 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 best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

First Lesson Mark 6:53–56, page 919

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

11:00 Anthem *God Be in My Head* Andrew Carter

God be in my head and in my understanding,
God be in mine eyes and in my looking,
God be in my mouth and in my speaking,
God be in my heart and in my thinking,
God be at mine end and at my departing.

Second Lesson Acts 3:1–10, page 995

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

Sermon *What We Have We Give* Dr. Ryan Baer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

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

***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.**

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 *Blessed Jesus, at Your Word* Johann Sebastian Bach

*Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**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

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

***Hymn 450** *O Day of Peace* JERUSALEM

*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 *O Day of Peace* Mark Sedio

*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.*

*Texts and music for hymns and
sung responses reprinted under
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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.

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.

Children, Pre K – 5th Grade, are invited to Children’s Church during the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Children’s Church will be held downstairs in the Children’s Ministry Suite. We will depart for Children’s Church following the Passing of the Peace. To pick up your child after the service, please go to the church courtyard entrance of the Children’s Ministry Suite.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 today 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 the Beauty of the Earth - Hymn Festival
Sunday, April 21, 3:00 p.m.

All are invited for an ecumenical hymn festival hosted by Athens First United Methodist Church on Sunday, April 21 at 3:00 p.m., led by renowned organist and conductor, Dr. Marilyn Keiser. Our Chancel Choir will join choirs and clergy from downtown Athens churches to celebrate the wonders of God's creation through hymns, accompanied by handbells, brass, and organ. The event is free and open to the public, with a reception following the festival.

NOTES ON THE SERVICE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Dr. Ryan Baer, *Senior Pastor*

The Rev. Whitney Booth Lockard, *Associate Pastor*

Dr. John Coble, *Director of Music and Organist*

Lay Readers

8:45 a.m. Karen Burg

11:00 a.m. Nathan Baer

USHERS

8:45 a.m. John Simpson (head), Terry Nestor

11:00 a.m. Jimbo Laboon III (head),
Larry Baer, Ed Ferguson

GREETERS

8:45 a.m. Mary Peace

11:00 a.m. Svea Bogue

AUDIOVISUAL TECHNICIAN

Bryan Owens

FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the New Voices Sunday School Class.

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 (Barberitos), Fellowship Hall

Dinner menu: Salad Bar (corn taco shells, grilled chicken, lettuce),
Cookies* (* = gluten free)*

*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 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, Fellowship Hall Breakout Area
- 3:30 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal, Room 203
- 3:30 p.m. St. Andrews Choir Rehearsal, Room 202
- 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
- 6:50 p.m. High School Youth Group, Oconee Youth Playhouse

Monday, April 15

- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Room 205

Tuesday, April 16

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

Wednesday, April 17

- 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 202
- 5:30 p.m. Wed@First Supper – Barberitos, 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 18

- 2:00 p.m. Mellows, Terra Bella
- 5:30 p.m. Session Worship, Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. Session Meeting Examination of Elders, Moses Waddel Room

Sunday, April 21 - Installation and Ordination of Elders

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Godly Play
- 11:00 a.m. Installation & Ordination of Elders
- 12:00 p.m. Reception for Elders, Fellowship Hall
- 3:00 p.m. For the Beauty of the Earth Hymn Festival, First United Methodist Church
- 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

O Day of Radiant Gladness

ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN 7.6.7.6 D

Stanzas 1-2, Christopher Wordsworth, 1862; alt.

Stanza 3, Charles P. Price, 1980

Stanza 4, *The Hymnal* 1982

Memmingen ms., 17th century

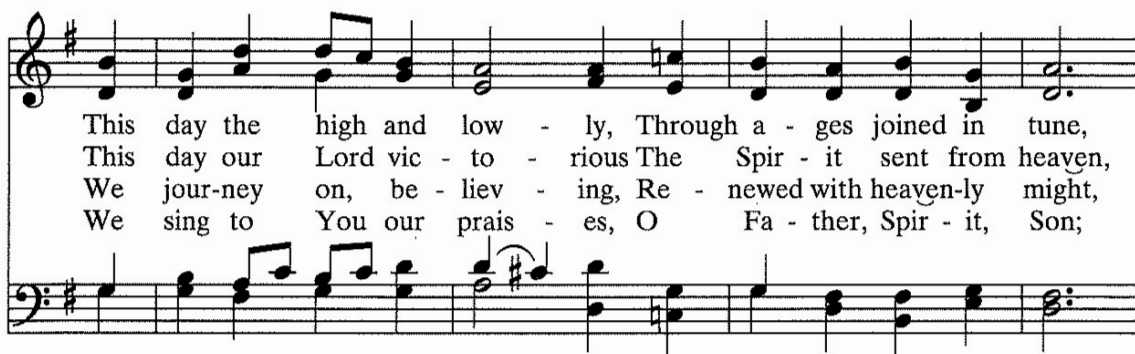
Harm. George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1904



