

The background features a stylized design with three fish in grey outlines. Two fish are in the upper left, and one is in the lower right. They are connected by thick red lines that form a partial frame around the central text. There are also two solid red circles: one in the top left and one in the bottom right.

ATHENS FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MAY 5, 2019
8:30, 9:45, & 11:00 A.M.

Welcome

We are glad you are here! Thank you for joining us for worship this Sunday. We are inspired by the words of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, who encouraged believers to "do all the good you can, in all the ways you can."

Sunday School

We offer Sunday school for children age 2 through adult each Sunday from 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Children

At Athens First United Methodist Church, we invite families to worship together. Children's Church is held for children in kindergarten through grade 2 most Sundays during the 11:00 a.m. service.

Financial Report

Budget for 2019 | \$3,338,442

Amount Given YTD | \$1,068,709

Goal for April | \$256,525

Amount after 3 Sundays | \$177,824

Attendance on April 28

Total Worship | 1,052

8:30 a.m. | 139

9:45 a.m. | 225

11:00 a.m. | 401

Online | 287

Sunday School | 294

Contact Us

Office hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Facebook: @athensfirstumc

athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

CCLI License No.

1097803

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Ministers

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The Worship of God

8:30 a.m.

Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Sarah McTier and Jeffery Jackson.

GATHERING MUSIC

“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” | J.S. Bach

Natalie Smith, flute; Brian Smith, guitar

OPENING PRAYER | Susan Taylor

*HYMN OF PRAISE

UMH 89 “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” | HYMN TO JOY

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | 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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at 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 Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE | Robin Stewart

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE | Martha Aenchbacher

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Anthem Lyrics

They tried to put my
Lord into the grave,
but he ain't gonna
stay. He is risen! He is
alive. They tried to kill
my Lord up on a tree,
but the powers that be
could not succeed. He
is risen! He is alive. For
three days the light
was hidden from sight.
Everything was looking
like death had his way,
but Sunday morning
came, heard the word
at the grave—you ain't
gonna find my Lord
rotting away. He is
risen! He is alive. They
tried to tell his people,
don't preach his name,
but they preached
anyway. They just had
to proclaim. He is risen!
He is alive.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“He Is Risen” | Adam Everett

*DOXOLOGY | THE OLD 100TH

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.

SCRIPTURE READING

ROMANS 15:13 | p. 153 NEW TESTAMENT

SERMON

“Joy in the Midst...” | Betsy Butler

HYMN OF PREPARATION

UHM 617 “I Come with Joy” | DOVE OF PEACE

Verses 1-3

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Here and now, God's Spirit is at work. The Spirit nurtures us around this table made for sharing. Through our communion with Christ and with one another, we are being made new. Let us pray.

God of new beginnings, because you come among us to make us whole, we approach your table with delight and expectation: glad to be comforted, ready to be challenged, knowing your generous love for all. Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Creator God, holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. He prayed that we might be one as he is one with you, and he asked that we might be known by the love we have for one another. On the night...

We celebrate God's love for us in Jesus Christ. As we remember Christ's offering through this Holy Sacrament, we live out the mystery of our faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Loving God, who in Jesus Christ gives us our salvation, consecrate by your Holy Spirit these elements of Holy Communion. Bless us as we receive

them this day that we may bear the gifts of love and joy to the world. In our Risen Savior's name we pray. **Amen.**

RECEIVING OF THE ELEMENTS

At Athens First United Methodist Church, all are invited to commune at Christ's table. If you need to be served in your pew, please call this to the attention of an usher. Gluten-free elements are available at the center station in the front of the sanctuary.

MUSIC DURING HOLY COMMUNION

"Joy" | arr. Latifah Alattas

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*BLESSING

*CLOSING HYMN

UMH 664 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" | THE ASH GROVE
**Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The service is ended, O now be extended
the fruits of our worship in all who believe.
The seed of the teaching, receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.
God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us
to work for God's kingdom and answer the call.**

*POSTLUDE

"Ode to Joy" | Beethoven

Lyrics

I've got the joy, joy, joy,
joy down in my heart. I
can't understand, and
I can't pretend, but this
will be alright in the end,
so I'll try my best and
lift up my chest to sing
about this joy, joy joy!
When peace like a river
attendeth my way, when
sorrows like sea billows
roll, whatever my lot
thou has taught me to
say, it is well, it is well,
with my soul!

The Worship of God

9:45 &
11:00 a.m.

