

## WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude Dr. Mary Crowell

Welcome and Announcements Christy Arnett

\* Call to Worship Christy Arnett

Come and rejoice, for God seeks the lost.

**God searches until the wandering are found.**

In heaven and on earth, there is joy when one sinner repents.

**We gather with grateful hearts, for God's mercy never ends.**

Come, beloved of God, let us celebrate the one who welcomes us home.

**With joy and praise, we worship the Lord!**

\*Hymn of Gathering "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" #435

\*Call to Confession Christy Arnett

God seeks us when we wander and rejoices when we are found. Trusting in this mercy, we come honestly before the Lord, confessing our sin and opening our hearts to the one who welcomes us home with joy.

\* Prayer of Confession Unison

**Loving God, you seek us when we are lost, yet we confess we often stray from Your ways. We chase after our own desires, ignore Your voice, and forget Your mercy. Forgive us. Carry us back into Your care, and help us to live as people of grace and joy, rejoicing with You whenever the lost are found. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

\* Kyrie Eleison Unison

\*Assurance of Pardon Stanley Hand

Hear the good news:

There is joy in heaven over one sinner who repents.

In Jesus Christ, we are sought, we are found, and we 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

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

Holy God, your Word is living and unchanging, just as Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. By your Spirit, open our hearts and minds so that as the Scriptures are read and proclaimed, we may hear your voice, trust your promises, and be shaped into people who live in love and service. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

First Reading Psalms 14:1-7  
p. 538 Christy Arnett

Anthem Chancel Choir

Second Reading Luke 15:1-10  
p. 1,034 Elder Stanley Hand

Response

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "What about the lost things" 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 Praise "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" #475

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. Mary 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 "Amazing Grace" #649

\*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)	Bonnie Noel (Healing)
Gene 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)  
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)  
Kristie Whitt (Healing, daughter of Alice Whitt)  
Charlotte Pickett (visitor to the church)  
Sirley Family (healing for daughter)

## 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

## Today's Services:

### Sermon

Elder Stanley Hand

### Liturgist

Christy Arnett

### Musicians:

Erica Hand  
Emily Clem  
Dr. Mary Crowell

### Volunteers:

#### Church Nursery:

September 21st-Suzanne Paysinger  
September 28th- Jennifer Quillen

#### Liturgist:

September 28<sup>th</sup>- Karla Barnes

#### Communion Prep:

October 5<sup>th</sup>- Chris Shindorf

### 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.

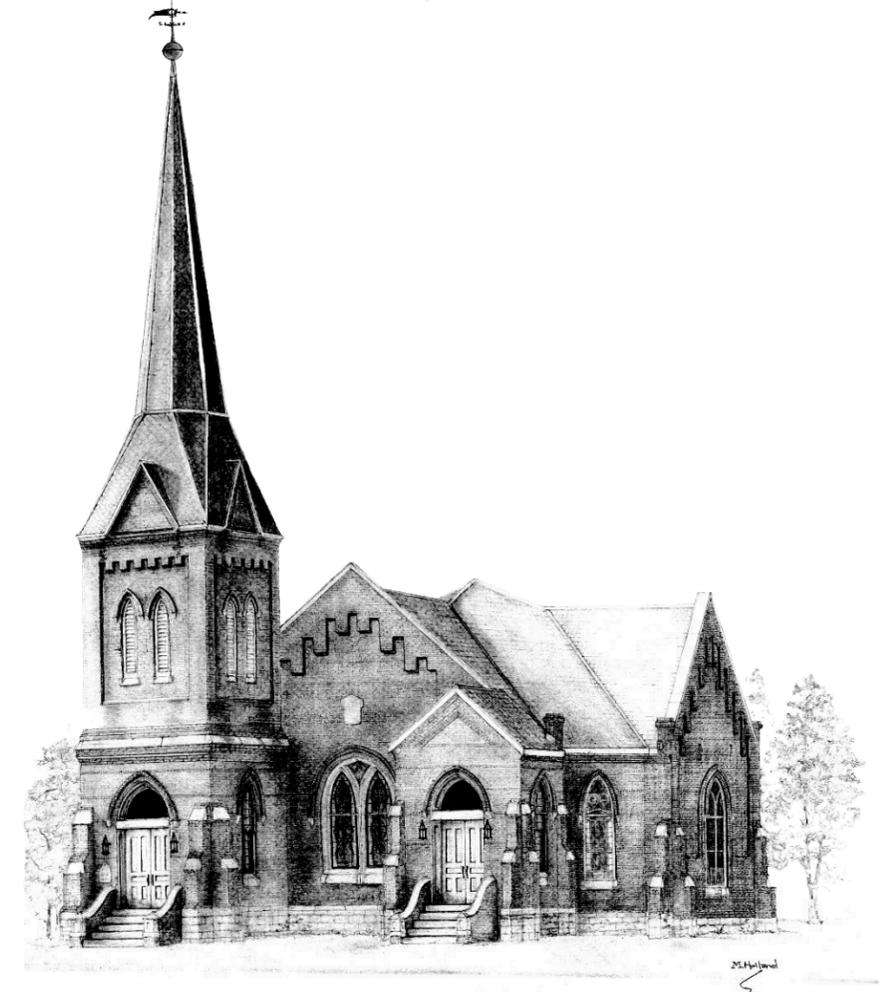


### *Prayer Family*

Jonathon and Jennifer  
Quileen and family  
24412 Chadwick Dr.  
Athens, Al. 35613

September 14, 2025

14th 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.*