

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude Dr. Mary Crowell

Welcome and Announcements Dr. Karl Kling

* CALL TO WORSHIP Courtney Greene

Our Gracious Lord, we give you our worship and praise.

Your never-failing love lasts forever.

We lift our hearts and voices to You.

To You alone our praise belongs.

Let us worship God.

*Hymn of Praise God, You Spin the Whirling Planets #23

Celebration of Church Membership Gina Garth

*Call to Confession Courtney Greene

When we gather to praise God, we remember that we are people who have preferred to follow our own wills instead of the Lord's call. Accepting God's power to become new persons in Christ, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

*Prayer of Confession Unison

Merciful God, you made us in your image, with a heart to love you and the freedom to serve you. But our love is imperfect and our obedience is incomplete. Day by day we fail to grow into your likeness. In your tender love, forgive us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Kyrie Eleison Unison

Three staves of musical notation in G major, 6/8 time. The lyrics are: "You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy! You are the Christ, giv-er of mer-cy! You are the Lord, giv-er of mer-cy!" Chords are indicated above the notes: Am, D, C, D, Em, C, Em for the first line; Em, D, G, Am, Em, D, E for the second line.

*Assurance of Pardon Dr. Kling

In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, we are assured that there is no sin so terrible that God cannot forgive. God promises to heal all our hurts. Receive the abundant love of God. In Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

* The Gloria Patri Unison

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end; Amen.

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all. Dr. Kling

All: And also with you.

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

"This Little Light of Mine"

Time with Young Disciples Dr. Kling

Prayer for Illumination Courtney Greene

Dear Lord, we pray that your Word will renew our hearts and guide our lives. We pray this in the name of Jesus, who calls us to follow You every day.

First Reading Psalm 8:1-6 Courtney Greene
p. 535

Anthem It is Good to Sing Thy Praises by John Carter

Second Reading Genesis 1:25-28 Dr. Kling
p. 1-2

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "God Gets An A+" Dr. Kling

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

* Affirmation of Faith Unison
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 Dr. Kling

The Lord's Prayer Unison

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.

*Hymn of Discipleship His Eye Is On the Sparrow # 661

Invitation to Worship God with Our Offering Dr. Kling

Offertory Dr. Mary Crowell

*Doxology
**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 Dr. Kling

*Prayer for the Pastor Nominating Committee Unison
"Our Loving God, look graciously on this Church. Please guide the minds of the PNC as they search for our next Pastor. Lead the search committee to a Pastor who will be a faithful partner in ministry. And prepare our next Pastor to care for this congregation as we share Christ's love with others. We pray this in Jesus' name, Amen."

*Hymn of Sending Shall We Gather at the River #375

*Charge Dr. Kling
Wherever we go, God has sent us; Wherever we are, God has put us there; God has a purpose in our being there; there is something that God wants to do through us. Wherever we are!

*Benediction Dr. Kling
As God's people we all say,
Alleluia, Amen!

* Postlude Dr. Mary Crowell

**Stand if you are able*

PRAYER REQUESTS

CHURCH FAMILY

Doris Welch (Home) Bonnie Chambers (Home)
Dean Steele Suzanne Weeks (Healing)
Susie Fogg (Home) Stephen Toney (Home)
Sharon Massey Ruth Martin (Healing)
Rene Brown (Traditions) Jac Catlett
Melvin & Ruth Clem (Health) Doug Booth (Health)
Debbi O'Neill (Healing)

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Brandon Noel – Army Sean Miller - Army
Adam Naves - Marines Damien Williams - Army
Michael Ress – USAF –AZ Joshua Hargrove – Deployed
Jay Tulley- Middle East Justin Ruf- Army Air Guard
Kevin O'Neill-Army Res.-Poland

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Bob Defour (Doyle & Suzanne Weeks son-in-law)
Brent Harris (Friend of Chris Hilgeman)
Melvin Norwood (Health, Tashia Baugher's Father)
Sue Guyer (Health & Healing, Bonny Noel's sister)
Gerry & Denzil Smith (Healing) cousin of Jan Ruth)
Alex Noel (Nephew of John & Bonny Noel)
John Townsend (Health, Doug Harbin's Brother in Law)
Bill Grisham (Health, Pam Gregg's dad)
Hazel Ruf (Mason Ruf's mother, home)
Gary Kilgo (Health, Kay Baugher & Carol Quillen's family member)
Macie Garrett (Healing, Christy Arnett's Niece)
Karen Ferguson (Potter's Hand)
Sherry Thompson (Healing, sister of Christy Arnett)
Keith Clem (Healing, cousin of Chris Paysinger)
Johnathon Garrett, (Healing, great nephew of Christy Arnett)
Amy and John May (Healing, wife of Jan Ruth's grandson)
Jim May (Healing, son of Jane Ruth)
Amy Cotten (Potter's Hand)
Vernon Kruger (Healing, neighbor of Jan Ruth)
Lucrecia Hawley (Healing, friend of Jan Ruth)
John Cotten (Healing, Potter's Hand)
Telula Thornton (Healing and Comfort, mother of Karan Baker)
Maggie Ruth Naves (Healing, great granddaughter of Hazel White)
Finley McAllister (Healing, sibling of Jennifer Quillen's student)
Kate Proffitt (mother) Karson Proffitt (baby) (health and healing,
great grandchild of Karla Barnes and great niece of Gayle Cottles)
The Tilley Family (loss of home and loved one)

FOR OUR VISITORS:

We welcome you to worship and would love to connect. Prayer Request/Visitor cards are located in the pews. Please place it with the offering or give it to the pastor following the service. Thank you for worshipping with us today!

