

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, September 8, 2019, 10:30 A.M.
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Worship begins when the first person arrives. Please worship silently through the prelude.

The congregation reads or sings parts in bold.

*Please stand if able
**or God

In the presence of a holy God, we become aware of the ways we fall short of God's best hopes for us, and the ways we have hurt others. We turn to God in prayer, asking for forgiveness.

We express gratitude that through God's grace and Christ's giving of himself on the cross we are forgiven and restored to God and one another.

The Passing of the Peace is one of the most ancient responses in worship. Having received Christ's peace, we pass it on.

We invite young children to come to the front at this time.

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

This morning's Scripture readings show the radical commitment and cost required to be a disciple of Jesus. The prophet Jeremiah is shown the Lord's sovereignty, as we too must accept God's authority to shape our lives. Paul writes a deeply personal letter to Philemon, urging him to choose the difficult forgiveness and reconciliation that Jesus teaches. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus asks us to count the cost of following him. Jesus' love for us took him to the cross, and that costly love shapes our journey together as the family of God.

PRELUDE

Trumpet Tune
Adagio in E Major

Craig Phillips
Frank Bridge

WORDS OF WELCOME

(Please circulate the friendship forms found in the aisle seats.)

Rev. Robert Martin

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist Margaret Bourke

L: God in Christ is at the center and the boundaries, inviting us to follow.

P: Thanks be to God.

L: God the Creator is within and without, recreating and redeeming.

P: Thanks be to God.

L: God the Holy Spirit calls us and leads us, hovering over us with peace.

P: Thanks be to God. Let us worship with joy!

*HYMN 275

God of Our Life

SANDON

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and merciful God, we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. We have wandered from your ways, lacked in humility, wasted your gifts and forgotten your love. By your loving mercy, we need to be turned toward you and reminded of your grace. Help us to live in your light, to abide in your ways, and to trust in your forgiveness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*DECLARATION OF PARDON

L: Friends, believe the good news.

P. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

*Gloria Patri - 579

*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 and Amen.*

*Passing the Peace and Greetings

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rob Martin

(Children are encouraged to go downstairs for Children's Church following the Children's Moment.)

ANTHEM

The Triumphs of His Grace

THAXTED by Gustav Holst/arr. Stan Pethel

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and King,

The Triumph of His grace! My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,

To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of Thy name.

He speaks, and, list'ning to His voice, new life the dead receive; the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,

The humble poor believe. Glory to God, and praise and love be now forever giv'n

By saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n. (lyrics by Charles Wesley)

On behalf of the congregation, the Pastor expresses the corporate prayers of the congregation. These prayers are for world, local and personal concerns.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Generous God, who in mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: come now to illuminate your holy word; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Jeremiah 18:1-11 (page 720 in pew Bible)

Liturgist Bourke

Psalm 139:1-18 (pages 577, 578 in pew Bible)

Rev. Martin

L. This is the Word of the Lord!

P: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Known By God

Rev. Robert Martin

*HYMN

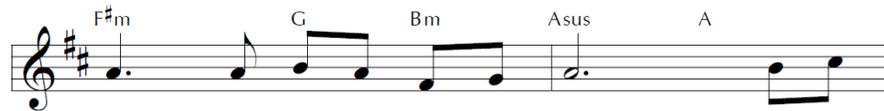
O God, You Search Me

O GOD, YOU SEARCH ME

(Psalm 139)



1 O God, you search me and you know me. All my
 2 You know my rest - ing and my ris - ing. You dis -
 3 Be - fore a word is on my tongue, Lord, you have
 4 Al - though your Spir - it is up - on me, still I
 5 For you cre - at - ed me and shaped me, gave me



thoughts lie o - pen to your gaze. When I
 cern my pur - pose from a - far, and with
 known its mean - ing through and through. You are
 search for shel - ter from your light. There is
 life with - in my moth - er's womb. For the



walk or lie down you are be - fore me: ev - er the
 love ev - er - last - ing you be - siege me: in ev - ery
 with me be - yond my un - der - stand - ing: God of my
 no - where on earth I can es - cape you: e - ven the
 won - der of who I am, I praise you: safe in your



mak - er and keep - er of my days.
 mo - ment of life or death, you are.
 pres - ent, my past, and fu - ture, too.
 dark - ness is ra - dian - t in your sight.
 hands, all cre - a - tion is made new.

The Lord's Prayer
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 now and forever. Amen.

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

MINUTE FOR MISSION (CROP Walk)

Danny Moates

ANNOUNCEMENTS, LORD'S PRAYER AND PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Martin

Choral Response

Doxology literally means "words of glory." Doxologies have long been used by Jews and Christians to praise God. Here we honor and thank God "from whom all

OFFERING / OFFERTORY *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* Kevin Norris

***Doxology - 592 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** (in unison)

God of all, we are so thankful for this opportunity to give. Multiply these gifts so that we may continue to do the work of your justice and mercy. Give to us your Spirit so that we may reflect you in all that we do and say. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

***HYMN 384** *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go* ST. MARGARET

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Choral Response

POSTLUDE *Hymne* Flor Peeters

Worshiping With Children

- * AFPC welcomes children in the worship service, whether in the pews or in the Children's Corner.
- * Nursery is available for infant thru age 6 downstairs.
- * Please tell childcare staff about any allergies.
- * Bathrooms are located at the top of the stairs to the overflow area and in Fellowship Hall.
- * Changing tables are located in the nursery and upstairs restroom.
- * All children are welcome to attend the service with their families or the childcare staff until after the Children's Moment.

