



We are glad to have you join us for worship. If you are new to First, it is our prayer that you will experience the presence of God while you are here. At First, it is our hope that all who enter find a home.

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.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, August 7, 2022, 10:30 A.M.

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

FOR WORSHIP

In this morning's Gospel reading, Jesus teaches that where we place our treasure is where our heart will be also. He calls us to invest in the Kingdom of God and be alert to his return, which will be at an unexpected hour. The author of the letter to the Hebrews teaches of God's enduring faithfulness, while encouraging us to place our faith in the Lord. Likewise, the powerful opening of Isaiah's prophecy urges God's people to reject evil and place our trust in the Lord through obedience and the pursuit of justice.

PRELUDE

Jesus, Name of Wondrous Love

Henry John Gauntlett

Let Us Break Bread Together Traditional Spiritual/David N. Johnson

David M. Tadlock, organist

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Robert Martin

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist John King

L: Gather us in, the lost and the lonely, the broken and breaking, the tired and the aching, who long for the nourishment found at your feast.

P: Gather us in, the done and the doubting, the wishing and wondering, the puzzled and pondering, who long for the company found at your feast.

L: Gather us in, the proud and the pretentious, the sure and superior, the never inferior, who long for the leveling found at your feast.

P: Gather us in from corner or limelight, from mansion or campsite, from fears and obsession, from tears and depression, from untold excesses, from treasured successes. Gather us in to be found at the feast.

L: Gather us in, O God. Gather us in.

*HYMN 281

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CWM RHONDDA

1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty.
Hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more;
feed me till I want no more.

2 Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Liturgist King

God of forgiveness, we pray for new life as we confess our old ways. We hear your promise that the old passes away and that you make all things new but we hear it amid our self-doubt. We confess our desire for guarantees when what you offer us is even greater: hope. When you call us to obedience, we set conditions. When you call us to follow, we ask "Where?" Forgive our reluctance to leave our false comforts in order to walk in your newness of life. Forgive our distrust, our anxiety, our fear. Amen.

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.

*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.*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Helen King

SPECIAL MUSIC

Mary Rizzardi, Soprano

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

Liturgist King

God of glory, the end of our searching, help us to lay aside all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom, and send your Spirit now to illuminate your holy word; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 (pages 225, 226 in pew Bible)
Luke 12:32-40 (page 75 in pew Bible)

Liturgist King

Rev. Martin

L. This is the Word of the Lord!

P: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Fear Not

Rev. Robert Martin

*HYMN 396

O for a Closer Walk with God

CATHINESS

**1 O for a closer walk with God,
a calm and heavenly frame,
a light to shine upon the road
that leads me to the Lamb!**

**2 Return, O holy Dove, return,
sweet messenger of rest!
I hate the sins that made thee mourn
and drove thee from my breast.**

**3 The dearest idol I have known,
whate'er that idol be,
help me to tear it from thy throne,
and worship only thee.**

**4 So shall my walk be close with God,
calm and serene my frame;
so purer light shall mark the road
that leads me to the Lamb.**

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Martin

THE OFFERING / OFFERTORY *Break Thou the Bread of Life*
David M. Tadlock, organist

William F. Sherwin

*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 (unison)

Liturgist King

Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, we offer you ourselves in response to your life-giving call. All that we have and all that we are belong to you. May our lives and our gifts bring you glory and further your purposes. Amen.

The sermon is a reflection on the day's scriptures, suggesting implications for our faith and life.

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

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: *The Lord be with you.*

P: **And also with you.**

L: *Lift up your hearts.*

P: **We lift them to the Lord.**

L: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

P: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PRAYER

L: *It is truly right and our greatest joy . . .*

. . . who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Tim Keyes



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly; ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly; Lord God of pow'r and might;
Hea-ven and earth are full of Your glo - ry! Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est,
Blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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 y 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Words of Institution

CLOSING PRAYER (unison)

Loving God, thank you that you always desire to feed us, to nurture us, to make us whole.

