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!

May 5, 2024
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.
Scottish Reformation Sunday

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.

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

Bagpipe Prelude

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

***Processional** *Highland Cathedral* Traditional piping tune

***Call to Worship**
In our busy and noisy lives, remind us that only one thing matters.
Calm us with your patient love.
Amid our struggle and striving, reassure us that only one thing matters.
Comfort us with your caring love.
When our fears take hold of us, steady us with the only thing that matters.
Let us settle into the peace of your love, in our worship and our lives.

***Hymn 420** *God of Grace and God of Glory* CWM RHONDDA

God of Grace and God of Glory was written for the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930. It is a traditional opening hymn in "Kirkin' o' the Tartan" services, started in 1941 by the Rev. Peter Marshall at New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C.

Words of Welcome

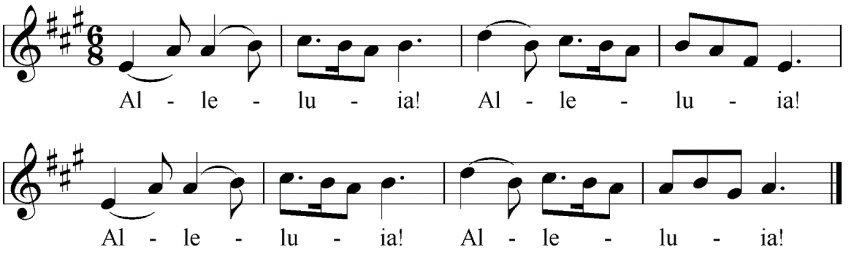
Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession
Loving and merciful God, you know our hearts and you know our lives. We confess to you that which causes separation, that which causes pain, that which causes distress, and that which breaks down. We confess to you our part in those things. And in humility and hope, we ask for your help to do better, to reconcile, to heal, to soothe, to build up. So may we love you and neighbor, and follow our Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

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

**Those who are able may stand.*

***Congregational Response** CELTIC ALLELUIA



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."

***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.

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

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

Lay Readers:
8:45: Joan Pinson
11:00: David Dantzler

First Lesson Mark 12:28-31, page 926
This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 13:1-13, page 1049
This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon *Faith, Hope, and Love* Dr. Ryan Baer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***Hymn 335** *Though I May Speak* O WALY WALY

***Affirmation of Faith** from *The Scots Confession*

We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom alone we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust. Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible; one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. By whom we confess and believe all things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible, to have been created, to be retained in their being, and to be ruled and guided by his inscrutable providence for such end as his eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice have appointed, and to the manifestation of his own glory.

The Scots Confession was written in 1560 when the Scottish Parliament declared Scotland a Protestant nation and asked the clergy to frame a confession of faith. Beginning with a pledge of unconditional commitment to the triune God, this confession sets forth three marks of the true and faithful church in terms of preaching, the sacraments, and church discipline.

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

8:45 Offertory *Bagpipe Offertory*

11:00 Offertory *If Mortal Tongues with Angels Sing* Mark Schweizer

If mortal tongues with angels sing, and joined with them, my praise I bring,
yet no love lived within the thing, my clamor is forsaken.
And when all prophesies have flown, and mountains moved by faith alone,
and if I know what can be known, forsaking love, I'm shaken.
For love is patient, love is kind, not envious, or self-inclined,
insisting on its way to find, but wends the path rejoicing.
Love bears all things, believes all things, to hope it ever after clings,
enduring all, love's spirit sings, its expectation voicing.
Let prophecies and knowledge cease, and unknown tongues, their joy release, ***(cont.)***

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.*

we only know in part the peace that now we are pretending.
For faith and hope and love abide, these all within our hearts reside,
yet of these three, love opens wide the path of joy unending.

The anthem is a paraphrase of 1 Corinthians 13 set to an old Irish air by American composer Mark Schweizer.

