

## WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude Dr. Mary Crowell

Welcome and Announcements Dr. Karl Kling

\*Call to Worship Elder Randi Harbin

Our Gracious Lord, we praise you for the beauty and wonder of your world.

**We worship you because your love lasts forever.**

Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

**We offer you all of our thanks and praise.**

Let us worship God.

\*Hymn of Praise Morning Has Broken #664

\*Call to Confession Randi Harbin

As we gather to worship, we admit that we are people who have preferred to follow our own wills instead of the Lord's call. Trusting in the Lord's promise to make us new persons in Christ, let us confess our sin to God.

\*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. There are times every day when we fail to love others as you love us. 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 forgive our large and small failures. Receive the unearned love and grace of your Lord. 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 Randi Harbin

Dear Lord, we pray that your Word will renew our hearts and guide our lives. We pray this in Jesus' name, Amen.

First Reading Isaiah 35:4-6 Randi Harbin  
p. 709

Anthem I Will Joyfully Sing by Mary McDonald

Second Reading Mark 7: 24-31 Dr. Kling  
p. 998

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "Surviving Suffering" Dr. Kling

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

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

\* 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.**

Invitation to Worship God with Our Offering Dr. Kling

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

\*Hymn of Sending What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine #837

\*Charge and Benediction

**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. Crowell

*\*Stand if you are able*

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### CHURCH FAMILY

Doris Welch (Home)	Suzanne Weeks (Healing)
Dean Steele	Stephen Toney (Home)
Susie Fogg (Home)	Jac Catlett
Sharon Massey	Diane Lynn (Health)
Melvin & Ruth Clem (Health)	Gale Cottles (Healing)
Debbi O'Neill (Healing)	Christy Arnett (Healing)
Marv & Elizabeth Price (Health)	Ken (Healing) and Connie Brown

### THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

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

### FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Bob Defour (Doyle & Suzanne Weeks son-in-law)  
Brent Harris (Friend of Chris Hilgeman)  
Larry Harris, ( Healing, 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)  
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 and Silvana Smith (Healing cousins 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)  
Robert Jones (Healing, friend of Jan Ruth)  
Phyllis Ramshur (Health, mother- in - law of Sean Harbin)  
Mike Frehner (Support, friend of David Lyle)  
Dawn (Healing, mother of Brittney Hicks)  
Cindy Newman (Healing, cousin of Chris Hilgeman)  
The Family of Dr. Charlie Shuler upon their loss of  
Dr. Schuler on 8/18  
Jesse 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
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### PNC

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

### 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](http://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](mailto: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

Elder Randi Harbin

### Musicians:

Erica Hand  
Emily Clem  
Dr. Mary Crowell

### Church Nursery:

September 15th-  
Suzanne Paysinger  
September 22nd-  
Jennifer Quillen

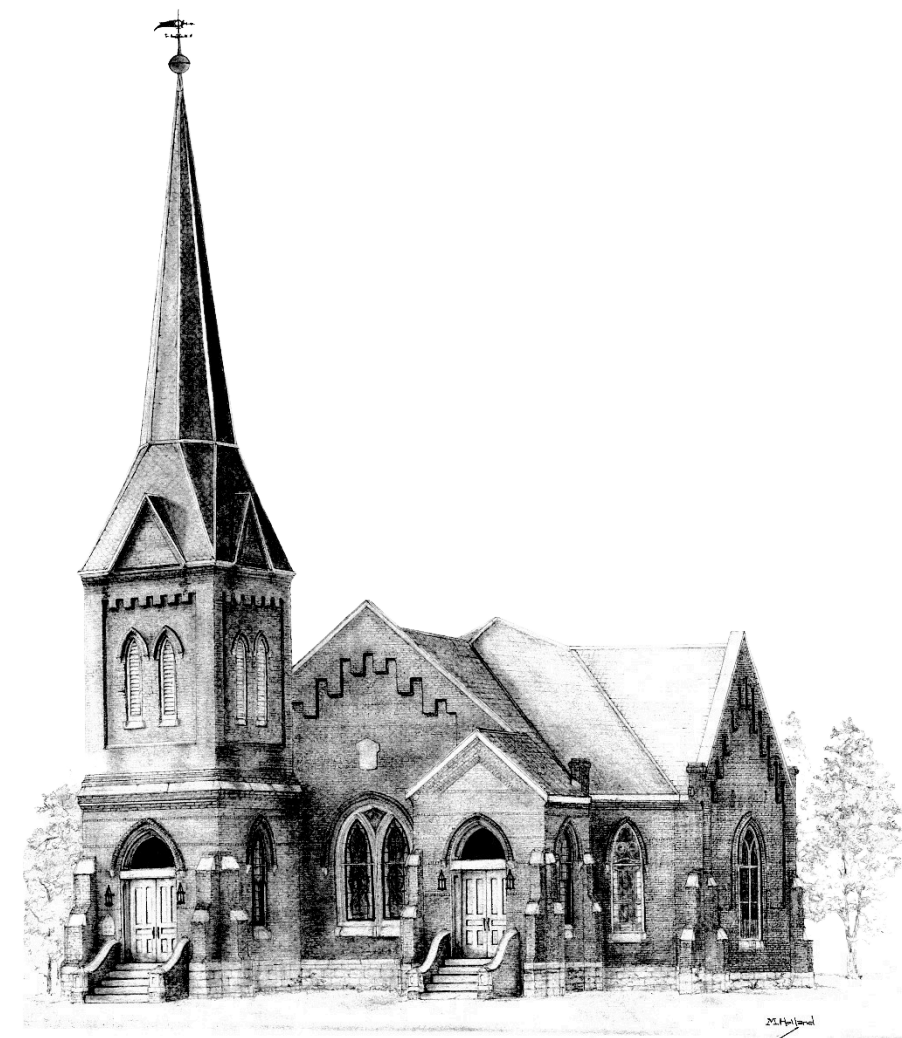
### Communion Prep:

October 6th- Gary Boyd

### Prayer Family

The Cagle Family:  
John and Lauren,  
Emily and Isaac  
(New Members)

September 8th, 2024  
16th Sunday after Pentecost



First Presbyterian Church  
112 South Jefferson Street  
Athens, Alabama 35611

(256) 232-0122  
[www.fpcathens.org](http://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.*