Gathering

Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Sarah McTier and Jeffery Jackson.

THE PRELUDE

“He Leadeth Me” | arr. Lewis

THE CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

9:45 A.M. “The Strife is O’er, the Battle Done”

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

11:00 A.M. “The Morning Trumpet” | arr. Michael Richardson

Sung by the Agapé Men’s Ensemble

THE PRAYER | 9:45 A.M. Susan Taylor • 11:00 A.M. Josh Miles

Ever-living God, help us to celebrate our joy in the resurrection of the Lord and to express in our lives the love we celebrate. Help us to seek the values that will bring us lasting joy in this changing world. Remove the things that hinder us from joyfully receiving Christ, so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Praise & Thanksgiving

*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

UMH 89 “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” | ODE TO JOY

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | “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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at 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 Spirit, he holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Anthem Lyrics

There'll be joy in the morning on that day, there'll be joy in the morning on that day, for the daylight will dawn when the darkness is gone, there'll be joy in the morning on that day. There'll be peace and contentment evermore, there'll be peace and contentment evermore, ev'ry heart, ev'ry voice on that day will rejoice, there'll be peace and contentment evermore. There'll be love and forgiveness ev'rywhere, there'll be love and forgiveness ev'rywhere, and the way of the Lord will that day be restored, there'll be love and forgiveness ev'rywhere.

Beside a stream of living water stands a tree of God's blest people. Its roots run deep, from those before us. By grace, it grows by grace, the love of God abounding. So many rings, a living history, some are thin from years of struggle. Some circle wide from times of plenty. By grace, it grows by grace, the love of God abounding. The branches soar beyond the steeple, leaves as varied as its people; so many gifts and yet one body. By grace, it grows by grace, the love of God abounding. O tree of life, O tree of glory, may our witness tell God's story for all who follow in the future. By grace, it grows by grace, the love of God abounding.

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE RECOGNITION OF THE HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR CLASS

11:00 A.M.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Martha Aenchenbacher

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Proclamation

THE OFFERING AND THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

9:45 A.M. "Joy in the Morning" | Natalie Sleeth

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

11:00 A.M. "Beside a Stream of Living Water" arr. Thomas Keesecker

Sung by the Wesleyan Youth Choir; Ksenia Kurenysheva, accompanist

*THE DOXOLOGY | LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia, alleluia! Praise God the source of all our gifts; praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts. Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

THE SCRIPTURE READING

ROMANS 15:13 | p. 153 NEW TESTAMENT

THE SERMON

"Joy in the Midst..." | Betsy Butler

Response

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God has opened to us the gates of righteousness that we may enter through them. Confident in God's love, let us confess our sin.

Lord Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit we have been raised from the waters of baptism to share in your glorious resurrection. Yet we have not lived as Easter people. We are unsure of your promise, confused about your will, and afraid in the face of danger. Like Mary, we weep at the tomb but do not recognize your presence. Call us by name, risen Lord, that we may know you with confidence. Whenever we are tempted to fear death, give us courage to confess your Easter victory. Whenever we are distracted by petty conflicts, keep our minds on your reconciling love. Whenever we are overwhelmed by the power of evil, reveal again to us your triumph over destructive powers of oppression. Forgive us our sins and let our lives be a testimony to your salvation through the love of God and by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey, and set before us the way of life. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name, who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. By your great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of your Son from the dead and to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading. Once we were no people, but now we are your people, declaring your wonderful

deeds in Christ, who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit. On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

THE INVITATION

This table is open to all who confess Jesus as the Christ and seek to follow Christ's way. Come to this sacred table not because you must, but because you may. Come not because you are fulfilled, but because in your emptiness you stand in need of God's mercy and assurance. Come not to express an opinion, but to seek a presence and to pray for a spirit. Come to this table then, sisters and brothers, as you are. Partake and share. It is spread for you and me that we might again know that God has come to us, shared our common lot, and invited us to join in God's Kingdom.

THE RECEIVING OF THE ELEMENTS

At Athens First United Methodist Church, all are invited to commune at Christ's table. If you need to be served in your pew, please call this to the attention of an usher. Gluten-free elements are available at the center station in the front of the sanctuary.

THE MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

11:00 A.M. "Dona Nobis Pacem" arr. James Moore

Sung by the Wesleyan Youth Choir; Serena Scibelli, violin

Translation: Grant us peace.

Sending Forth

***THE BLESSING & CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Now let us be united and let our song be heard.

Now let us be a vessel for God's redeeming word.