***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**

Sacrament of Holy Communion

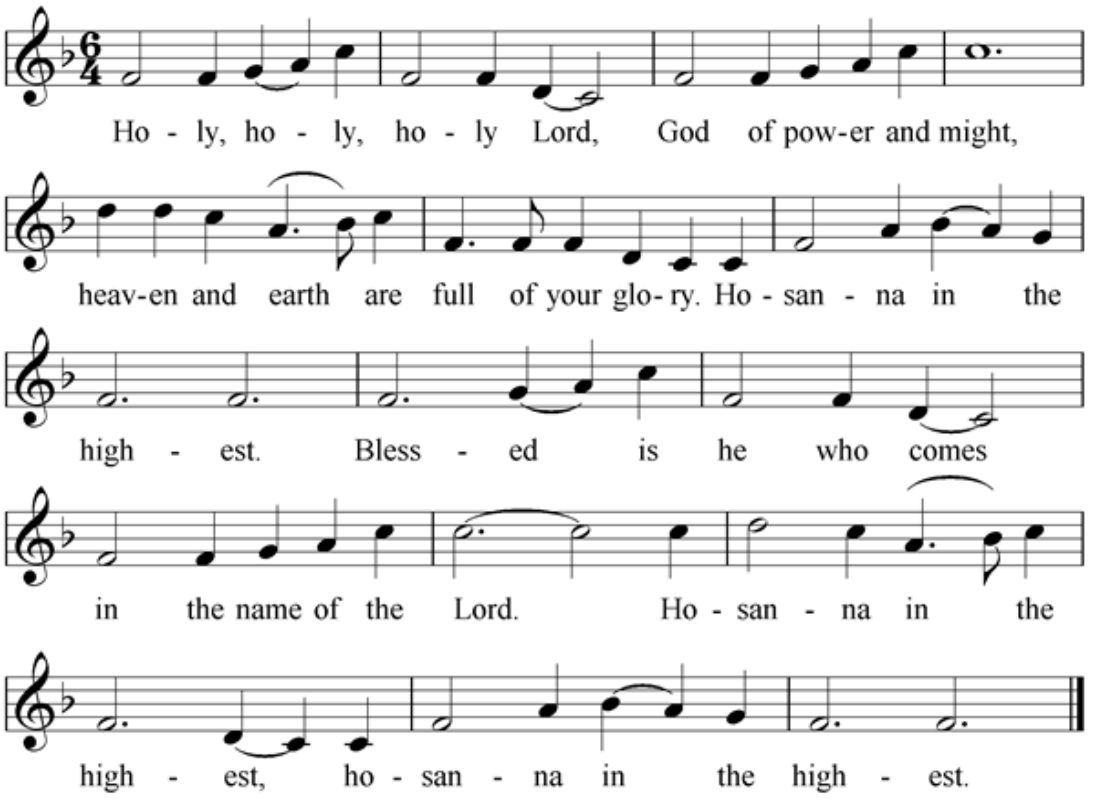
Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving

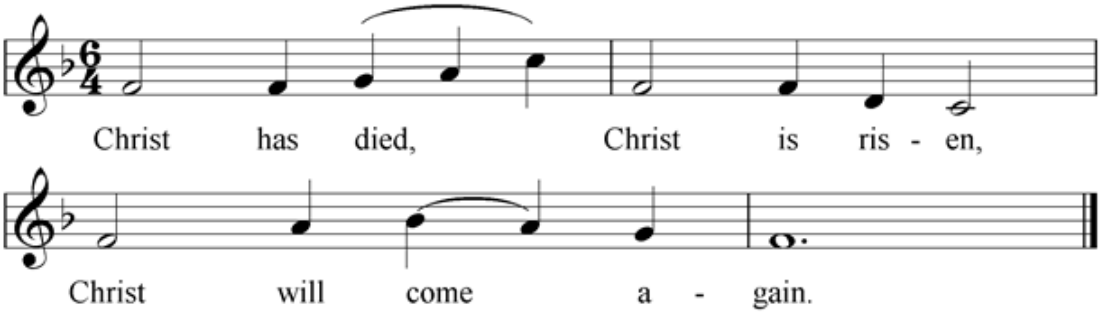
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise….

