

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude Dr. Mary Crowell

Welcome and Announcements Dr. Karl Kling

*Call to Worship Elder Doug Harbin

The Lord walks with us in every situation.
God calls us to joyfully follow Jesus Christ.
The Holy Spirit leads us each day.
Jesus, the Good Shepherd surrounds us with never-failing care.
Let us worship God.

*Hymn of Praise Fairest Lord Jesus #630

*Call to Confession Doug Harbin

God’s love never changes. The Lord is ready to hear about our mistakes and forgive our failures. Let us confess our sin to God.

*Prayer of Confession Unison

Our Merciful God, we frequently fail to recognize your care for us. Too often we overlook your answers to prayer. We focus on our own comfort and overlook the needs of neighbors. Please forgive our selfishness. Through your Spirit, help us to serve others. We pray this in Jesus' name, 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; Am, D, G, Am, Em, D, E for the second line.

*Assurance of Pardon Dr. Kling

Friends, God sent Christ into the world to be our Savior. Jesus hears our confession and has compassion for us. Receive God’s grace and share the Good News of Jesus Christ with your words and actions. 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.
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 Doug Harbin

Dear Lord, you are the way, the truth, and the life. Please open our hearts to hear your Word and to obey your call. We pray this in Jesus’ name, Amen.

First Reading Psalm 23:1-6 Doug Harbin
p. 544

Anthem A Sower Came From Ancient Hills Dr. Mary Crowell

Second Reading John 9: 1-12 Dr. Kling
p. 1,061

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

Sermon “Be My Eyes” 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.

*Hymn of Discipleship Let All Things Now Living #37

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.

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 Standing on the Promises #838

*Prayer of Dedication

*Charge and Benediction 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!
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)
Dean Steele
Susie Fogg (Home)
Sharon Massey
Rene Brown (Healing)
Melvin & Ruth Clem (Health)
Debbi O'Neill (Healing)
Gale Cottles (Healing)

Bonnie Chambers (Home)
Suzanne Weeks (Healing)
Stephen Toney (Home)
Ruth Martin (Healing)
Jac Catlett
Diane Lynn (Health)
Deb Kohlhase (Health)

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Brandon Noel – Army
Adam Naves - Marines
Michael Ress – USAF –AZ
Jay Tulley- Middle East
Kevin O’Neill-Army Res.-Poland

Sean Miller - Army
Damien Williams - Army
Joshua Hargrove – Deployed
Justin Ruf- Army Air Guard

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)
Bill Grisham (Health, Pam Gregg’s dad)
Hazel Ruf (Mason Ruf's mother, home)
Kierra Anderson (Friend of Gale Cottles)
Gary Kilgo (Health, Kay Baugher & Carol Quillen's family member)
Karen Ferguson (Potter's Hand)
Sherry Thompson (Healing, sister of Christy Arnett)
Keith Clem (Healing, cousin of Chris Paysinger)
Steven Smith (Healing cousin of Jan 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)
Cheryl Phelps (Healing, friend of Jan Ruth)
Jessie Saunders (Healing, friend of Jan Ruth)

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 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>
Courtney Greene	Karan Baker	Cindy Witt
Don Payne	Gary Boyd	Stephen Ware
Jerry Witt	Stanley Hand	Tom Clem

Trustees

Larry Burlingame	John Noel	Price Boyd
<u>PNC</u>		
Hal Baker	Karla Barnes	Stanley Hand
Vicki Kellogg	John Noel (Chair)	Libby Shindorf

Staff

Transitional Pastor:

Dr. Karl Kling
karlklingsadmin@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.
by Karl and Susan Kling in the memory of loved ones.



Worship Leaders

Sermon

Dr. Karl Kling

Liturgist

Elder Doug Harbin

Musicians:

Erica Hand
Emily Clem
Dr. Mary Crowell

Church Nursery:

March 24th-Jennifer Quillen
March 31st-Courtney Greene

Liturgist:

March 24th-Roberta Ress
March 31st- Jerry Witt

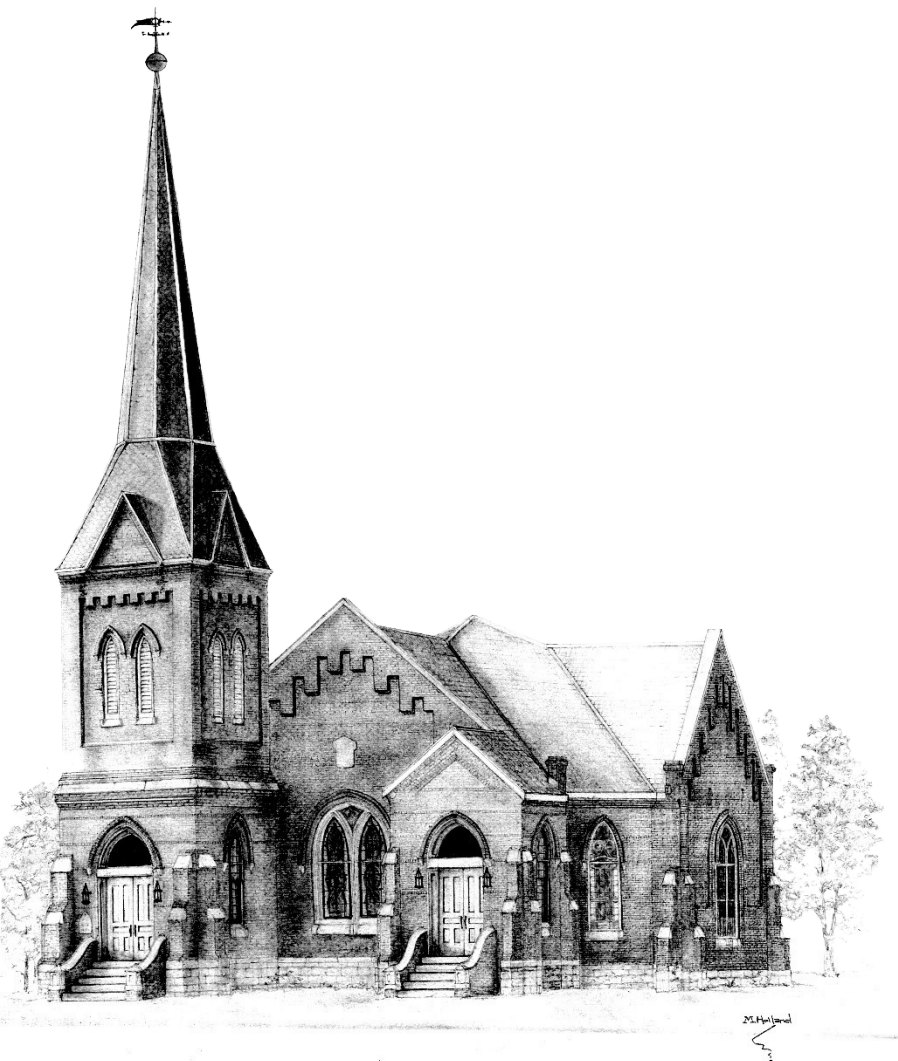
Communion Prep:

April 7th- Gary Boyd

Prayer Family

Price Boyd
PO Box 782
Athens, Al 35612
Price is a trustee for the class of 2026

March 17, 2024
5th Sunday in Lent



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.