We all are one in mission, we all are one in call,

Our varied gifts united by Christ, the Lord of all.

***THE POSTLUDE**

"Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart" | arr. Wagner

The Steeple

New Arrival

Congratulations to Chris and Marie Gareau on the birth of their daughter, Emmaline Garrett, on November 28, 2018.

New Members

On April 28 we welcomed Brett Barden & Bria Clough; Ashley, Jason, Ezra, & Elliot Villarreal; and Joe & Ruth Alligood to the Athens First United Methodist Church family.

Honoring Our Zimmer Pipe Organ Today

We will celebrate the service of the current pipe organ with a special service of singing and music today at 4:00 p.m. Join us in the sanctuary as we play favorite hymns and

organ pieces one last time with this instrument, honoring the years of faithful service music.

Janis Maxwell | janis@athensfirstumc.org

Wesley Woods Offering

We support Wesley Woods through a Mother's Day Offering. This offering will provide critically needed funding for benevolence assistance, wellness programming, and pastoral care for older adults living at the ten Wesley Woods communities throughout North Georgia. Prayerfully consider giving next Sunday, May 12.

Men's Small Group | Heartthrobs

The Heartthrobs are a men's support group for those who have experienced heart-related health issues such as heart surgery, pacemakers, heart disease, and other cardiovascular problems. We meet on the third Wednesday



Congratulations **SENIORS!**

David Hatton Abernathy
Caroline Elizabeth Ard
Andrew Mark Caldwell
Bennett Richmond Caughran
Charles Allan Clarke
Anabel Lynch Griffith
Daniel Gregory Harper, Jr.
Reagan Beverly Hatch
Madison Suzanne Holland
Samantha Riley Holland
Grace Ann Irvin
Megan Leigh Jackson
Elizabeth Barrett Jones
John Ward Knight, Jr.

Donald McLaren Law
Joseph Perry Mahoney
Matthew Dale Marvel, Jr.
Barrett Alexander McLanahan
Cornelia Greer Moseley
Sarah Louise O'Steen
John Curtis Pruett
David Grant Rogers
Anna Noel Sennowitz
Abigail Marilyn Springer
Tommy Edward Warner, III
Evan Timothy Williams
Kate Sutton Williams
Dylan Payne Wyrick

Special thank you to our grade level sponsors and college shepherd:
Angela Chapeau, Chuck Chapeau, Brianna Hay, Joe Hay, & Allyse Kumpula

each month for lunch and conversation at Hilltop Grille at 12:00 noon. All are invited.

Bob Winstead | bob@athensfirstumc.org

The Ark's Adopt-A-Mom

If you are interested in supporting hard-working mothers and grandmothers for a Mother's Day they won't forget, then consider the Ark's Adopt-A-Mom program. Financial contributions provide loving Mother's Day gifts for mothers and grandmothers in our community. For more information, go to www.athensark.org/adopt-a-mom
Sarah Beth Barger | sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org

GriefShare | New Group Begins May 7

GriefShare will meet again during the summer of 2019! This thirteen-week faith-based curriculum features nationally recognized experts on grief and recovery topics. GriefShare groups are for people grieving the death of a family member or friend. We will meet on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. in Room 100 from May 7 through July 30. Please register online so that we will have materials prepared for you. There is a \$20 fee to pay for your workbook. You may pay that fee online when you register, or bring a check with you to the group meeting.

Learn more and register | athensfirstumc.org/griefshare
Martha Aenchbacher | martha@athensfirstumc.org
678-230-9708

Jubilate Deo | May 19

Dan Forrest's "Jubilate Deo" brings to life the global aspect of the traditional Psalm 100 text, "O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands," by setting it in seven different languages and drawing from a wide spectrum of musical influences. Each movement combines some characteristics of its language-group's musical culture with the composer's own musical language. Movements include Latin, intertwined Hebrew and Arabic, Mandarin Chinese, Zulu, Spanish, and a closing movement combining several of these languages with English. Join us on May 19 to enjoy this wonderful piece.

RightNow Media

We now have access to the Netflix of Bible studies! You should have received several emails last weekend regarding RightNow Media; if you haven't, please check your spam folder. The email provides a link that will enable you to create an account. The account allows you to access hundreds of Bible study videos and printable materials. Some of the speakers include Francis Chan, Max Lucado, Jennie Allen, and Dave Ramsey. We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to grow on your own schedule, or to start a group! This will be a resource and tool that Athens First United Methodist Church provides to serve you as you live out your faith at home, at work, and in your neighborhood.

