

# WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude Dr. Mary Crowell

Welcome and Announcements Dr. Karl Kling

\* Call to Worship Elder Julie McNeese

Praise God for his goodness!

**The kindness of the Lord never ends.**

The Spirit gives us power to share the grace of our Savior.

**We rejoice in the new life God gives us each day.**

Let us Worship God!

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

## MINUTE FOR MISSION

Empty Bowls – Sharon Hand

\*Call to Confession Julie McNeese

When we gather to praise God, we remember that everyone has sinned. No one is righteous on their own. Trusting in Christ, let us confess our sin to God and one another.

\* Prayer of Confession Unison

**Gracious God, our desire is to do your will. But, when difficulties arise, our commitment often grows weaker. Sometimes temptation leads us to make the wrong decisions. Too often, selfishness causes us to overlook your guidance. Please forgive our sin. Renew us and help us to follow our Lord.**

\* Kyrie Eleison Unison

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: Am D C D Em C Em, Em D G Am Em D E

\*Assurance of Pardon Dr. Kling

Friends, grace and peace is given to you in Jesus Christ. All who call upon his name are accepted into God's family. 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 Julie McNeese

Dear God, we pray that you will open our minds to hear words of encouragement from your scriptures. We pray this in the name of Jesus, the Light of the World. Amen.

First Reading Exodus 3:1-6 p. 56

Anthem From All That Dwell Below the Skies Hal Hopson

Second Reading Luke 18:15-17 p. 1,038 Dr. Kling

Response Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon FAMILY MATTERS Dr. Kling  
4: "Holy Playground"

# WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

\*Hymn of Discipleship Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with your Love #203

\* Affirmation of Faith Unison

**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.**

Pastoral Prayer 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

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 Rejoice, The Lord Is King! #363

\*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

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### CHURCH FAMILY

Marv & Elizabeth Price (Health)      Duane Counter (Health & Healing)  
Doris Welch (Home)                      Suzanne Weeks (Healing)  
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  
Betty Fae Spencer (Recovery from Surgery)

### 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)  
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)  
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)  
Cindy Newman (Healing, cousin of Chris Hilgeman)  
Jesse Saunders (Healing, friend of Jan Ruth)  
Martha Taylor(Healing, mother of John Cagle)  
Wendy Jordan (Recovery from Surgery, friend of Matt Copeland)

## 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

#### Class of 2025

Karan Baker  
Gary Boyd  
Stanley Hand

*John Noel*

Hal Baker  
Vicki Kellogg

#### Class of 2026

Cindy Witt  
Stephen Ware  
Tom Clem

#### Trustee

*Price Boyd*

#### PNC

Karla Barnes  
John Noel (Chair)

#### Class of 2027

DeAnna McNeil  
Chris Shindorf  
David Lyle

*David Whitten*

Stanley Hand  
Libby Shindorf

### Staff

#### **Transitional Pastor:**

Dr. Karl Kling  
karlklingsadmin@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](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.



### Today's Services:

#### Sermon

Dr. Karl Kling

#### Liturgist

Elder Julie McNeese

#### Musicians:

Erica Hand  
Emily Clem  
Dr. Mary Crowell

*Randi Harbin*

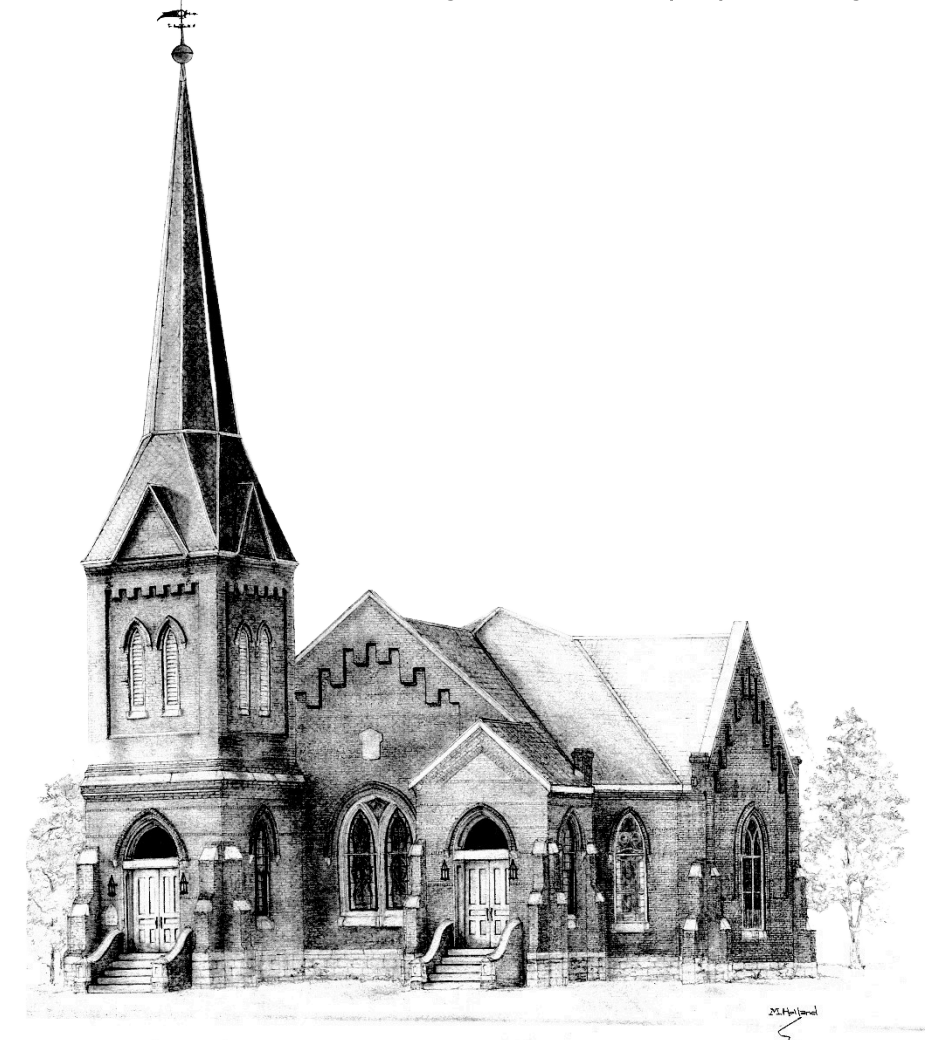
### Volunteers:

#### Church Nursery:

March 2nd- Courtney Greene  
March 9th- Ruth Whitten

February 23, 2025

7th Sunday after Epiphany



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.*

**Prayers of Blessing  
and Thanksgiving for  
all volunteers  
assisting with the  
Empty Bowls Project**