

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude Dr. Mary Crowell

Welcome and Announcements Dr. Karl Kling

* CALL TO WORSHIP
God’s love lasts forever.
God’s forgiveness exceeds our imagination.
The Lord blesses us with abundant grace.
The Spirit gives us power to share God’s goodness every day.
Let us worship God!

*Hymn of Praise Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise #12

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP
“ABUNDANT GRACE, ABUNDANT GIVING” Avery Paysinger

*Call to Confession Brad Clem

The Lord says, “Come to me, all who labor and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” Let us bring our burdens of failure and sin to God so that we may receive mercy and forgiveness. Let us confess our sin.

*Prayer of Confession Unison

Our Gracious God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. Too often our selfishness and pride lead us to overlook the needs of others. We confess our sin and ask you to forgive us in Christ’s name.

Kyrie EleisonUnison



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!

*Assurance of Pardon Dr. Kling

Those who seek the face of God are blessed by Christ’s grace. Because Jesus sacrificed himself, everyone who asks, receives, and those who seek, find. In the name of 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.
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 Brad Clem
Our Loving God, as we listen to your Word, we pray that you will open our minds through your Spirit. Guide us to recognize the work you are doing in our individual lives and within our Church Community. We pray this in Jesus’ name, Amen.

First Reading Psalm 50:10-12 Brad Clem
p. 561

Anthem

Second Reading Luke 16:1-8 Dr. Kling
p. 1,036

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Abundant Grace, Abundant Giving" 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 Dedication We Give Thee But Thy Own # 708

Invitation to Worship God with Our Offering and the Dedication of Our Pledges:
(If you would like to Dedicate your Pledge for 2024, please come forward after the Offering Plate has passed your row and place your Pledge Card in the Basket on the Communion Table)

Offertory Dr. 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 Take My Life and Let It Be #697 vs. 1-4

*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. 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)	Diane Lynn (Health)

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)
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)
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)
Elaine Harris (Healing, friend of Chris Hilgeman)

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

Class of 2023

Sandy Colvin
David Lyle
Brittany Mallette

Class of 2024

Courtney Greene
Don Payne
Jerry Witt

Class of 2025

Karan Baker
Gary Boyd
Stanley Hand

Trustees

Suzanne Paysinger

Larry Burlingame

John Noel

PNC

Hal Baker
Vicki Kellogg

Karla Barnes
John Noel

Stanley Hand
Libby Shindorf

Randi Harbin

Staff

Transitional Pastor:

Dr. Karl Kling
karlklngdmin@gmail.com

Office Administrator:

Margaret Lotz
fpcathens@fpcathens.org

Treasurer:

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

Brad Clem

Musicians:

Erica Hand

Emily Clem

Dr. Mary Crowell

Acolytes:

Will

Elijah

Church Nursery:

October 29th Sandy Colvin

November 5th- Gale Cottles

Liturgist:

October 29th- Karla Barnes

Communion Prep:

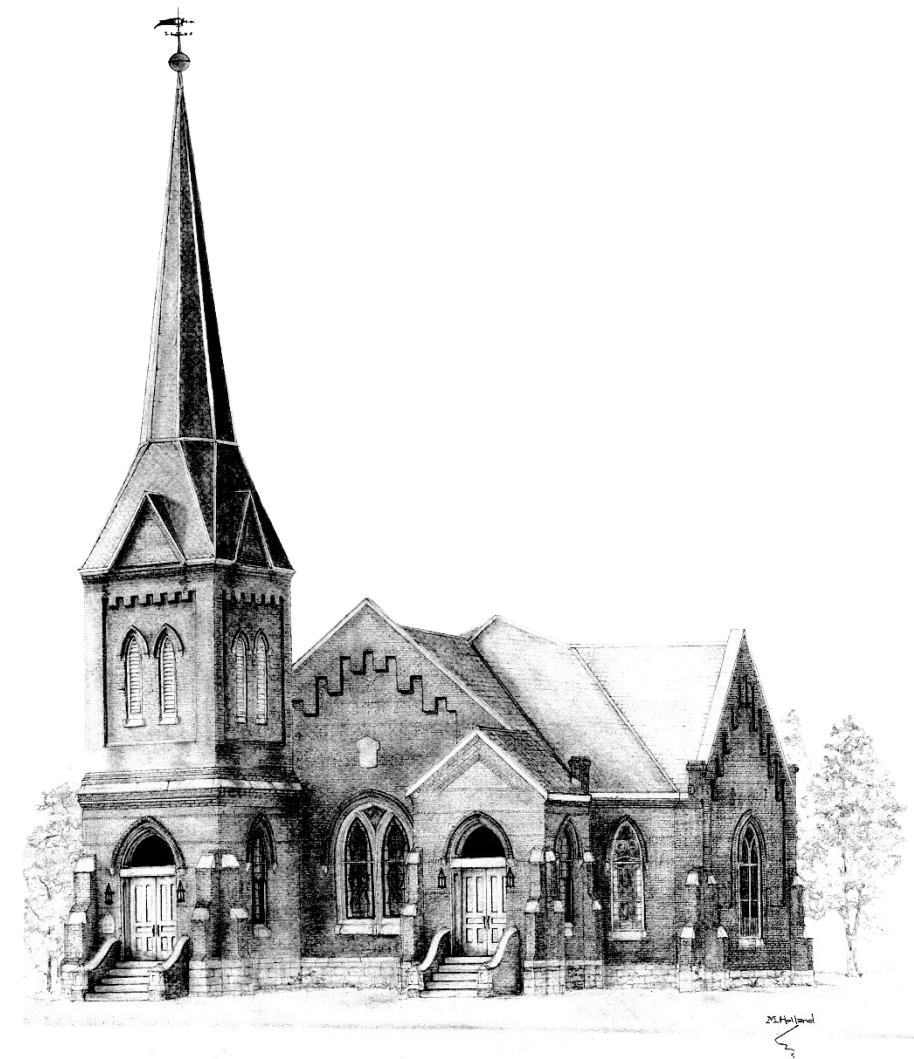
November 5th- Stanley Hand

Prayer Family

Diane Lynn
1804 Lindsay Lane South
Athens, AL 35613

October 22, 2023

Twenty-first 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.