



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!

August 18, 2024
10:00 a.m.
Thirteenth 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.

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

Prelude Nimrod Edward Elgar

Words of Welcome

Moment for Mission *Fall Education Opportunities*

Song of Gathering Hymn 489, stanza 1
Open now thy gates of beauty, Zion, let me enter there.
Where my soul in joyful duty waits for God who answers prayer;
O how blessed is this place, filled with solace, light, and grace.

Call to Worship
Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you deep respect for God.
Which of you desires life and longs for many days to enjoy good?
Depart from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.
Revere God, O holy ones,
for those who live in awe of God have no want.

***Hymn 478** *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* LAUDA ANIMA

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**
O Source of all wisdom, you invite us to eat of your bread and drink of your cup so that we might walk in the way of insight. Like Solomon, we seek your guidance above all else. May we not treat your wisdom like information that answers our questions. Instead, may we inhabit your wisdom as we would dwell in a home you have built, our whole lives long. Amen.

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

***Assurance of Pardon**

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

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven, a free paraphrase of Psalm 103, gains energy by including the double “Alleluia!” before the final line in each stanza. Those are set to the tune descending from its highest notes.

**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.”

All children are invited to remain in worship on Sunday mornings with family during the summer months.

Lay Reader:
Patrick Sheridan

The anthem is a text by George Herbert, set to music by J.S. Bach, in an arrangement by English composer William H. Harris.

Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure is a paraphrase of the latter part of Psalm 145, celebrating God’s providential care for all creation, especially for those in need or trouble. It is set to an anonymous German tune.

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.

*Congregational Response

David Ogden



*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 454, stanza 1

**Blessed Jesus, at your word we are gathered all to hear you;
let our hearts and souls be stirred now to seek and love and fear you;
by your teachings true and holy,
drawn from earth to love you solely.**

First Lesson

John 14:1, 25-27, page 984

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

Anthem

King of Glory, King of Peace J.S. Bach/William H. Harris

King of glory, King of peace, I will love thee;
and that love may never cease, I will move thee.
Thou hast granted my request, thou hast heard me;
thou didst note my working breast, thou hast spared me.
Wherefore with my utmost art I will sing thee,
and the cream of all my heart I will bring thee.
Though my sins against me cried, thou didst clear me;
and alone, when they replied, thou didst hear me.
Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee;
in my heart, though not in heaven, I can raise thee.
Small it is in this poor sort to enrol thee:
e'en eternity's too short to extol thee.

Second Lesson

Daniel 6:6-27, page 807

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

Sermon

Lions

Dr. Ryan Baer

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Hymn 251

Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure WINCHESTER NEW

*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 *Winchester New* Bruce Neswick
*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 423** *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun* DUKE STREET

***Charge and Benediction**

***Congregational Response** Hymn 540, stanza 3
**God be with you till we meet again;
when life's perils thick confound you,
put unfailing arms around you:
God be with you till we meet again.**

Postlude *Prelude and Fugue in G* attr. J.S. Bach



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.

Jesus Shall Reign
Where'er the Sun is a
classic example of how
Isaac Watts Christian-
ized the psalms, in
this case Psalm 72, by
turning their language
to New Testament
equivalents. The tune
is named after the
address of the sup-
posed composer, John
Hatton.

*Texts and music for hymns and
sung responses reprinted under
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Nurseries for children 4 years old and younger, available from 9:00 a.m. to 11:15 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.

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.

Save these Dates!

- **Today, August 18 at 11:00 a.m.: Fall Kickoff Potluck** (following our last 10:00 a.m. service of the summer) in Fellowship Hall. The church will provide fried chicken and beverages. Please bring a side dish to share (crockpots welcome) and join us for a time of fellowship as we begin a new season together! Sunday School classes, Children and Youth Ministries, and Presbyterian Women Circles will be in the Atrium providing information about their Fall plans. Children's Choir Rehearsals begin in the afternoon.
- **Sunday August 25 (9:45-10:45 a.m.):** Sunday School for all ages resumes!
 - **Children's Ministry Meet & Greet (12:05 p.m. in the Children's Ministry Suite):** Children and their families are invited to meet Hannah (new Interim Director of Children and Youth Ministries) after worship, enjoy a treat, and get some information for the upcoming year.
 - **Presbyterian Pizza Party (5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall):** Youth and their parents are invited to gather to meet Hannah, learn about plans for the year, and enjoy a meal together.
- **Sunday, September 8 (5:30-7:30 p.m.):** 1st Youth Group of the Year

Come Volunteer with Children and Youth Ministries

Children and Youth Ministries at FPC are at the beginning of a new and exciting season and we need your help! All members of the congregation are invited to sign up to help support these ministries by serving occasionally as a teacher or volunteer, by bringing a meal, or chaperoning an outing. More information and sign up forms can be found on FPC website.

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 Reader

Patrick Sheridan

USHERS

Jimbo Laboon III (head),

David Cole, John Simpson

FELLOWSHIP HOST

Jeffrey Trapnell

AUDIOVISUAL TECHNICIAN

Bryan Owens

FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of William Harold Short by Jackie Williams and Sally and Bill Short.

SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Aiden Dowling

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.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, August 18 - Fall Kickoff Potluck

- 9:15 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal, Room 202
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
- 11:00 a.m. Fall Kickoff Potluck, Fellowship Hall
- 4:00 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal, Room 203
- 4:00 p.m. St. Andrews Singers Choir Rehearsal, Room 202
- 4:50 p.m. Celebration Singers Choir Rehearsal, Room 202

Tuesday, August 20

- 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
- 5:00 p.m. CYM Strategic Planning Meeting

Wednesday, August 21

- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Security Protocol Meeting, Staff Kitchen
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Room 202

Friday, August 23

- 11:15 a.m. Weekday School Open House

Sunday, August 25 - Two Worship Services Resume, Sunday School Begins

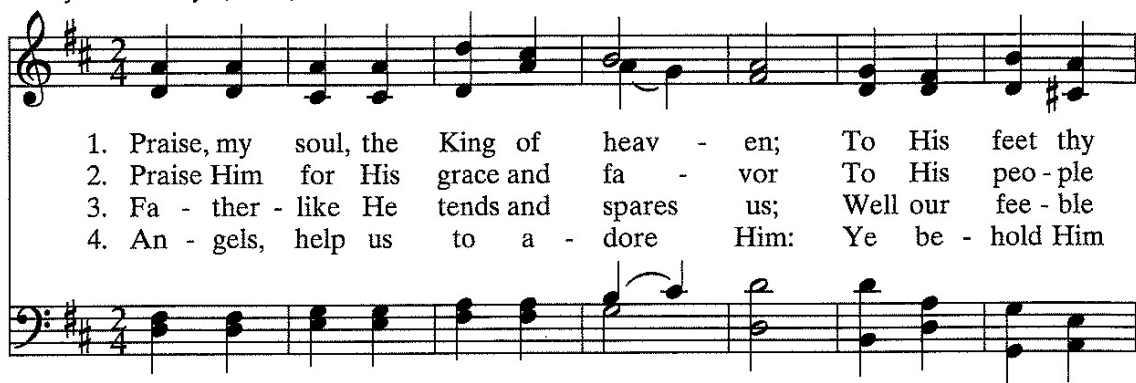
- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, The Rev. Whitney Booth Lockard preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 12:00 p.m. Atrium Refreshments, Atrium
- 12:05 p.m. Children's Ministry Meet & Greet, Children's Ministry Suite
- 3:00 p.m. Weekday School Parents Meeting, Sanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. Cherub Choir Rehearsal, Room 203
- 4:00 p.m. St. Andrews Choir Rehearsal, Room 202
- 4:50 p.m. Celebration Singers Choir Rehearsal, Room 202
- 5:30 p.m. Presbyterian Pizza Party, Fellowship Hall

478 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

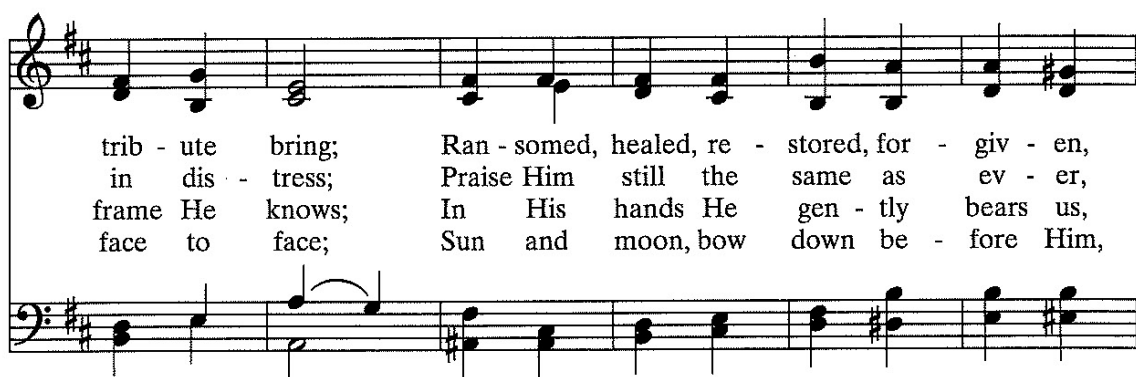
LAUDA ANIMA 8.7.8.7.8.7

Henry Francis Lyte, 1834; alt.

