

The background features a stylized graphic design. It consists of several fish-like shapes, each with a simple eye and a curved line for a mouth, rendered in dark grey. These shapes are arranged in a pattern that suggests movement or a school of fish. The design is framed by thick red lines that form a partial border around the central text. There are also solid red circles scattered throughout the composition, adding to the visual balance.

ATHENS FIRST  
UNITED  
METHODIST  
CHURCH

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MAY 22, 2016  
8:30, 9:45 & 11:00 a.m.

# Welcome

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We are glad you are here! Thank you for joining us for worship this Sunday. Members of this congregation have been gathering here to worship since 1804. Over the past two centuries our congregation has changed, but our mission remains the same: to make disciples of Jesus Christ. 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."

## *Attendance*

Please let us know of your attendance this morning by completing the pew pad.

## *Newcomer Orientation*

We invite you to learn about the life of our church, ways you can get involved, and how to become a member by attending Newcomer Orientation, which is held every second Sunday of the month at 9:45 and 11:00 a.m.

## *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 2016 | \$2,789,339  
Amount Given YTD | \$1,160,192  
Goal for May | \$202,269  
Amount after 2 Sundays | \$128,875

## *Attendance on May 15*

Total Worship | 1001  
Sunday School | 385  
8:30 a.m. | 184  
9:45 a.m. | 281  
11:00 a.m. | 406  
Online | 136

## *Table of Contents*

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## *Ministers and Ministry Directors*

**Chuck Hodges** Senior Minister  
[chuck@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:chuck@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-206-5529

**Martha Aenchbacher** Minister of Congregational Care  
[martha@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:martha@athensfirstumc.org) | 678-230-9708

**Beth Dickinson** Minister of Discipleship  
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**Betsy Butler** Minister of Missions  
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[rusty@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:rusty@athensfirstumc.org)

**Linsey Jarrett** Director of Weekday Preschool  
[linsey@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:linsey@athensfirstumc.org)

**Julie Caldwell** 8:30 a.m. Worship Leader  
[julie@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:julie@athensfirstumc.org)

## *Contact Us*

Our church office is open Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Find us on Facebook at Athens First United Methodist Church.

[athensfirstumc.org](http://athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

# The Worship of God

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8:30 a.m.

## THE GATHERING MUSIC

### *Flowers*

The flowers on the altar  
are given to the glory  
of God and in loving  
memory of their son,  
Courtney Caskin, by Dr.  
and Mrs. Joseph Caskin.

### \*THE CONGREGATIONAL CALL TO WORSHIP

139 “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” | LOBE DEN HERREN

**Praise to the Lord, The Almighty, the king of creation!**

**O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!**

**All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;**

**Praise Him in glad adoration.**

**Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!**

**All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.**

**Let the Amen sound from His people again,**

**Gladly for aye we adore Him.**

### \*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,**

**the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### \*THE GLORY OF GOD | The Gloria Patri

**Glorify 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.**

**Amen.**

## THE WELCOME AND THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Betsy Butler

## THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Robin Stewart, Director of Children's Ministry

## \*THE HYMN OF PRAISE

64 "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty" | NICAEA

### *Anthem Lyrics*

This is my prayer in the desert, when all that's within me feels dry. This is my prayer in my hunger and need. My God is the God who provides. And this is my prayer in the fire, in weakness or trial or pain. There is a faith proved of more worth than gold. So refine me, Lord, through the flame.

And I will bring praise.

I will bring praise. No weapon formed against me shall remain. I will rejoice. I will declare:

God is my victory and He is here. And this is my prayer in the battle, when triumph is still on its way. I am a conqueror and co-heir with Christ, so firm on His promise I'll stand.

All of my life, in every season, you are still God.

I have a reason to sing. I have a reason to worship.

This is my prayer in the harvest, when favor and providence flow. I know I'm filled to be emptied again, the seed I've received I will sow.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Chuck Hodges

**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.**

## THE OFFERING AND THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"Desert Song" | Hillsong United

*Sung by the Worship Team*

## \*THE DOXOLOGY | The Old 100th

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## THE SCRIPTURE READING

ROMANS 5:1-5 | p. 145 NEW TESTAMENT

## THE SERMON

"A Squirrel in a Busy Street" | Chuck Hodges

## THE HYMN OF PREPARATION

454 "Open My Eyes, that I May See" | OPEN MY EYES

Verse 1

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Matthew 26:17-19, 26-29

The Prayer of Preparation

**We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to partake of this Sacrament of thy Son Jesus Christ, that we may walk in newness of life, may grow into his likeness, and may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

The Receiving of the Elements of Communion

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 communion elements are available at the center station in the front of the sanctuary.

The Music During Communion

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

### \*THE BLESSING AND CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

"They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love" | P. Scholtes

**We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord. We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord. And we pray that all unity may one day be restored. And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love. Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

### \* THE POSTLUDE

"God's Grace" | Manz

# The Worship of God

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9:45 &  
11:00 a.m.

## *Gathering*

### *Flowers*

The flowers on the altar  
are given to the glory  
of God and in loving  
memory of their son,  
Courtney Caskin, by Dr.  
and Mrs. Joseph Caskin.

### THE PRELUDE

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” | Page

### THE CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

“O Be Joyful in the Lord” | Yarrington

*Sung by the Sanctuary Choir*

### THE WELCOME AND THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Betsy Butler

## *Praise & Thanksgiving*

### \*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

64 “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty” | NICAEA

### \*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,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*THE GLORIA PATRI**

**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. Amen.**

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM | 11:00 a.m.**

Collier Anne Finnerty, daughter of Alison and Michael

**Collier, Collier, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too. We this day do all agree a child of God you'll always be. Collier, Collier, God claims you, God helps you, protects you, and loves you too.**

**THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Chuck Hodges

**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.**

**THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE | 11:00 a.m.**

Robin Stewart, Director of Children's Ministry

At the 11:00 a.m. service, children in kindergarten through grade 2 will go to Children's Church on the third floor where they may be picked up at the end of the service.

*Proclamation of the Word*

**THE OFFERING AND THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

**"Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above" | Craig Courtney**

*Sung by the Sanctuary Choir with the Brass Ensemble*

**\*THE DOXOLOGY | The Old 100th**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**THE SCRIPTURE READING**

ROMANS 5:1-5 | p. 145 NEW TESTAMENT

**THE SERMON**

**"A Squirrel in a Busy Street" | Chuck Hodges**

*Anthem Lyrics*

Praise the Lord who reigns above and keeps His court below. Praise the holy God of love and all His greatness show. Praise Him for His noble deeds; praise Him for His matchless pow'r. Him from who all good proceeds let earth and heav'n adore. Celebrate the eternal God with harp and psaltery, timbrels soft and cymbals loud in this high praise agree; praise with every tuneful string; all the reach of heavenly art; all the powers of music bring the music of the heart. 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. God, in whom they move and live, let every creature sing. Glory to their Maker give and homage to their King. Hallowed be His name beneath, as in heaven on earth adored; praise the Lord in every breath, let all things praise the Lord.

# *Sending Forth*

**\* THE HYMN**

61 “Come, Thou Almighty King” | ITALIAN HYMN

**\*THE BLESSING AND CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

“We Receive Your Blessing”

**We receive your blessing, we receive your grace as we walk in the light shining from your face. May the peace that you give change the way that we live. We receive your blessing as we leave this place.**

**\* THE POSTLUDE**

“God’s Grace” | Manz

## Sermon Notes

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# The Steeple



## Sympathy

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Becky Brinson and her family in the loss of her mother, and Elizabeth Garbin, Ryan Brinson, