



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!

October 20, 2024
8:45 and 11:00 a.m.

Twenty-second 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

Unser Herrscher

John Ferguson

Words of Welcome

Moment for Mission

Bethlehem Ministry

Rennae Henry

Song of Gathering

AZMON

**This is the day the Lord hath made;
the hours are all God's own.
Let heaven rejoice; let earth be glad,
and praise surround the throne.**

Call to Worship

Oh God, how majestic is your name in all the earth.

When we look at your creation, we are astonished.

How is it that you care for each of us, as fragile as we are?

You have crowned us with glory and honor,

And entrusted us with the care of all that you have made.

Oh God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

***Hymn 489** *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty* UNSER HERRSCHER

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved you with our whole hearts, minds, and strength, and we have not loved our neighbors as we have loved ourselves. We have sinned by what we have done, and by what we have failed to do, and by what we have said, and by what we have left unsaid. Forgive what we have been, amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, to the glory of your holy name.

*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).

Rennae Henry is the Executive Director of Bethlehem Ministry.

In the first stanza of *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty*, "Zion" is not a general synonym for Jerusalem, but a reference to the part of the city where the Temple stood. It prepares the way for the interior temple of the heart in stanza two. The tune is by a prominent German Reformed hymnwriter.

***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!

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 - 2nd Grade, are invited to Children's Church held in the Children's Ministry Suite on the first floor.

***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.**

11:00 a.m. Sacrament of Baptism

Through baptism, we welcome Graham Mark Hopkins, son of Jack Stuart Hopkins and Amanda Renee Hopkins, into the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

***Question to the Congregation**

Do we, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Graham by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging him to know and follow Christ? If so, please stand.

***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.**

Hymn 492

Baptized in Water

BUNESSAN

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

Luke 1:30-33, page 933

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

11:00 a.m. Anthem

Behold, the Tabernacle of God

Robert J. Powell

Behold, the tabernacle of God is with you,
 and the Spirit of God dwelleth within you;
 for the temple of God is holy, which temple are ye:
 for the love of whom ye do this day celebrate the joy,
 the joys of the temple with a season, a season of festivity. Alleluia.

Second Lesson

2 Samuel 7:1-17, page 273

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

Sermon

Promises, Promises

Dr. Ryan Baer

Lay Reader:

11:00: Daniel Baer

The anthem, by a contemporary composer from South Carolina, was written for the tenth anniversary of Marilyn Keiser's service at All Souls' Episcopal Church (now Cathedral), Asheville, NC. The text seems even more appropriate as All Souls' and other religious communities have been displaced from their places of worship.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Hymn 356 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* NETTLETON

*8:45 a.m. Affirmation of Faith *The Apostles' Creed*

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 423 *Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun* DUKE STREET

*Charge and Benediction

*Congregational Response Hymn 538, stanza 1

**Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing;
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, thy love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us, O refresh us,
traveling through this wilderness.**

Postlude *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* Emma Lou Diemer

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing was written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor. The term "Ebenezer" is Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance.



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 classical example of Isaac Watts Christianizing the Psalms, in this case Psalm 72. The tune is named after the address of the supposed composer John Hatton.

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

Nurseries for children 4 years old and younger, available from 8:30 a.m. to 12:10 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 – 2nd 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.

A Haitian Lunch and Update Today, 12:15 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

First Presbyterian Church has supported the programs begun by Father Bruno in Haiti for over 40 years! Bethlehem Ministry and FPC invite you to a Haitian Lunch and Update **today at 12:15 p.m.** with speakers Rennae Henry (Executive Director of Bethlehem Ministry) and Rachel Bruno (Chief Operating Officer of Espérance et Vie)! Join us for Haitian food and to hear the latest on the difference these programs are making in Haiti.

