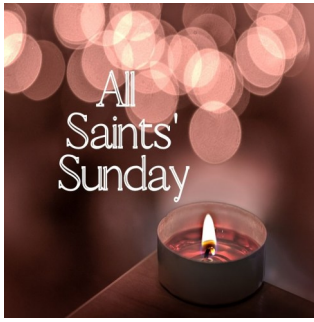




SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2025

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

FOR WORSHIP

This morning we celebrate All Saints' Sunday as we remember our fellowship with brothers and sisters in Christ across the world and throughout the ages. Today's scripture readings center on a theme of faithfulness. In the book of Ruth, Ruth chooses to stay at her mother-in-law's side – an unselfish risk grounded in deep love and loyalty, since the fate of two widowed women in the ancient Near East would have been precarious at best.

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

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.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

In Memoriam

Alfred Fedak

Elegy

Raymond Haan

Janice Robison, organist

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Robert E. Martin

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist John Hauser

L: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;

P: there is no end to God's greatness.

L: One generation shall praise your works to another

P: and shall declare your power.

L: All your works praise you, Lord,

P: and your faithful servants give thanks.

L: My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord:

P: let all creation honor God's holy name forever!

*HYMN 483

Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above

MIT FREUDEN ZART

1 Sing praise to God who reigns above,

the God of all creation,

the God of power, the God of love,

the God of our salvation.

With healing balm my soul is filled,

and every faithless murmur stilled:

to God all praise and glory!

2 What God's almighty power has made

God's gracious mercy keepeth;

by morning glow or evening shade

God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.

Within the kingdom of God's might,

lo! all is just and all is right:

to God all praise and glory!

3 The Lord is never far away,

but, through all grief distressing,

an ever-present help and stay,

our peace and joy and blessing,

as with a mother's tender hand

God gently leads the chosen band:

to God all praise and glory!

4 Thus all my toilsome way along

I sing aloud thy praises,

that all may hear the grateful song

my voice unwearied raises.

Be joyful in the Lord, my heart;

both soul and body, take your part:

to God all praise and glory!

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 of himself on the cross we are forgiven and restored to God and one another.

Passing of the Peace is one of the most ancient responses in worship. We invite you to share a sign of peace with your neighbor.

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

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Liturgist Hauser

Eternal God, in every age you have raised up men and women to live and die in faith. Forgive us for those times when our lives have not fully witnessed to the faith we hold. You have commanded us to speak, but we have often been silent. You have called us to do what is just, but we have often been fearful. Have mercy on us. Encourage and inspire us to be better witnesses for all those who will follow after us. We pray all of this in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 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 OF THE PEACE**

L: The peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also with you!

We invite you to greet those around you, wishing them “peace” or “the peace of Christ.”

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Barb Martin

ANTHEM

In My Father's House

Carl J. Nygard, Jr.

You know where I shall go; I'll return to lead you home.

Simply follow in my way, so where I am, you will also be.

Let your heart walk without fear; let your soul fly without care;

Trust the Father, trust in Me, I am everything you need.

In my Father's house, there are many rooms; many rooms fill His mansion space,

But your room is bare, so I'm going there to prepare a place for you.

Palaces and plazas, castles and courts, nothing on earth can compare;

Chalets and chapels, royal resorts, nothing on earth is as fair

As my Father's house and its many rooms; many rooms fill His mansion space,

And I've opened every door for my loved ones, meek and poor.

In my Father's house, there are many rooms, many rooms full of love and grace;

But your room is bare, so I'm going there to prepare a place for you.

Follow Me, my child, to my Father's house.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison)

Liturgist Hauser

God, our refuge and strength, as we grow in your word, bring near the day when wars shall cease and poverty and pain shall end, that earth may know the peace of heaven, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE II Thessalonians 1: 1-4, 11-12 (page 205 in pew Bible)

Liturgist Hauser

Luke 19: 1-10 (page 82 in pew Bible)

Rev. Dr. Robert Martin

L. This is the Word of the Lord!

P: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

To seek out and save the lost

Rev. Dr. Robert Martin

***HYMN 526**

For All the Saints

SINE NOMINE

Vs. 1-3

**1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

3 O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle; they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

ANNOUNCEMENTS & PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Robert E. Martin

Choral Response #570: *The congregation is invited to sing along with the chancel choir*



John Weaver

THE OFFERING/OFFERTORY

For All the Saints

Raymond Haan

Janice Robison, organist

*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 Hauser

Gracious God, every good and perfect gift comes from you. In thanksgiving for all your blessings, we open our hands to give back to you. Receive these gifts as an expression of our love, and as a dedication of the greater gift of our lives to your service. Amen.

LITANY FOR ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

L: God of the ages, we praise you for all your servants who have done justice, loved mercy, and walked humbly with you. For all the saints who have gone before us,

P: we give you thanks, O God, for our ancestors in the faith.

L: For all the saints who have been beloved to us,

P: we give you thanks for our loved ones who have entered your Church Triumphant.

L: For all the saints who have left us too soon,

P: O God, we mourn their death, and they remain in our hearts.

L: For all the saints who are still shining lights in this world,

P: may we learn from their ways and follow you.

L: For those we have known and loved, who by their faithful obedience and steadfast hope have shown the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, and especially for those members of First Presbyterian Church who have, since last All Saints' Day, finished their race and are now at rest with you . . . we give you thanks, O God, and for these your servants,

P: we praise you. Keep us grateful for their witness and, like them, eager to follow in the way of Christ. Then at the last, bring us with them to share in the inheritance of the saints in light; through Jesus Christ, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

All bread for Communion
is gluten-free.

*HYMN 526

For All the Saints

SINE NOMINE

Vs. 4, 6

4 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia! Alleluia!