The musical setting of the communion liturgy is based on the American folk hymn LAND OF REST, arranged by American composer Richard Proulx.

Sanctus



Memorial Acclamation



The Great Amen



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

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling!, written by Charles Wesley, expresses the transforming power of love, leading to unending praise in the life to come. The name of the Welsh tune means "delightful."

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

SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

***Hymn 376** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling!* HYFRYDOL

***Charge and Benediction**

Recessional *Scotland the Brave* Traditional piping tune

Following 11:00 a.m. worship, all are invited to a reception in Fellowship Hall to welcome our honored guests.

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.

An Invitation for Fellowship

If after Kirk ye bide a wee,
there's some wad like to speak with ye.
If after Kirk ye rise and flee,
we'll all seem cold and stiff to ye.
The one that's in the seat with ye
is stranger here than ye, maybe.
All here ha'e got their fears and cares.
An ye your soul unto our pryers.
Be ye our angel unawares.

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*
Mr. Henry Frantz, Jr., *Great Highland Bagpipes*

Lay Reader
8:45 a.m. Joan Pinson

11:00 a.m. David Dantzler

USHERS

8:45 a.m. John Simpson (head), David Cole

11:00 a.m. Jimbo Laboon III (head),
Chuck Toney, Laura Toney

AUDIOVISUAL TECHNICIAN

Bryan Owens

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Aiden Dowling

FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Lee Padgett by his family.

MAY FLOWER TEAM

Paige Simmons (chair),
Mary Attaway, Madie Fischetti, Elaine Johnson, Terry Nestor, Jennifer Poole, Gail Wilfong

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.

Scottish Reformation Worship Procession

Mr. Henry Frantz, Jr., Great Highland Bagpipes
Scottish and Tartan Flag Bearers
Mr. Lee Epting, Beadle
Chancel Choir
Dr. Patricia Waldrip, Clerk of Session
Clergy: Dr. Ryan Baer and The Rev. Whitney Booth Lockard
The Reverend Hilary Shuford, General Presbyter, Northeast Georgia Presbytery

Elected and Appointed Government Officials:

The Honorable Kelly Girtz, Mayor of Athens
Ms. Deborah Gonzalez, District Attorney
The Honorable Steve Jones, Judge, United States District Court
The Honorable Ryan Hope, Judge, Athens-Clarke County State Court
The Honorable Kelly Wegel, Associate Judge, Athens-Clarke County Magistrate Court
Ms. Linda Davis, Clarke County School Board, District 3
Ms. Deborah Lucas, Town of Bishop Councilwoman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GRADUATION SUNDAY, MAY 12

Each year, we recognize our high school graduates in worship on Mother's Day. Youth and their parents are invited forward for a blessing, with a reception to follow in Fellowship Hall. Whether active or not, we want to celebrate all our seniors! If you know of a High School Senior, please e-mail their information to Kim Ness at kness@firstpresathens.org so we can extend an invitation.

BLESSING OF THE 5TH GRADERS MAY 12, 9:45 A.M.

Parents and children are invited to a special Godly Play story and feast to celebrate our graduating 5th Graders! Join us in Children's Ministry Suite on May 12 at 9:45 a.m. For more information, please contact Natalie Bishop at natalie@firstpresathens.org.

Confirmation Sunday
May 19

Our 2024 Confirmation Class has been meeting, working with their mentors, and growing as a group since October 2023. On **May 19**, they will join the church and make their profession of faith. Please join us as we welcome them into our church family. Reception following in Fellowship Hall.