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

11:00 a.m. Daniel Baer

Baptism Elders

Mark and Jill Hopkins

USHERS

8:45 a.m. John Simpson (head), Mary Peace

11:00 a.m. Keith Oelke (head),
Larry Baer, Lisa Oelke

GREETER

8:45 a.m. Diane Hartzell

AUDIOVISUAL TECHNICIAN

Bryan Owens

OCTOBER FLOWER TEAM

Greta Covington (chair),
Judy Burch, Sydney Jackson, Susan Landrum,
Wanda Neislar, Leslye Queen, Judy Scanlon

FLOWERS

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Arthur Robinson McKay, Jr. and Max Louis Wendler by Carol McKay.

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.

Wed@First Fall Programs October 23 Schedule:

4:30 – 5:30 p.m. **Shakespeare & Friends Homer's *Iliad* Class**, Room 308

5:30 – 6:30 p.m. **Dinner (Taziki's)**, Fellowship Hall
Dinner menu: Grilled chicken, Mediterranean salad and balsamic dressing*,
Roasted potatoes *, Hummus*, Pita bread, cookies* (* = gluten free)*

6:30 – 7:30 p.m. **The Way of Jesus: Conversations about Discipleship**, Fellowship Hall

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

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



\$12/person, \$45 family max (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.

Recommendations for Elders

The Nominations and Elections Committee encourages your participation in the process for nominating Elders. Elders should be persons of faith, dedication, and good judgment. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian Gospel, both within the church and in the world at large.

Please e-mail your suggestions to Chuck Toney, Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee, at chuckgt63@gmail.com. You can also fill out the form in the website (www.firstpresathens.org).

Current Elders:
(Not eligible for recommendation)

CLASS OF 2025

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

CLASS OF 2026

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

CLASS OF 2027

Susan Baldwin
Bill Bushnell
Amy Cowsert
Matt Crim
Jay Holloway
Tom Lane
Joan Pinson
Paige Simmons

I prayerfully recommend the following for Elder:

Name		Reasons	
Name		Reasons	
Name		Reasons	
Name		Reasons	
Name		Reasons	

Members of the Nominations and Elections Committee are Chuck Toney (Chair), Ethelyn Simpson (Vice Chair), Stan Bailey, Meghan Bawcum, Jim Bennewitz, Susan Ferguson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hurricane Response

Dear Friends, as we continue to grasp the magnitude of damage and suffering from Hurricanes Helene and Milton, our hearts ache for our neighbors who have lost so much. We are grateful to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) for organizing relief efforts on the ground in those areas of great need and so we encourage anyone wanting to help to donate to PDA (pda.pcusa.org).

Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF Offering Sunday, October 27

Children are invited to wear their church friendly costumes and will be Trick or Treating for UNICEF in the adult Sunday School classrooms and choir room during the Sunday school hour and following the 11:00 a.m. worship service in the Atrium. Halloween Treats will be provided!

First Pres Family Promise Host Weeks October 13 - 27

First Presbyterian is the host church for Family Promise from October 13 - 27.

Volunteers directly impact and assist the families by providing a meal, giving a \$25 donation (to First Pres with Family Promise in memo) to purchase groceries or rideshare gift cards, driving the van on Monday or Saturday, spending time with the families on Saturday at the Day Center (located at Athens First Baptist Church), or hosting a Saturday Children's activity for the kids.



If you would like to help, please see a Family Promise Team member in the Atrium on Sunday mornings or sign up online using the QR code or going to: tinyurl.com/FPAVolunteer. If you have questions, please contact the Family Promise Coordinators, Susan Boatwright at boatwright.susan@gmail.com or Jean Bock at jbbock@bellsouth.net.

