

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude Dr. Mary Crowell

Welcome and Announcements Dr. Karl Kling

* Call to Worship Elder Doug Harbin

During Advent, we remember God's promises.

Jesus will come again with great power and glory.

Heaven and earth will pass away.

The Word of the Lord will endure forever.

Let us worship God!

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath:- Lauren and John Cagle
Isaac and Emily**

Moment for Mission:

Family Resource Center Christmas Families

*Advent Hymn of Praise Come Thou Long Expected Jesus # 82

*Call to Confession Doug Harbin

The Apostle Paul teaches us that every person sins and falls short of God's goodness. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins to God.

* Prayer of Confession Unison

Our Loving God, we confess that too often we are not ready to meet you. We complain about problems that surround us yet ignore the signs of your kingdom. We trust in things that pass away and forget your eternal promises. Forgive our selfishness and pride. Make us ready for that day when you will return in glory. We pray this in Jesus' name, Amen.

* Kyrie Eleison Unison

*Assurance of Pardon Dr. Kling

The prophet Isaiah proclaims the wilderness will rejoice; the desert will blossom. The people of God will worship the Lord with joy and singing. Friends, hear and receive the Good News of the gospel: 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.

* Sharing the Peace of Christ Dr. Kling

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 of Illumination Doug Harbin

Gracious God, as we hear words of scripture, we wait for your living Word. Prepare us to follow the Christ as He leads the way. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

First Reading Isaiah 9: 6-7 Doug Harbin
p. 683

Anthem

Second Reading Luke 1: 26-38 Dr. Kling
pgs. 1,012-13

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

Sermon *REEL STORIES OF CHRISTMAS* Dr. Kling
1: "Christmas Trouble"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

*Advent Hymn of Discipleship Prepare the Way, O Zion #106

Invitation to the Table Dr. Kling

The Communion Prayer
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

With fresh eyes and renewed hope, we join our voices with those around the world and with your heavenly choir in lifting up our thanks and prayers...
(Dr. Kling continues with the Communion Prayer)

*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.

The Words of Institution Dr. Kling

Sharing the Bread and Cup
Please hold each element until all have been served.

Prayer After Communion Dr. Kling

Invitation to Worship God with Our Offering

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

*Advent Hymn of Sending Lift Up Your Heads Ye Mighty Gates #93

*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

Marv & Elizabeth Price (Health) Duane Counter (Health & Healing)
Larry and Cynthia Ugarte` (Healing) Suzanne Weeks (Healing)
Doris Welch (Home) Stephen Toney (Home)
Dean Steele Jac Catlett
Susie Fogg (Home) Diane Lynn (Health)
Sharon Massey Gale Cottles (Healing)
Melvin & Ruth Clem (Health) Christy Arnett (Healing)
Debbi O'Neill (Healing) 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 Smith(loss of Spouse 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)
Silvana Smith (Loss of Spouse cousins of Jan Ruth)
Amy Cotten (Potter's Hand)
John Cotten (Healing, Potter's Hand)
Telula Thornton (Healing and Comfort, mother of Karan Baker)
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)
Jesse Saunders (Healing, friend of Jan Ruth)
Rick Monroe (Healing, friend of Jan Ruth)
Candee & Blair Berger (Loss of a spouse & father damage from
the hurricanes, friend of Jan Ruth)
Martha Taylor(Healing, mother of John Cagle)
Shane Cramer (Healing, neighbor of Jan Ruth)

FOR OUR VISITORS:

We welcome you to worship and would love to connect with you personally. 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 worshiping 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
<u>Trustees</u>		
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
karlklindmin@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.



Today's Services:

Sermon

Dr. Karl Kling

Liturgist

Elder Doug Harbin

Musicians:

Erica Hand
Emily Clem
Dr. Mary Crowell

Volunteers:

Church Nursery:

December 8th- Ruth Whitten
December 15th-Suzanne Paysinger

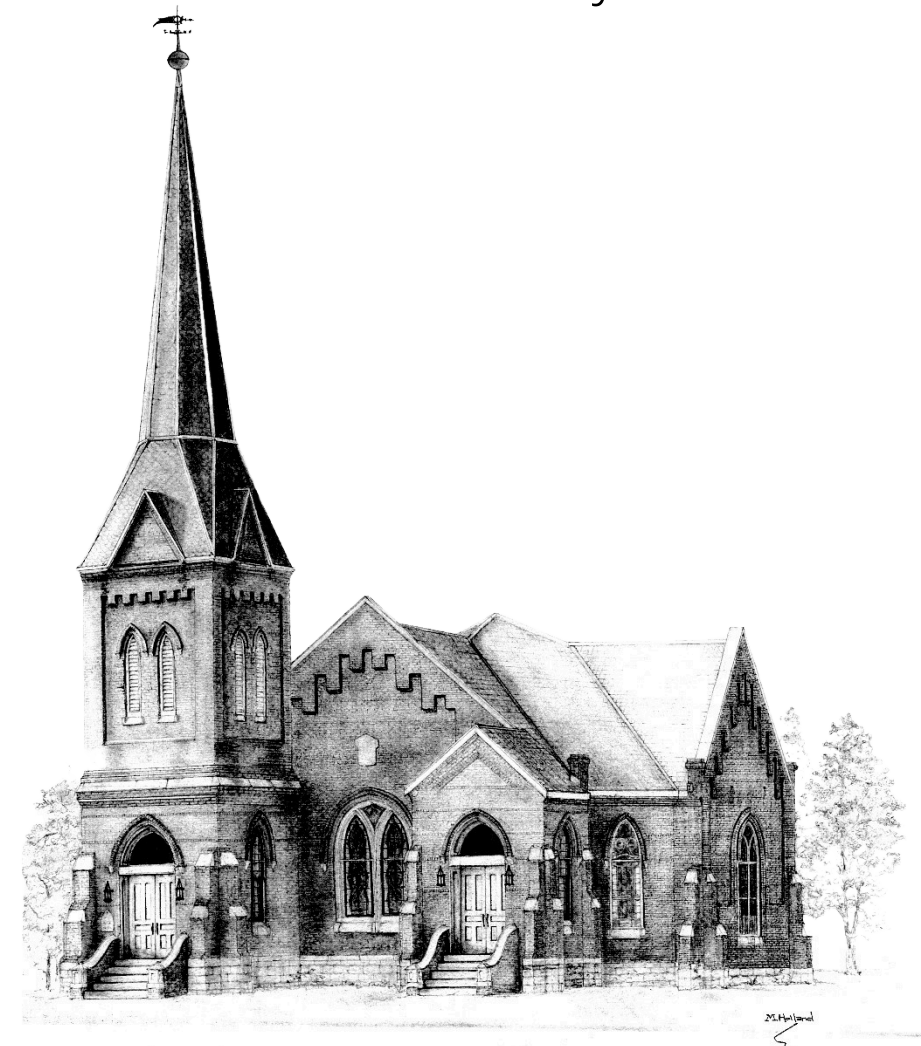
Liturgist:

December 8th-Stephen Ware

Communion Prep:

January 12th- Karan Baker

December 1, 2024
1st Sunday of Advent



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.