

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude "How Firm a Foundation" Emily Clem

Welcome and Announcements Stephen Ware

* Call to Worship Stephen Ware

Praise the Lord! From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the Lord is to be praised.

The Lord is high above all nations, yet cares for the lowly and lifts the poor from the dust.

Jesus teaches us to be faithful with all that God has entrusted to us.

We will worship the Lord with hearts devoted to God alone, for we cannot serve both God and wealth.

Come, let us praise the Lord who rules in majesty and calls us to faithful living.

Blessed be the name of the Lord, now and forever!

*Hymn of Gathering "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty" #35

*Call to Confession Stephen Ware

The Lord is high above all nations, yet bends low to lift the poor and needy. In Christ, we are called to serve God alone, but too often we cling to wealth, status, and comfort. Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin together, for the One who is exalted delights to forgive and restore.

* Prayer of Confession Unison

Merciful God, you lift the poor from the dust and call us to serve you alone. Yet we confess that we often serve other masters— seeking security in wealth, status, and our own plans. We forget that all we have belongs to You, and we fail to be faithful stewards of your gifts. Forgive us, Lord. Turn our hearts back to you, that we may trust Your care, use our resources wisely, and live each day in praise of Your name. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

* Kyrie Eleison Unison

*Assurance of Pardon Stephen Ware

Hear the good news: The Lord who is high above all nations bends low to lift us up. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, freed from every false master, and called to live as faithful stewards of God's grace. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ 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 Sharon Hand

Prayer of Illumination

Exalted Lord, you sit high above the heavens and yet draw near to Your people. Lift our hearts now as we hear your word. By the power of your spirit, open our minds to your truth and guide us to serve you alone. Teach us to be faithful with all You entrust to us, so that our lives may praise Your name from the rising of the sun to its setting. Through Jesus Christ, the Living Word, we pray. Amen.

First Reading Psalm 113 Stephen Ware
p. 604

Anthem Christians, We Have Met to Worship

Second Reading Luke 16: 1-13 Rev. Larry Ugarte`
p. 1,036

Response

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "How the New Age Works" Rev. Ugarte`

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 "Heaven Shall Not Wait" #773

Prayers of The People Rev. Larry Ugarte`

*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 Arise, O Lord God, Arise

*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 Rev. Larry Ugarte`

*Hymn of Praise "O for a World" #372

*Charge and Benediction Rev. Larry Ugarte`

*Hymn of Sending Fairwell My Good Friends #540

* Postlude Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord 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
Price Boyd (Healing) Betty Fae Spencer (Healing)
Carol Quillen (Healing) Johnathon Cagle (Healing)
Gene Quillen (Healing) Bonnie Noel (Healing)
Karan and Hal Baker(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)
Kristie Whitt (Healing, daughter of Alice Whitt)
Charlotte Pickett (visitor to the church)

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

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

Rev. Larry Ugarte

Liturgist

Dr. Stephen Ware

Musicians:

Erica Hand
Emily Clem
Dr. Mary Crowell

Volunteers:

Church Nursery:

September 28th- Jennifer Quillen
October 5th-Courtney Greene

Liturgist:

September 28th- Karla Barnes

Communion Prep:

October 5th- Chris Shindorf

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.

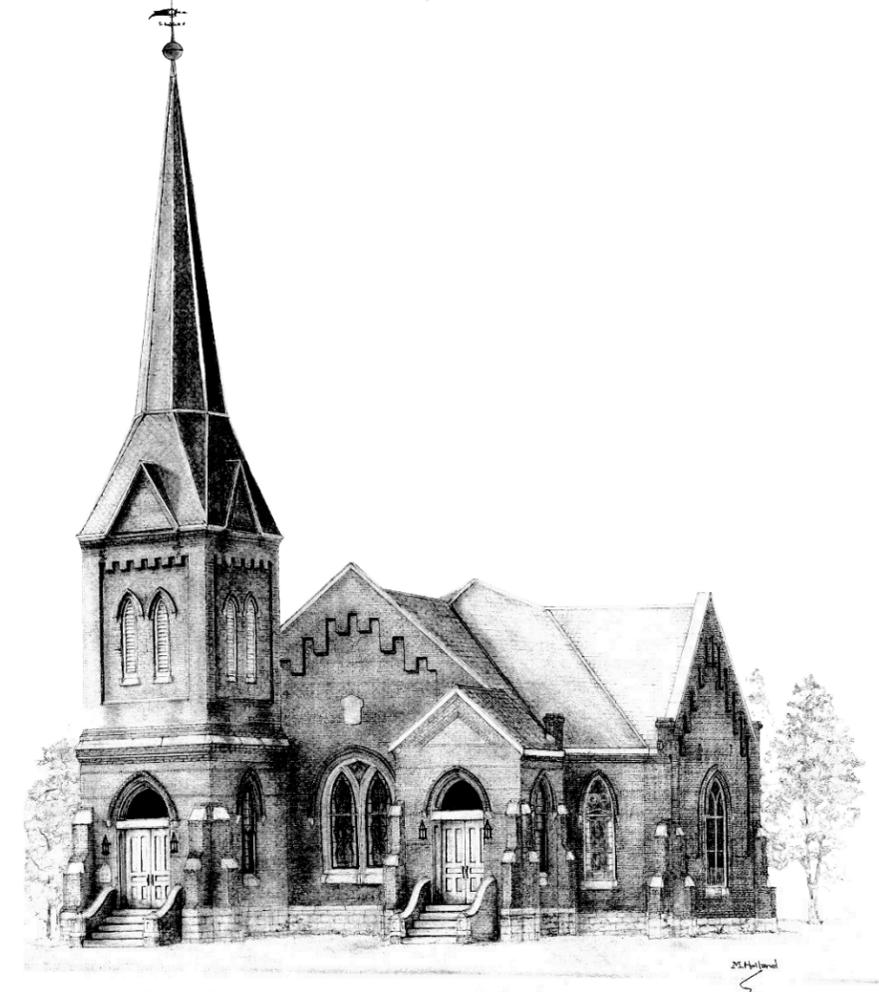
To sign up for flowers call the church office.



Prayer Family

Karan and Hal Baker
409 East Street
Athens, AL 35611

September 21, 2025
15th Sunday after Pentecost



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.