We pray that you remind us of this meal in the days to come. Remind us that we have been fed, that we have been forgiven, that you have called us by name, and that we are yours. May those reminders help us feed and nurture others with love and forgiveness and welcome. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

*HYMN 286

Give to the Winds Thy Fears

ST. BRIDE

1 Give to the winds thy fears;
hope, and be undismayed.
God hears thy sighs and counts thy tears;
God shall lift up thy head.

2 Through waves and clouds and storms
God gently clears the way.
Wait patiently; so shall this night
soon end in joyous day.

3 Leave to God's sovereign sway
to choose and to command.
So shalt thou, wondering, own God's way,
how wise, how strong God's hand!

4 Let us in life, in death,
thy steadfast truth declare,
and publish with our final breath
thy love and guardian care.

Weekly Worship Service can be seen live on Sunday Morning

You can access them directly on the FPC YouTube channel and on the church web site under Worship Archive.

Youtube - <https://www.youtube.com/c/FirstPresbyterianChurchAthensOH/>

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Sent Forth by God's Blessing
David M. Tadlock, organist

The Ash Grove/Welsh Folk Tune



Deacon of the Month - Wendy Toadvine - a friend to phone in time of need

740-590-3279 or wtoadvine@gmail.com

Communion Prep - Helen King and Mindy King Ushers - Martha Johnson and Wendy Toadvine

Fellowship - Lois Harkins, Sandy Nesbitt and Jane Woodrow

Communion Servers - Mary Costello, Martha Johnson, Debi Orr Roderick,
Bobbi Conliffe, and Patrick Tegge



Rally Day 2022 - Along the Way: Compassion Walks Together with Others - Do you have a passion for compassion? Come share your passion with the church as we celebrate and begin the new education year. Members of the congregation who volunteer in the community are invited to showcase their agencies during Fellowship after worship on Sunday, August 21, 2022. Tables will be available to display information. Please email Richard and Joan (christianed@athensfpc.org) or call the office (740-593-3351) to help us plan for this exciting event.

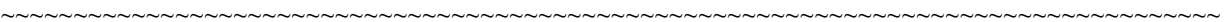
Bike Trip - Be watching for more info on this event.....

After-Worship Fellowship Time - Want to “host” an After-Worship Fellowship Time? There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Just pick a date, and sign-up! A letter with full instructions will be sent the week prior to your chosen date. Simple snacks are fine. No cooking skills required! (If you would like, turn your receipt into the office for reimbursement for expenses.)

Summer Children’s Church - Summer Children’s Church continues. Lessons will be from the book Building Faith Brick by Brick: An Imaginative Way to Explore the Bible with Children by Emily Given. Children will hear a Bible story, engage in discussion, and then recreate the story with Lego building blocks. Volunteers and parents are needed to lead a class. Lesson plans will be provided for all volunteers. Class sizes are usually small in number. Please contact Barb Martin at barbaramartin729@msn.com, or phone the church office at 740-593-3351, if you would like to help.

Women’s Book Study - Fridays 12:00 Noon via Zoom - Join the Friday Noon Women’s Book Study on *What Do Our Neighbors Believe?: Questions and Answers on Judaism, Christianity, and Islam* (second edition). There are two available in the church office or you can purchase book online at <https://www.abebooks.com>. For more info or to join, contact Joan Nease at christianed@athensfpc.org.

FPC Handbell Choir - The Handbell Choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday August 24th – 6:00-7:00 p.m., in the overflow area of the sanctuary. Due to recent COVID-19 numbers, the handbell choir will continue to mask and distance as appropriate. Please consider joining the choir this year as members explore repertoire composed specifically for handbell ensembles, experiment with creatively integrating bells into worship. All levels of skill and experience are welcome. Interested ringers can call or email Tyler Thress at (740) 243-0705 or tylerthress@yahoo.com.



Minister: Rev. Robert E. Martin

Clerk of Session: Andrew Stuart

CE Coordinators: Richard and Joan Nease

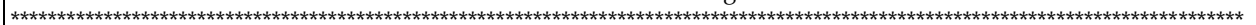
Administrative Assistant/Financial Secretary: Jane Baker

Handbell Director: Tyler Thress

Organist: Janice Robison

Choir Director: David Tadlock

Creative and Digital Media Administrator: Linnea G. Stevens



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