The Session

<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>
Sandy Colvin	Courtney Greene	Karan Baker
David Lyle	Don Payne	Gary Boyd
Brittany Mallette	Jerry Witt	Stanley Hand

Trustees

Suzanne Paysinger Larry Burlingame John Noel

PNC

Hal Baker Karla Barnes Stanley Hand Randi Harbin
Vicki Kellogg John Noel Libby Shindorf

Staff

Transitional Pastor:

Dr. Karl Kling
karlklngdmin@gmail.com

Office Administrator:

Margaret Lotz
fpcathens@fpcathens.org

Treasurers:

Julie McNeese

Choir Director:

Erica Hand

Nursery:

Alice Whitt

Follow us Online

Visit www.fpcathens.org for information, news, and digital worship. Sunday worship is live-streamed and archived on our YouTube page. Follow our Facebook page for news, updates on recent events, and upcoming opportunities. Join our Facebook group for community life. Sign up for our weekly email subscription at fpcathens@fpcathens.org.

Flowers

The flowers are given to the glory of God.
To sign up for flowers call the church office.



Worship Leaders

Sermon

Dr. Karl Kling

Liturgist

Courtney Greene

Musicians:

Erica Hand

Emily Clem

Dr. Mary Crowell

Acolytes:

Greta

Paisley

Church Nursery:

September 17th-Suzanne Paysinger

September 24th - Jennifer Quillen

Liturgist:

September 17th-Suzanne Paysinger

September 24th-Randi Harbin

Communion Prep:

October 1st- Jerry Witt

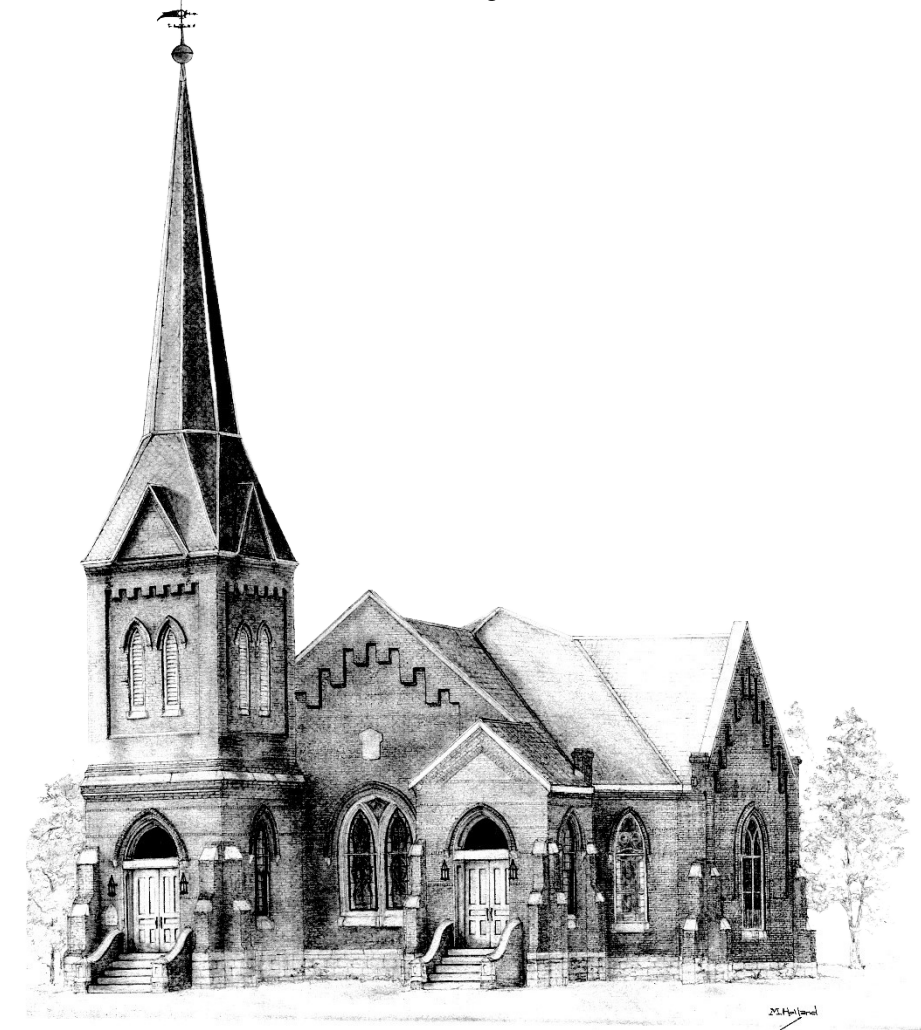
Prayer Family

Gary Boyd

20388 Old Elkmont Rd
Athens, AL 35614
Gary is a member of the Session

September 10, 2023

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost



First Presbyterian Church
112 South Jefferson Street
Athens, Alabama 35611

(256) 232-0122

www.fpcathens.org

We serve each other, the Athens community, and the world on the square in downtown Athens. Our church family is a community of believers who come seeking the grace and peace of God.

If you are looking for a place where you will be accepted, nurtured, and nourished in your journey of faith, or if you are still examining the claims of Christianity, then you are welcome at First Presbyterian Church.