Donations and Volunteers Needed for the FPC Resource Pantry

Following a successful launch on October 3, the Matthew 25 Commission is seeking contributions to the FPC Resource Pantry:

- Boxes of single serving snack packs of crackers and cookies (e.g., 12, 20, or 30-count individual snack packs such as goldfish or teddy grahams);
- Adult and youth socks in black or white;
- Financial donations: for checks, please note "Resource Pantry" in the memo. For online contributions at firstpresathens.org/giving, please select "General Fund" under "Select a Fund" and write "Resource Pantry" in the optional memo;
- Volunteers: sign up to volunteer for a 2-hour shift at tinyurl.com/FPCResourcePantry

Thank you for your support!

Atrium Fellowship Hosts

Hosting Atrium Fellowship is a minimal commitment with maximum impact on our church community. The church provides the drinks, snacks, and serving pieces. You can arrive a half-hour before worship and set everything up according to the instructions you will receive the week of your commitment. A few minutes before worship ends, slip out and set up in the Atrium on the table that will be set for you. After 30 minutes or so, you can begin to break down and return the supplies to the kitchen (there will be more detailed instructions you receive).

Please sign up to volunteer at tinyurl.com/FPCAtriumFall. For more information and questions, contact Chuck Toney at chuckgt63@gmail.com.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, October 20

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 12:15 p.m. A Haitian Lunch and Update, Fellowship Hall
- 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. Youth Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group, The PIT

Monday, October 21

- 5:30 p.m. UGA Campus Kitchen, Main Kitchen

Tuesday, October 22

- 7:00 a.m. Our Daily Bread Breakfast, First Baptist Church
- 9:00 a.m. Northeast Georgia Stated Presbytery Meeting, First Presbyterian Church of Cleveland
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls 1, Parlor
- 5:30 p.m. UGA Campus Kitchen, Main Kitchen
- 6:00 p.m. College of Elders Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Athens Area Homeless Shelter Board Meeting, Staff Conference Room

Wednesday, October 23

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 4:30 p.m. Shakespeare & Friends *Iliad* Class, Room 308
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Mission Project, Athens Area Diaper Bank
- 5:30 p.m. Wed@First Supper - Taziki's, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. The Way of Jesus: Conversations about Discipleship, Fellowship Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Room 202

Thursday, October 24

- 9:05 a.m. WDS Chapel, Children's Ministry Suite
- 4:30 p.m. Resource Pantry (Matthew 25), The PIT
- 7:00 p.m. Athens Flute Choir Rehearsal, Fellowship Hall

Saturday, October 26

- 8:00 a.m. Kate's Club, The PIT

Sunday, October 27 - Family Promise Host Weeks End, Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF

- 8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services, Dr. Ryan Baer preaching
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School
- 12:00 p.m. Atrium Refreshments, Atrium
- 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. Youth Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group, The PIT

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.

- Children's Sunday School & Children's Church: tinyurl.com/FPCCM2024
- Sunday School Teachers (Middle & High School): tinyurl.com/FPCYouthSS
- Youth Group Meals & Volunteers: tinyurl.com/FPCYouthDinner2024

EDUCATION – FAITH FORMATION

SUNDAYS FOR CHILDREN

Interim Director of Children and Youth Ministries:

Hannah Knight

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 – 2nd 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, praying to God, and responding through art and worship.

**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

Interim Director of Children and Youth Ministries:

Hannah Knight

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

Sunday School (9:45 a.m.) - offered for both middle and high school

Both middle and high school groups will be using the Living the Word curriculum, that closely follows the narrative lectionary that guides our worship each week. Middle and high schoolers will be split into separate rooms in the PIT for a time of study, discussion, and response.

Youth Group (5:30-7 p.m.)

Sunday night youth group is a safe space for youth to come as they are! We will begin with dinner together in the fellowship hall (please volunteer to provide a meal at tinyurl.com/FPCYouthDinner2024). At 6:00, both middle and high school groups will move down to the PIT where there will be games, Bible study, creative response time, and lots of laughs as we spend an intentional hour together. The theme for this year is “In Every Season,” rooted in Ecclesiastes 3:1-8. We will spend time diving into what it looks like to trust & see God in every season, and learning to be okay with asking questions about our faith.