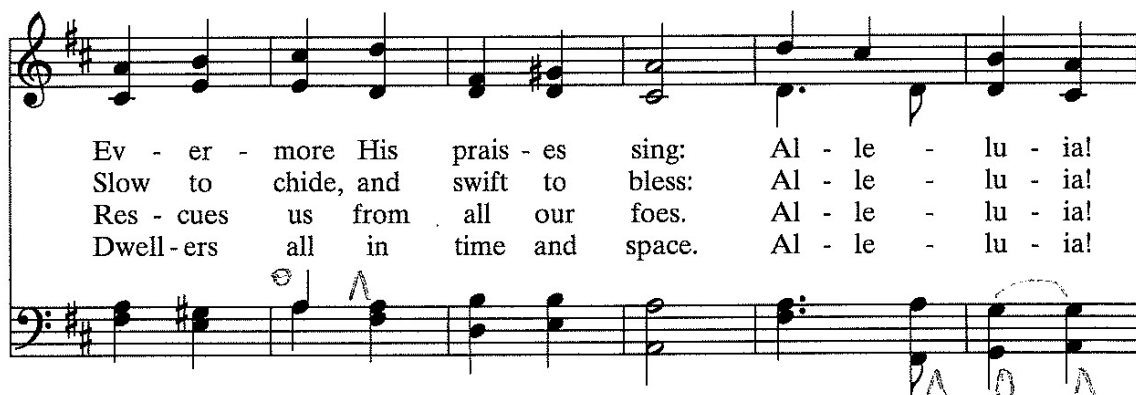
John Goss, 1869



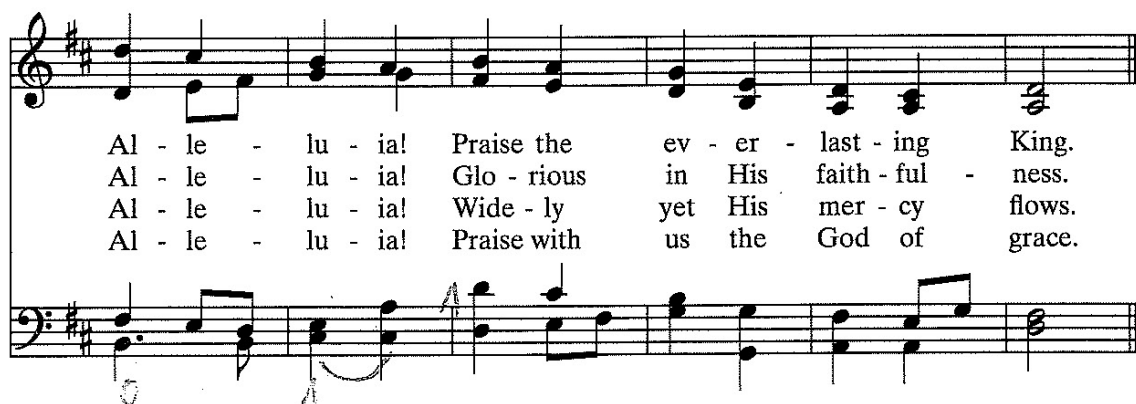
1. Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; To His feet thy
 2. Praise Him for His grace and fa - vor To His peo - ple
 3. Fa - ther - like He tends and spares us; Well our fee - ble
 4. An - gels, help us to a - dore Him: Ye be - hold Him



trib - ute bring; Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
 in dis - tress; Praise Him still the same as ev - er,
 frame He knows; In His hands He gen - tly bears us,
 face to face; Sun and moon, bow down be - fore Him,



Ev - er - more His prais - es sing: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Slow to chide, and swift to bless: Al - le - lu - ia!
 Res - cues us from all our foes. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Dwell - ers all in time and space. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in His faith - ful - ness.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet His mer - cy flows.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

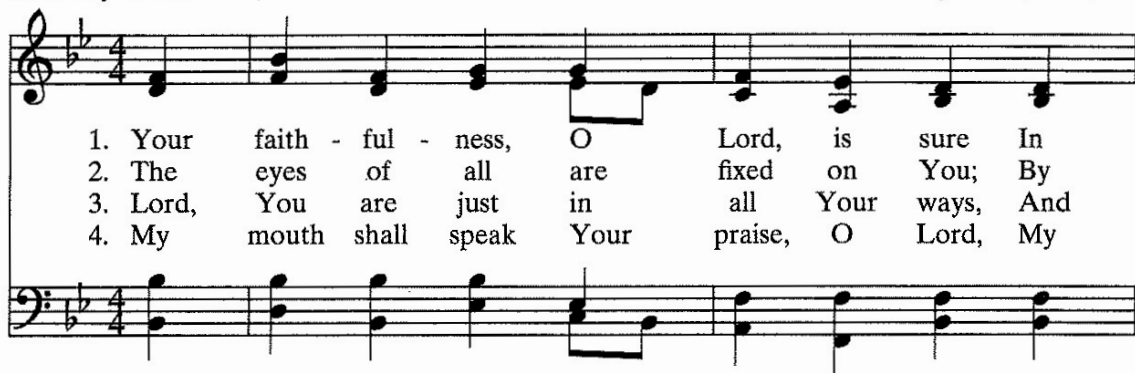
Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure

251

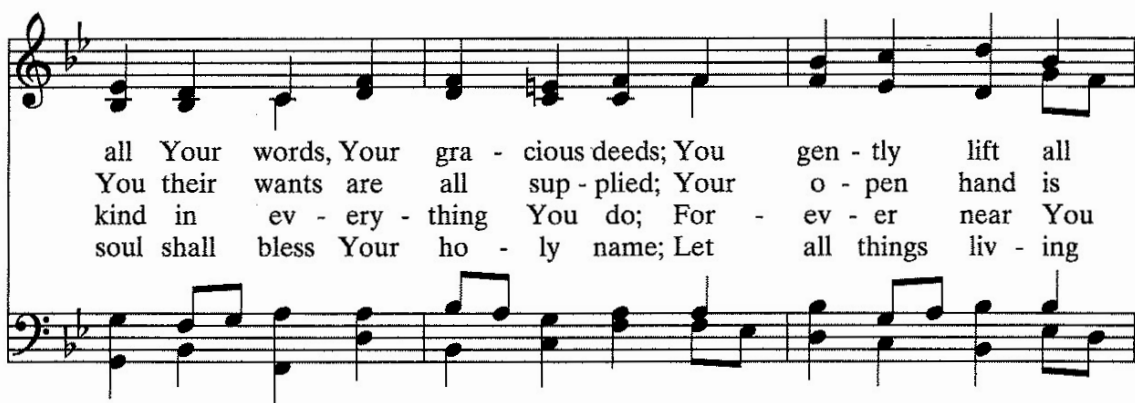
WINCHESTER NEW LM

Para. Joy F. Patterson, 1989

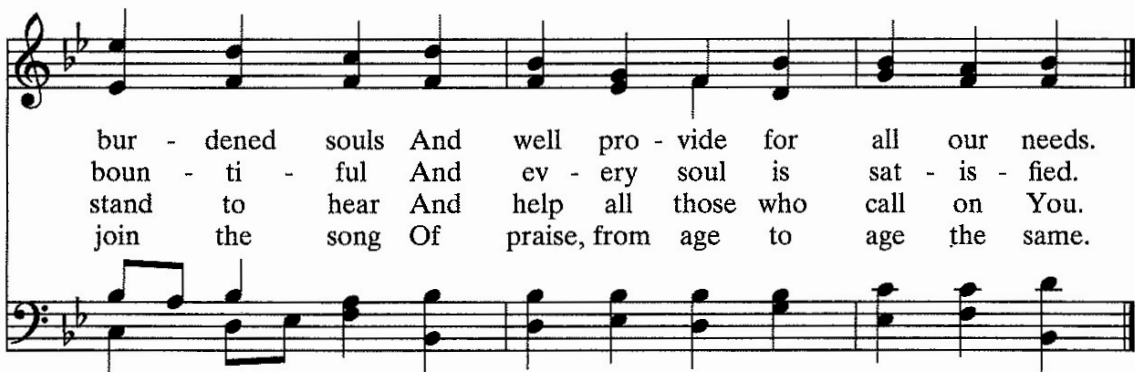
Musikalisches Handbuch, 1690
Harm. William Henry Monk, 1847; alt.



1. Your faith - ful - ness, O Lord, is sure In
2. The eyes of all are fixed on You; By
3. Lord, You are just in all Your ways, And
4. My mouth shall speak Your praise, O Lord, My



all Your words, Your gra - cious deeds; You gen - tly lift all
You their wants are all sup - plied; Your o - pen hand is
kind in ev - ery - thing You do; For - ev - er near You
soul shall bless Your ho - ly name; Let all things liv - ing



bur - dened souls And well pro - vide for all our needs.
boun - ti - ful And ev - ery soul is sat - is - fied.
stand to hear And help all those who call on You.
join the song Of praise, from age to age the same.

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

DUKE STREET LM

John Hatton (d. 1793)

Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.

Desc. David McKinley Williams, 1959

Descant

5. Let ev - ery crea - ture rise and bring Hon - ors pe -

1. Je - sus shall reign where - e'er the sun Does its suc -
 2. To Him shall end - less prayer be made, And prais - es
 3. Peo - ple and realms of ev - ery tongue Dwell on His
 4. Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er He reigns; The pris - oners

cu - liar to our King; An - gels de - scend with

ces - sive jour - neys run, His king - dom stretch from
 throng to crown His head; His name, like sweet per -
 love with sweet - est song, And in - fant voic - es
 leap to lose their chains, The wea - ry find e -

songs a - gain, And earth re - peat the loud A - men!

shore to shore, Till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 fume, shall rise With ev - ery morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 shall pro - claim Their ear - ly bless - ings on His name.
 ter - nal rest, And all who suf - fer want are blest.

5. Let every creature rise and bring
 Honors peculiar to our King;

Angels descend with songs again,
 And earth repeat the loud Amen!

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)
Ms. Hannah Knight, *Interim Director of Children and Youth Ministries* (hannah@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. Joli Winstanley, *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*