

## WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude "Echo Alleluia" Emily Clem

Welcome and Announcements Elder Julie McNeese

\* Call to Worship Julie McNeese

Praise the Lord! How good it is to sing praises to our God, for the Lord is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

**The Lord builds up Jerusalem; He gathers the outcasts and heals the brokenhearted.**

The Lord does not delight in strength or status, but finds joy in those who trust in His steadfast love.

**Come, let us worship the Lord, whose mercy lifts the lowly and fills the humble with grace.**

\*Hymn of Gathering "I Sing The Mighty" #32

\*Call to Confession Julie McNeese

Jesus tells us that those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted. In that spirit of truth and grace, let us come before God with humble hearts, confessing our sin and trusting His mercy.

\* Prayer of Confession Unison

**Merciful God, You invite us to Your table and call us to follow Christ in humility, but we confess that we often seek the places of honor. We measure worth by power and status instead of love and service. We forget that Your kingdom is built on grace, not achievement. Forgive us for the pride that keeps us from loving others, for the fear that keeps us from trusting You, and for the selfishness that keeps us from seeing Your image in every person. Humble our hearts, O God, and reshape our lives to reflect the love of Jesus, who took the lowest place and lifted us to new life in Him. Amen**

\* Kyrie Eleison Unison

\*Assurance of Pardon Julie McNeese

Friends, hear the good news: The Lord heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. In Jesus Christ, we are invited to God's table not because of merit, but because of grace. 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 Stanley Hand

Prayer of Illumination

Gracious God, You gather the humble and lift the lowly. As we open Your Word, quiet every voice but Your own. Send Your Spirit to guide our hearing and shape our hearts, that we may receive Your truth with gratitude and follow where You lead. Through Jesus Christ, the Living Word, we pray. Amen.

First Reading Psalm 147: 1-5, 10-12 Julie McNeese  
pgs. 622-23

Anthem Choir

Second Reading Luke 4: 1-13 Rev. Dr. Judy Rich  
p. 1,017

Response Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "POWER" Dr. Rich

## 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 "Be Thou My Vision " #450

Prayers of The People Julie McNeese

\*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 "Sweet Hour of Prayer" 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 Julie McNeese

\*Hymn of Praise "How Great Thou Art" #625

\*Charge and Benediction Dr. Rich

\*Hymn of Sending Fill My Cup (refrain only) #699  
Fill my cup; let it overflow;  
Fill my cup; let it overflow;  
Fill my cup; let it overflow;  
Let it overflow with love.

\* Postlude "Goodness is Stronger Than Evil" 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    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)  
Carol Quillen (Healing)    Johnathon Cagle (Healing)  
Gene Quillen (Healing)    Stephen Ware (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)  
Gerry Smith ( Healing for knees, 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
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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

Rev. Dr. Judy Rich

### Liturgist

Elder Julie McNeese

### Musicians:

Erica Hand  
Emily Clem

### Volunteers:

#### **Church Nursery:**

November 2<sup>nd</sup>- Courtney Greene  
November 9th-Ruth Whitten

#### **Liturgist:**

November 2<sup>nd</sup>- Jerry Witt

#### **Communion Prep:**

November 2<sup>nd</sup>- Karan Baker

### 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 rose on the pulpit is for  
Jonah Elijah Colvin.  
Born 10/08/2025. He is the  
son of James and Jenna Colvin.  
The proud grandparents are  
John and Sandy Colvin.

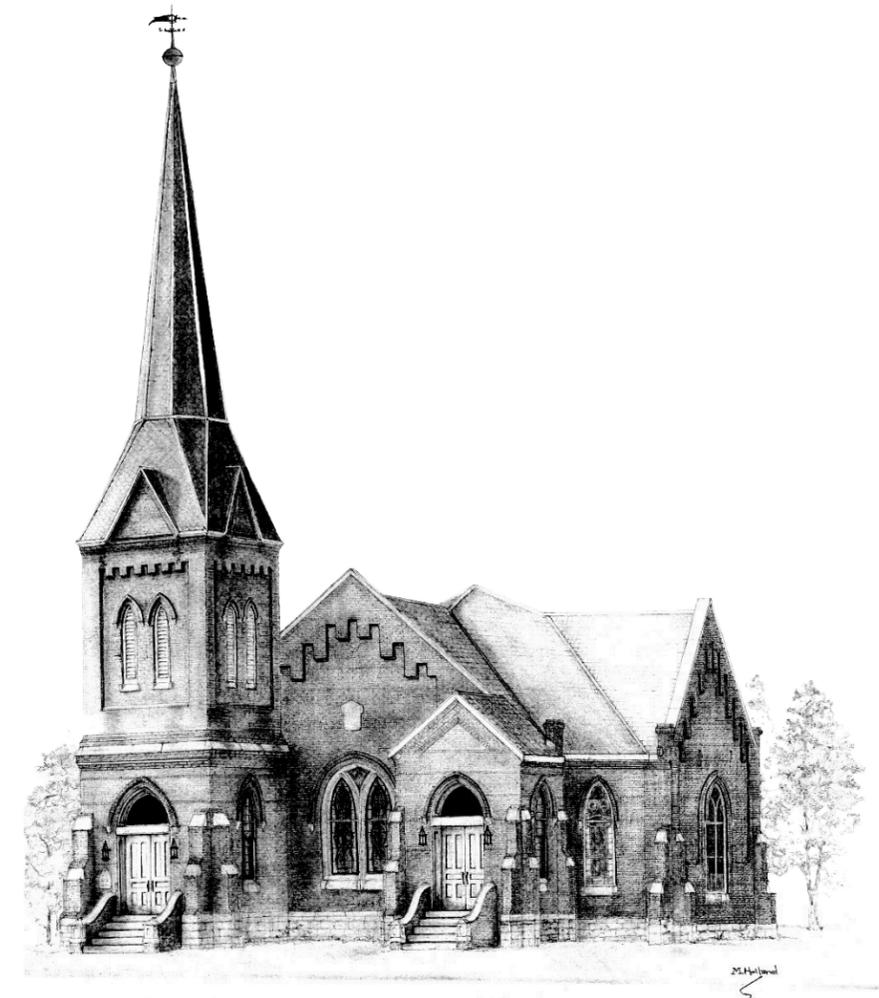


### *Prayer Family*

Joyce and Duane Counter  
14765 Creek Lane  
Athens, AL 35613

October 26, 2025

22nd 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.*