

# WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude Touch the Earth Lightly Emily Clem

Welcome and Announcements Elder Stanley Hand

\* Call to Worship Elijah Hand

We gather to worship the Risen Christ.

**We open our hearts and minds to the Holy Spirit**

The Triune God leads us to share Good News with the world.

**Let us worship God!**

\*Hymn of Praise We Walk by Faith and Not By Sight # 817

\*Call to Confession Elijah Hand

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and will forgive our brokenness and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us confess our sin to God.

\* Prayer of Confession Unison

**Our Gracious God, we confess we often fail to hear your good news. Forgive us for choosing comfort rather than compassion. Forgive our selfishness and pride. Help us to follow the call of the Risen Christ. 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 for the first line; Em, D, G, Am, Em, D for the second line.

\*Assurance of Pardon Stanley Hand

Jesus Christ offered his life in love to save the world from sin. This is the Easter 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 Stanley Hand

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 Stanley Hand

Prayer of Illumination Elijah Hand

Dear Lord, we pray that your Word will provide guidance for our hearts and strength for our actions. We pray this in Jesus' name, Amen.

First Reading Acts 5:27-32 Elijah Hand  
p. 1,082

Anthem People Need the Lord Emily Clem

Second Reading John 20: 19-31 Stanley Hand  
p. 1,075

Response Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "Believing in the Unseen" Stanley Hand

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

\*Hymn of Discipleship Breath on Me Breath of God #286

\* Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed 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.**

Prayers of the People Stanley Hand

\*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 Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers Emily Clem

\*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 Stanley Hand

\*Hymn of Sending Lift High the Cross #826

\*Charge Stanley Hand

**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 Stanley Hand

As God's people we all say,  
**Alleluia, Amen!**

\* Postlude Rise O Church Like Christ Arisen Emily Clem

*\*Stand if you are able*

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### CHURCH FAMILY

Marv & Elizabeth Price (Health)      Duane Counter (Health & Healing)  
Doris Welch (Home)                      Suzanne Weeks (Healing)  
Dean Steele  
Susie Fogg (Home)                         Jac Catlett  
Sharon Massey                              Diane Lynn (Health)  
Melvin & Ruth Clem (Health)         Gale Cottles (Healing)  
Debbi O'Neill (Healing)                 Ken (Healing) and Connie Brown  
Betty Fae Spencer (Recovery)         Chuck Kellogg (Healing)

### 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 (Healing 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, friend of Matt Copeland)  
Maryann McKee (Healing, friend of Carol Copeland)  
Shannon Underwood (Healing, daughter of Barbara Welborn)  
Cadence Brooks (Healing, student of Cindy Witt)  
Kim Fears (healing, friend of Jim May and 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

#### Class of 2025

Karan Baker  
Gary Boyd  
Stanley Hand

#### Class of 2026

Cindy Witt  
Stephen Ware  
Tom Clem

#### Class of 2027

DeAnna McNeil  
Chris Shindorf  
David Lyle

#### Trustee

John Noel                      Price Boyd                      David Whitten

#### PNC

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

### Staff

#### **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

Elder Stanley Hand

#### Liturgist

Eijah Hand

#### Musicians:

Erica Hand

Emily Clem

### Volunteers:

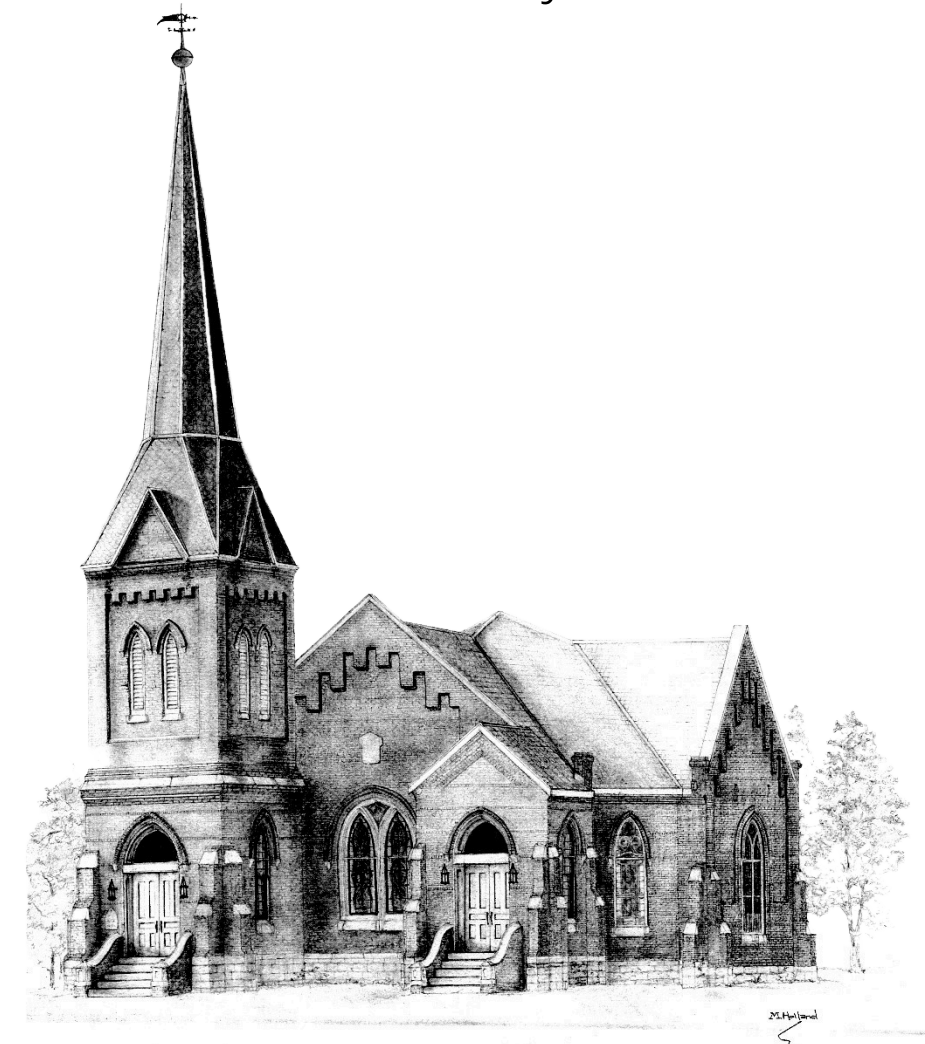
#### Church Nursery:

May 4<sup>th</sup>- Courtney Greene  
May 11<sup>th</sup>-Ruth Whitten

#### Communion Prep:

May 4<sup>th</sup> -Karan Baker

April 27, 2024  
2nd Sunday after Easter



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.*

*Prayer Family*  
Jane Gossett  
16589 Arbor Drive  
Athens, Al. 35611  
Jane is a member of the Flower Committee