

## WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude Dr. Mary Crowell

Welcome and Announcements

\* Call to Worship Mary and Erica Hand

Jesus says, "Ask and you will receive."

**We come trusting in God's goodness.**

Jesus says, "Seek and you will find."

**We come seeking God's presence.**

Jesus says, "Knock and the door will be opened."

**We come ready to worship and pray.**

Let us worship God who hears us and answers with love.

**Let us worship with hope and trust.**

\*Hymn of Praise There's A Sweet, Sweet Spirit #408

\*Call to Confession Mary and Erica Hand

Jesus taught us to pray, not as a performance, but as a practice of trust. he invites us to ask, to seek, to knock - because God is not reluctant to give, but ready to respond in love. Any yet, we often forget to ask. We seek answers elsewhere. We knock on every door but God's. Let us now come before God, honestly and humbly, confessing where we have turned away, and trusting that God meets us, not with shame, but with grace. Let us pray.

\* Prayer of Confession Unison

**Loving God, you teach us to pray with trust and persistence, but we confess that we have often forgotten to come to you. We try to handle life on our own, asking for things that do not lead to life. We doubt your goodness and hesitate to seek your will. Forgive us. Remind us that you are near, and help us to live as people who trust your grace. In Christ name we pray, amen.**

\* Kyrie Eleison Unison

\*Assurance of Pardon Mary and Elijah Hand

If we, who are imperfect, know how to give good gifts, how much more will our loving God give grace to those who ask? Friends, believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and set free.

**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

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

Prayer of Illumination Mary and Elijah Hand

Lord God, help us turn our hearts to you and listen to your word. Speak peace to your people in Christ's name, Amen.

First Reading Psalm 138 Mary and Erica Hand  
pgs. 617-618

Anthem Bless the Lord The Chancel Choir

Second Reading Luke 11:1-13 Elder Stanley Hand  
p. 1,029

Response Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "How, When, Why" Stanley Hand

## 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 In The Garden See Insert

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 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 Stanley Hand

\*Hymn of Praise Somebody's Knocking at Your Door #728

\*Charge and Benediction Stanley Hand

\*Hymn of Sending Farewell Good Friends #540

\* Postlude Dr. Mary Crowell

*\*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     Jac Catlett  
Susie Fogg (Home)     Diane Lynn (Health)  
Sharon Massey     Gale Cottles (Healing)  
Melvin & Ruth Clem (Health)     Ken (Healing) and Connie Brown  
Debbi O'Neill (Healing)     Betty Fae Spencer (Healing)  
Price Boyd (Healing)     Johnathon Cagle (Healing)  
Carol Quillen (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

Larry Harris ( Healing, friend of Chris Hilgeman)  
Sue Guyer (Health & Healing, Bonny Noel's sister)  
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)  
Keith Clem (Healing, cousin of Chris Paysinger)  
Amy Cotten (Potter's Hand)  
Telula Thornton (Healing and Comfort, mother of Karan Baker)  
Mike Frehner (Support, friend of David Lyle)  
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)  
Karryl Anderson ( Healing, Mexico mission supporter)  
Donnie May (Healing & Grief, cousin of Jim May)  
Trish Cloninger (Brain Healing, family of Jan Ruth)  
Gerry Smith ( Healing for knees, cousin of Jan Ruth)  
Paula Weaver ( Surgery/ Healing, cousin of Jan Ruth)  
William Kennedy (Healing, cousin to David Lyle)  
Tim Swymer (Healing, Lauren Cagle's uncle)  
Don Whitt (Healing, Husband of Alice Whitt)

## 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 worshipping with us today!

### The Session

<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>
Karan Baker	Cindy Witt	DeAnna McNeil
Gary Boyd	Stephen Ware	Chris Shindorf
Stanley Hand	Tom Clem	David Lyle

### Trustee

John Noel	Price Boyd	David Whitten
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### PNC

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

### Staff

#### **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 by Judy and Al Munroe in memory of their parents



## Today's Services:

### Sermon

Elder Stanley Hand

### Liturgist

Mary and  
Erica Hand

### Musicians:

Erica Hand  
Emily Clem  
Dr. Mary Crowell

### Volunteers:

#### **Church Nursery:**

August 3<sup>rd</sup> -Courtney Greene  
August 10<sup>th</sup> -Ruth Whitten

### Liturgist:

August 3<sup>rd</sup> -John Noel  
August 10<sup>th</sup> -Doug Harbin

### Communion Prep:

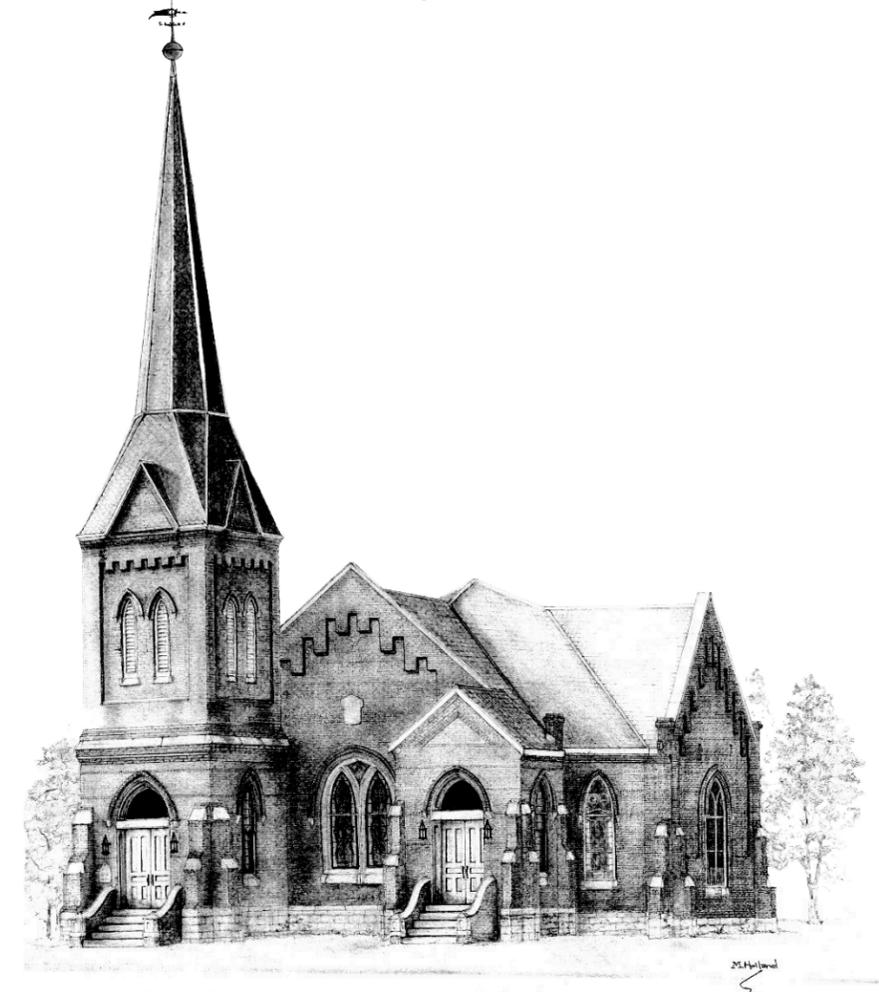
August 3<sup>rd</sup> - Stanley Hand

### *Prayer Family*

Price Boyd  
PO Box 782  
Athens, Al 35614

July 27, 2025

7th 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.*