6 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

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.

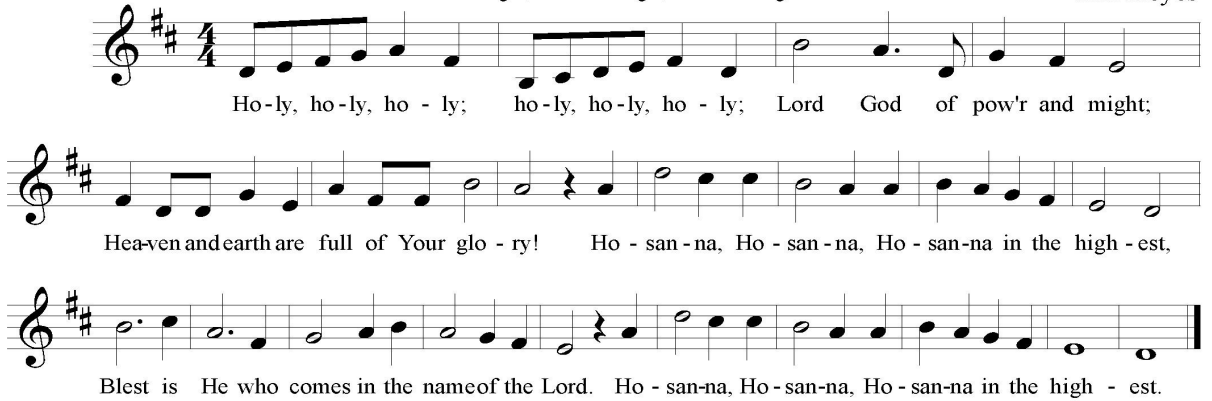
L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

L: *It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God..... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels and with all the faithful of every time and place, 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;

Heaven 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Words of Institution

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (In Unison)

Holy Spirit, you have filled us with your life. Christ our Savior, you have embraced us in your love. God our parent, you have fed us with your grace. Now send us out into your beloved world to share your life, your love, your grace with all. Amen.

*HYMN 508

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

KINGDOM

1 For the bread which you have broken,
for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken,
now we give you thanks, O Lord.

2 By this promise that you love us,
by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heaven above us,
hallow all our lives, O Lord.

3 With the saints who now adore you
seated at the heavenly board,
may the church still waiting for you
keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.

4 In your service, Lord, defend us;
in our hearts keep watch and ward;
in the world to which you send us
let your kingdom come, O Lord.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Choral Response #583: *The congregation is invited to sing along with the chancel choir.*



A - men, a - men, a - men!

Marty Haugen

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, forever. Amen.

Weekly Worship Service can be seen live on Sunday

Morning

FPC's worship services can be found on YouTube channel here:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/athensfpc/search?query=sermon>

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

POSTLUDE

Toccata from Fantasy on "Sine Nomine"
Janice Robison, organist

Michael Bedford

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**Deacon of the Month of October - Margaret Bourke**  
(740) 707-4090 or [mbourke1935@gmail.com](mailto:mbourke1935@gmail.com) - A friend to phone with joys or concerns  
Communion Prep: Lois Harkins and Kim Jordan  
Communion Servers: Mary Costello, Riley Smoot, and Harold Robison  
Ushers: Mary Costello and Ayse Suer  
Fellowship Hour: Susan Loughridge  
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Advent Devotionals - submissions are now being accepted for this year's Advent devotional booklets. This year's theme is sharing or receiving kindness. You may send a picture with a brief caption, a picture with a short story, or a longer story without a picture. Long stories should be less than one page. We need your stories submitted by November 16th in order to be ready for Advent. Send your contributions to Joan Nease at christianed@athensfpc.org

Save The Date - Saturday, November 8th Marilyn and Dan Neason will be celebrating their 90th birthdays and 70th wedding anniversary in Fellowship Hall from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. All are invited to stop in and celebrate with them.

Fellowship Hour Hosts needed - please consider signing up to host a Fellowship Hour after worship. Light refreshments to go along with our coffee and conversation are appreciated. Expenses incurred can be reimbursed by turning in your receipts to the church office. A sign-up sheet is located on the wall near the kitchen in Fellowship Hall.

Habitat For Humanity-mark your calendars for the Habitat For Humanity rummage sale that runs from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday, November 15th at Christ The King Church, Holy Family Center. Donations of clothing, toys, books, puzzles, kitchenware, appliances and other small items are welcome and can be dropped off at Christ The King on the Thursday or Friday before the sale, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Creche Presentation November 30th - children and youth are needed to help present the manger scene in the church sanctuary during worship. Email Joan Nease at christianed@athensfpc.org, Barb Martin at barbaramartin729@msn.com or call the church office at (740) 593-3351 if your child would like to participate.

Cultivating Kindness With Pete The Cat - Saturday, November 15th from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. all children of the church are invited, along with their friends and adult volunteers, to join the fun with crafts, games, outreach, and t-shirts for the participants. Snacks and lunch will be provided. Contact Barbara Martin at barbaramartin729@msn.com to register or volunteer.

Thanksgiving Day Dinner - Harvey Ballard and Andrew Stuart have agreed to coordinate this year's Thanksgiving Day dinner which will take place in Fellowship Hall on Thursday, November 27th at 2:00 p.m. For planning purposes, a sign-up sheet is located in Fellowship Hall to indicate who will be attending and what side dish they will bring (turkey will be provided). All are welcome!

Minister: Rev. Dr. Robert E. Martin Clerk of Session: Andrew Stuart
CE Coordinators: Richard and Joan Nease Administrative Assistant: Debbie Perry
Organist: Janice Robison Bell Choir Director: Dr. Peter Haley Choir Director: Dr. David Tadlock

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