Bookshelf Books for Mission Discretionary/Mission Trip

There is a white bookshelf in Fellowship Hall, beside the piano, with books. These books are .25 each and the \$\$ (just place your \$\$ in the cup) goes toward the Mission Discretionary/Mission Trip. Check them out! And if you have a book or two to donate, just bring them in and place them on/near the shelf.

Fellowship Hosts Volunteers

Are you willing to host Fellowship Hour after the church service some Sunday? If so, please sign the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. During the week prior to your Sunday, you will receive a letter with full instructions. Simple snacks will be fine. No cooking skills required!

Fourth Sunday Food Pantry Sunday

Fourth Sunday of each month. Canned goods, non-perishables and monetary donations are always needed and welcomed. Use the brown envelopes on the back of the pew (check Food Pantry) for monetary donations. Food donations can be dropped off at the church or church office. Contact Dan Neason (592-2823) for more info.

Trail Mix Ministry Assembly

Snack bags are assembled the fourth Sunday of each month, 10:00-10:20 a.m. and 11:35 a.m.-Noon in Fellowship Hall. Monetary (use the brown giving envelopes and mark Trail Mix on it). In kind donations are appreciated. September date is Sunday, September 22nd.

You can watch a broadcast of FPC Worship service on Athens Community Television. Schedule

1021 on your digital box

9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
Monday through Friday
and
5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday.

Minister: Rev. Robert E. Martin Clerk of Session: Andrew Stuart
CE Coordinator and Handbell Director: Danielle Bridges Organist: Janice Robison
Administrative Assistant: Jane Baker Choir Director: David Tadlock

Athens First Presbyterian Church Office
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www.athensfpc.org

Follow FPC on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/AthensFPC/>

Deacon of the Month - Danny Moates - 740-592-4064 - moates@ohio.edu

A friend to call in time of need

Liturgist - Margaret Bourke
Fellowship - Carol Perry and Debbie Perry

Chancel Prep - Linda Parsons

Acolyte - Nicky Jordan
Ushers - Martha Johnson and Carol Perry

Church Activities for the Week

SUNDAY, September 8th

9:45 A.M. - Chancel Choir rehearsal, choir room
10:00 A.M. - Chime Choir rehearsal, classroom 3
10:30 A.M. - Worship, Sanctuary
Following the Children's Moment - Children's Church, classrooms
11:30 A.M. - Children's crafts, classroom 3
11:30 A.M. - Coffee and fellowship, fellowship hall
11:45 A.M. - Earth Justice Group meeting, library

MON., 9th - Noon - Al-Anon, library

5:00-8:30 P.M. - Calliope choir rehearsal, fellowship hall
5:30 P.M. - Outreach/Mission Committee meeting, library

TUES., 10th - Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team meeting, home of Martha Johnson, The Plains

11:30 A.M. - Presbyterian Women's "Out to Lunch," Bob Evans Restaurant. All women of the church are invited.
Noon - Bible study, library

WED., 11th - 7:00 A.M. - AA, library

Noon - Women's Bible/Book study, fellowship hall
6:00 P.M. - Bell Choir rehearsal, bell choir room
7:00 P.M. - Chancel Choir rehearsal, Sanctuary

THURS., 12th - 10:00 A.M. - Staff/Worship Committee meeting, Putnam House

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. - College lunch and fellowship, kitchen and fellowship hall
1:30 P.M. - Finance Committee meeting, Putnam House
3:00 P.M. - Property Committee meeting, Putnam House
7:00 P.M. - Board of Deacons' meeting, library

SUNDAY, September 15th

9:45 A.M. - Chancel Choir rehearsal, choir room
10:00 A.M. - Chime Choir rehearsal, classroom 3
10:30 A.M. - Worship, Sanctuary
Following the Children's Moment - Children's Church, classrooms
11:30 A.M. - Children's crafts, classroom 3
11:30 A.M. - Potluck lunch with Rev. Bock and Mark Hare during fellowship, fellowship hall (*see September newsletter for more details*)
11:45 A.M. - Christian Education Committee meeting, library

College Lunch and Fellowship - 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Volunteers are still needed to provide main-course food and dessert food (you can sign up for one, or both) during the semester, as well as to help with the serving, dish washing, welcoming students and other small tasks. Interested? Contact Lee Gregg at 740-592-3622 or email tleegregg@gmail.com. (about 30-40 students)

The Women's Bible Study Group will meet for the first time this fall on September 11th at noon in the Fellowship Hall. They will be reading *The Ruth Anointing: Becoming a Woman of Faith, Virtue, and Destiny* by Michelle McClain-Walters. If you're interested, contact Shaila Lias (shaila@shailalias.com) or Danielle Bridges (daniellembridges@gmail.com).

Young Adult Social Group - This group meets once a month to have dinner and do a fun activity based upon the interested of those involved. Past events have included games nights, mini golfing, and brunch. If you are interested in joining us please email: Danielle Bridges: (daniellembridges@gmail.com) or Patrick Tegge: (patricktegge@outlook.com).

Athens Area Stand Down - This year's Stand Down (to address homelessness) will be held **on Friday, October 4th from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.** at the Athens County Fairgrounds, 286 W Union Street. Items needed: men/women hygiene items, diapers, non-perishable foods, clothing, coats/hats/scarves/gloves, shoes/boots, sleeping bags, wet wipes, sun screen, backpacks, and paper products. Visit: www.AthensAreaStandDown.org for more information.