Installation Service for The Rev. Whitney Booth Lockard
May 19, 3:00 p.m., Sanctuary

The Northeast Georgia Presbytery invites you to the Installation Service of The Rev. Whitney Booth Lockard on **Sunday, May 19**, at 3:00 p.m. in the First Presbyterian Church Sanctuary. Reception to follow in Fellowship Hall.

Women's Connection Conference at Montreat

Save the date and plan to join us for the Women's Connection the weekend of **August 9-11, 2024** in the beautiful mountains of Montreat, North Carolina. This year's keynote speaker is Becca Stevens, a nonprofit leader, entrepreneur, priest, survivor, and founder and President of Thistle Farms.

Sign up today to stay at the Georgia Lodge as space is limited! Cost per person is $85 for both nights: tinyurl.com/FPCWCC2024.

Registration and information about the conference can be found at montreat.org/events/wc-2024. Conference registration costs $247 (and increases to $272 after June 25).

Please contact Beverly Phares (beverlypphares@gmail.com or 706-255-6990) or Julie Jagmin (juliebjagmin@bellsouth.net or 678-852-7310) if you have any questions. If you need scholarship assistance, contact Rev. Whitney Booth Lockard (whitney@firstpresathens.org).

Books for Keeps Book Drive
Through May 26

Help make sure no child in our community goes a summer without great books to read. Please bring your used books to the bins in the Atrium or church office. Books for Keeps can accept books of all kinds ***except textbooks and encyclopedias***. To learn more about the organization, please go to booksforkeeps.org. Thank you!

THIS WEEK

Sunday, May 5 - Communion Sunday, Food Sunday, Scottish Reformation Sunday
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. Scottish Reformation Reception, Fellowship Hall
12:30 p.m. Mission & Outreach and Matthew 25 Commission meeting, Moses Waddel Room
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. Youth Group End of Year Party, Fellowship Hall

Monday, May 6
2:00 p.m. Circle Two, Staff Conference Room
5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Room 205

Tuesday, May 7
9:00 a.m. Staff Calendar Planning Meeting, Moses Waddel Room
1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls 1, Parlor
2:00 p.m. Circle 3/4
7:00 p.m. Circle 6, Home of Ann Dunn

Wednesday, May 8
9:15 a.m. Circle 7, Presbyterian Village of Athens
5:30 p.m. FARMRx Food Classes, Fellowship Hall
6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Room 202

Thursday, May 9
2:00 p.m. Mellows, Manor Lake
5:00 p.m. Administration Commission Meeting, Staff Conference Room

Friday, May 10
10:45 a.m. WDS Pre-K Graduation, Sanctuary

Sunday, May 12 - Blessing of the 5th Graders, Graduation Sunday
8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, The Rev. Whitney Booth Lockard preaching
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
9:45 a.m. Blessing of the 5th Graders, Children's Ministry Suite
12:00 p.m. Reception for Graduates, Fellowship Hall

LOOKING AHEAD

May 19 - Pentecost, Confirmation Sunday, Installation Service for The Rev. Whitney Booth Lockard

May 26 - Summer Schedule begins, One Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.,
Books for Keeps Book Drive ends

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

420 God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7

Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930; alt. John Hughes, 1907



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.

335 Though I May Speak

O WALY WALY LM

Hal Hopson, 1972

English folk melody
Harm. John Weaver, 1988



376 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7 D

Charles Wesley, 1747 — Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1831



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION

Ryan Baer, Moderator Pat Waldrip, Clerk of Session

Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
Shannon Brooks	Lindsay Griffeth	Susan Baldwin
Phyllis Crowell	Angela Hunt	Bill Bushnell
Denise Horton	Dan Nadenicek	Amy Cowsert
Paul Lee	Karen Phillips	Matt Crim
Sharon Logan Neff	Ethelyn Simpson	Jay Holloway
Bruce Middendorf	Jeffrey Trapnell	Tom Lane
Randy Riner	Pat Tritt	Joan Pinson
Chuck Toney	John Turner	Paige Simmons
	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*