

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude Dr. Mary Crowell

Welcome and Announcements Elder Stanley Hand

* Call to Worship Stanley Hand

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth and made humankind in His image.

God blessed us and entrusted us with the care of creation.

Our Creator calls us to be faithful stewards of all that God has made.

We will work, serve, and rejoice, using the gifts God has given.

Like the servants in the parable of the talents, we are called to use our time, talents, and treasures for God's glory.

We come to worship the Lord of all creation, offering our lives in gratitude and praise.

*Hymn of Gathering "We Give Thee but Thine Own" #708

*Call to Confession Stanley Hand

God created the world and called it good. God entrusted the earth and all its gifts to our care. But like the servants in the parable, we have buried some of our gifts, ignored creation's cries, and failed to use what God has given for His glory. Let us come before God, who is merciful and abounding in steadfast love, to confess our sin and seek His renewing grace.

* Prayer of Confession Unison

Gracious God, You made us in Your image and entrusted us with Your creation and gifts. Yet we confess we have buried Your gifts, neglected Your world, and failed to serve You faithfully. Forgive us, renew us, and help us use all You have given for Your glory and the good of others. In Jesus' name, Amen.

* Kyrie Eleison Unison

*Assurance of Pardon Stanley Hand

Friends, hear the good news: God is merciful and faithful. In Christ, our sins are forgiven, and we are made new. We are entrusted once more with God's gifts, called to live as faithful stewards. **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 DeAnna McNeil

Prayer of Illumination

God of Wisdom and Life, as we open Your Word today, open our hearts and minds. Give us understanding to see Your gifts and grace, and the courage to use them faithfully in service to You and others. May Your Spirit guide us through the Scriptures, that we may hear Your call and live as faithful stewards of all You have entrusted to us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

First Reading Genesis 1:26-31 Stanley Hand

p. 2

Anthem "Fill my Cup" Choir

Second Reading Mathew 25: 26-31 Stanley Hand

p. 984

Response Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Message Tim McNeil

Hymn Im Gonna Live So God Can Use Me #700

Message Jonathan & Lauren Cagle

Hymn "To My Precious Lord" #704

Message Cindy Whitt

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 "We Lift our Voices" #710

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 "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending" #716

*Charge and Benediction Stanley Hand

*Hymn of Sending "Take O take Me as I am" #698

* Postlude Dr. Mary Crowell

**Stand if you are able*

Announcement: October 12, 2025 there will be a Congregational Meeting to follow the 10am service. The purpose of the meeting is to elect a nominating committee, slate officers, and hear the recommendation from PNC.

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

Elder Stanley Hand

Liturgist

Elder Stanley Hand

Musicians:

Erica Hand
Emily Clem
Dr. Mary Crowell

Volunteers:

Church Nursery:

October 5th-Courtney Greene
October 12th-Ruth Whitten

Liturgist:

September 28th- Karla Barnes

Communion Prep:

November 2nd- Karan Baker

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.

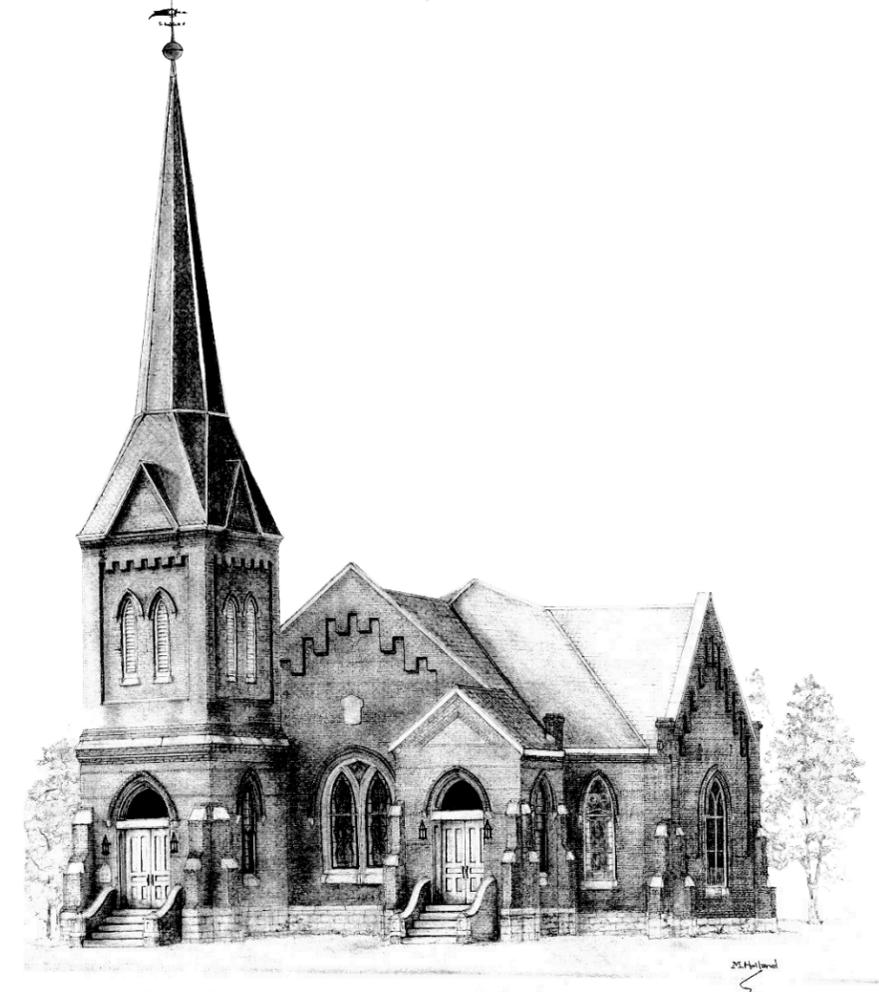
To sign up for flowers call the church office.



Prayer Family

Karan and Hal Baker
409 East Street
Athens, AL 35611

September 28, 2025
16th 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.