1. O day of ra-diant glad-ness, O day of joy and light,
 2. This day at the cre-a-tion The light first had its birth;
 3. This day God's peo-ple, meet-ing, The Ho-ly Scrip-ture hear;
 4. That light our hope sus-tain-ing, We walk the pil-grim way,



O balm of care and sad-ness, Most beau-ti-ful, most bright;
 This day for our sal-va-tion Christ rose from depths of earth;
 Christ's liv-ing pres-ence greet-ing, Through bread and wine made near.
 At length our rest at-tain-ing, Our end-less Sab-bath day.



This day the high and low-ly, Through a-ges joined in tune,
 This day our Lord vic-to-rious The Spir-it sent from heaven,
 We jour-ney on, be-liev-ing, Re-newed with heav-en-ly might,
 We sing to You our prais-es, O Fa-ther, Spir-it, Son;



Sing "Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly" To the great God tri-une.
 And thus this day most glo-rious A tri-ple light was given.
 From grace more grace re-ceiv-ing On this blest day of light.
 The church its voice up-raises To You, blest Three in One.

Take My Life

HENDON 7.7.7.7

Frances Ridley Havergal, 1874

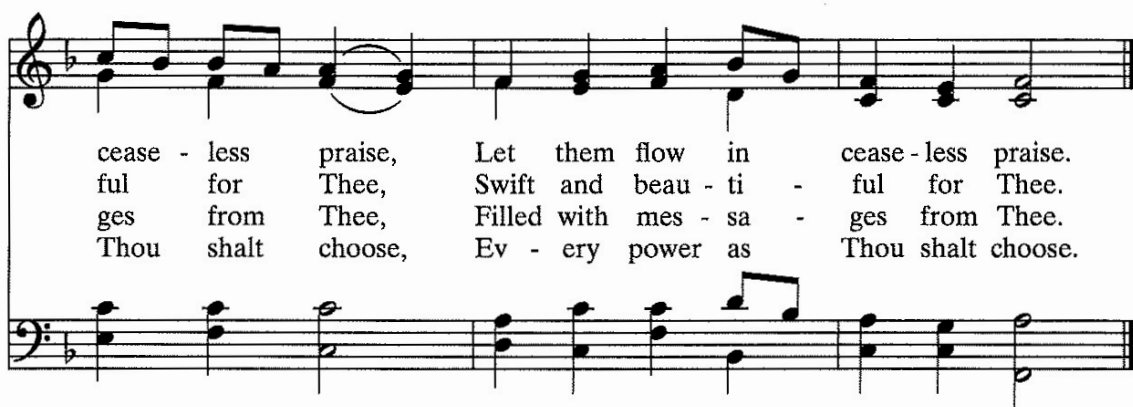
H. A. César Malan, 1827



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.

O Day of Peace

450

JERUSALEM LMD

C. Hubert H. Parry, 1916

Harm. Richard Proulx, 1986

Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1982

Unison



1. O day of peace that dim-ly shines
2. Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb,



Through all our hopes and prayers and dreams, Guide us to jus - tice,
Nor shall the fierce de - vour the small; As beasts and cat - tle



truth, and love, De - liv - ered from our self - ish schemes. May swords of
calm - ly graze, A lit - tle child shall lead them all. Then en - e -



hate fall from our hands, Our hearts from en - vy find
mies shall learn to love, All crea - tures find their true



re - lease, Till by God's grace our war - ring
ac - cord; The hope of peace shall be ful -



world Shall see Christ's prom-ised reign of peace.
filled, For all the earth shall know the Lord.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION

Ryan Baer, Moderator Pat Waldrup, 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 Waldrup

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)
Ms. Sheff Newland, *Receptionist* (frontdesk@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*