Susan Taylor | susan@athensfirstumc.org | 706-543-1442

Recreation Summer Camps

We are excited to offer a variety of camp programs this summer through our recreation department: Vacation Bible School Day Camp, Sports Camp, and four sessions of Junior Jam Basketball Camp. Register online for your children to attend these camps, as spots will fill quickly! Learn more | athensfirstumc.org/recreationcamps
Sarah Beth Barger | sarahbeth@athensfirstumc.org

Summer Recreation Staff

Our Recreation Team is looking for outgoing and dependable young adults to help lead our various camps this summer. Our Summer Staff will lead activities and help oversee groups of children as they learn new skills and advance their abilities in recreation sports. Those interested in joining our staff must have completed tenth grade and have schedule availability in late May, June, and July. For more information about staff positions and dates, contact Rusty Wood.

Rusty Wood | rusty@athensfirstumc.org



Epworth *youth mission trip*

ONE Student Ministries is excited about our Epworth mission trip this July for youth in grades 7-12 which begins on Thursday morning, July 18, and ends on Sunday afternoon, July 21. This mission trip takes place through Epworth by the Sea, on St. Simons Island, Georgia, and includes two days of mission work, evening worship and activities, morning devotionals, small group times, beach and pool fellowship time, and dinner out in downtown St. Simons. We are capping this mission trip at 36 total students, so the earlier you register, the better. Registration is open until May 22. Please visit our webpage for more information and to register.

Register: athensfirstumc.org/epworth
Contact: Laney Jones | laney@athensfirstumc.org

This Week

SUNDAY, MAY 5 | JOHN 21:15-19

- 8:30 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY
Preschool Nursery FIRST FLOOR
- 9:45 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY
Adult Sunday School
Youth Sunday School YOUTH AREA
Route 56: Grade 5 & 6 Sunday School ROOM 120
Elementary Sunday School: Holy Ground CHAPEL
Kindergarten Sunday School: City on a Hill ROOM 311 & 313
Preschool Nursery & Sunday School FIRST FLOOR
- 10:00 a.m. **Sack Lunch Ministry** HULL STREET ENTRANCE
Senior Recognition Reception HANCOCK HALL
- 11:00 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY
Preschool Nursery FIRST FLOOR
Venture Crew Meeting ROOM 125
- 1:00 p.m. **Agape Choir Rehearsal** CHOIR ROOM
- 3:45 p.m. **Connect & Grow Group** ROOM 200
- 4:30 p.m. **Carillons Ringers** ROOM 150
Wesleyan Youth Choir Rehearsal ROOM 145
- 5:30 p.m. **Alleluia Ringers** ROOM 150

MONDAY, MAY 6 | PSALM 23:1-4

- 10:00 a.m. **Connect & Grow | Women's Group** ROOM 200
- 5:30 p.m. **Girl Scouts Meeting** ROOM 247
- 7:00 p.m. **Connect & Grow Group** PRIVATE HOME

TUESDAY, MAY 7 | PSALM 23:4-6

- 10:30 a.m. **Prayer Shawl Ministry** PANERA BREAD
- 1:30 p.m. **Pickleball** GYM
- 5:30 p.m. **The Truth Project Bible Study** ROOM 229
Griefshare Men ROOM 226
- 6:00 p.m. **GriefShare** ROOM 100
- 7:00 p.m. **Boy Scouts Troop 1** ROOM 301

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9 | ACTS 9:36-43

- 9:30 a.m. **Wednesday Morning Bible Study** ROOM 222
- 4:30 p.m. **Prayer Shawl Ministry** ROOM 200
- 5:00 p.m. **Kids Music and Arts Combined Choir** ROOM 151
Route 56 Wednesday Nights ROOM 120
An Evening with Barbara Brown Taylor HANCOCK HALL
- 5:30 p.m. **66 Love Letters** HOME OF DEBRA LASSITER
Connect Group | Young Married ROOM 114
- 6:00 p.m. **Youth Bible Study** ROOM 119
- 7:30 p.m. **Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal** ROOM 148

THURSDAY, MAY 9 | JOHN 10:22-26

- 1:30 p.m. **Pickleball** GYM

FRIDAY, MAY 10 | JOHN 10:27-30

SATURDAY, MAY 11 | REVELATION 7:9-12

10:00 a.m. Children's Soccer CHAPELWOOD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



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