For any questions, please contact Hannah at hannah@firstpresathens.org.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

9:45-10:40 a.m.

IN PERSON

Bible Basics • Moses Waddel Room

Bible Basics is a new intergenerational adult class designed to improve basic Bible knowledge and familiarity. This year, we are “walking through the Bible” – Genesis to Revelation - in an effort to lay a solid foundation for future Bible study. The class is appropriate for all experience levels from “Biblical neophytes” to those looking for a refresher.

Contacts: David Dantzler (jdaviddantzler@gmail.com)

and Elaine Johnson (elaine@firstpresathens.org)

Builders • Room 301

This class is a space for all parents of children and youth to gather and share in the complexity of family life. Our time together will offer a blend of fellowship, parenting support, Bible study, and service.

Contacts: Dr. Ryan Baer (ryan@firstpresathens.org) or

Rev. Whitney Booth Lockard (whitney@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

Our goal is to create joy through art, food, music, prayer, scripture, class-led discussion, community, purple open-mindedness, and inclusion. Books to be read and discussed this year include *Falling Upward*, by Richard Rohr, and more!

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

Zoom ID: 674 533 8902

Wayne F. Middendorf Men's Bible Class

Bride's Room, Tinsley Stern

The class features open and honest discussion in a nonjudgmental atmosphere about various aspects of Christianity. This year, the class will continue with their study and discussion of *Understanding the Old Testament*, led by Robert Miller, professor at Catholic University.

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

Jim Scanlon (ijtsscanlon@yahoo.com)

Zoom ID: 883 5159 0923

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

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UNSER HERRSCHER 8.7.8.7.7.7

Benjamin Schmolck, 1732
Trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1863

Joachim Neander, 1680
Harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863; alt.
Desc. John Dykes Bower (1905-1981)

Descant

3. Speak, O Lord, and I will hear Thee, Let Thy will be done in - deed;

1. O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
2. Gra - cious God, I come be - fore Thee, Come Thou al - so down to me;
3. Speak, O Lord, and I will hear Thee, Let Thy will be done in - deed;

May I un - dis - turbed draw near Thee, While Thou dost Thy peo - ple feed.

Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty Waits for God who an - swers prayer;
Where we find Thee and a - dore Thee, There a heaven on earth must be;
May I un - dis - turbed draw near Thee, While Thou dost Thy peo - ple feed.

Here of life the foun - tain flows, Here is balm for all our woes.

O how bless - ed is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace.
To my heart O en - ter Thou, Let it be Thy tem - ple now.
Here of life the foun - tain flows, Here is balm for all our woes.

Baptized in Water

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BUNESSAN 5.5.8.5.5.9

Gaelic melody

Michael A. Seward, 1981

Arr. Dale Grotenhuis, 1985

C Am Dm G F G C

1. Bap-tized in wa - ter, Sealed by the Spir - it, Cleansed by the
 2. Bap-tized in wa - ter, Sealed by the Spir - it, Dead in the
 3. Bap-tized in wa - ter, Sealed by the Spir - it, Marked with the

Em Am Em G C Am F C/G

blood of Christ, our King; Heirs of sal - va - tion, Trust - ing the
 tomb with Christ, our King; One with His ris - ing, Freed and for -
 sign of Christ, our King; Born of the Spir - it, We are God's

Am G C G/B Am G7 C

prom - ise, Faith - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.
 giv - en, Thank - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.
 chil - dren, Joy - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 356

Robert Robinson, c. 1758

1. Come, Thou Fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love!
2. Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by Thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
- Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.
3. O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

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

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

CLASS OF 2026

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

CLASS OF 2027

Susan Baldwin
Bill Bushnell
Amy Cowser
Matt Crim
Jay Holloway
Tom Lane
Joan Pinson
Paige Simmons

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*
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Mrs. Madeline Van Dyck, *Parish Nurse*
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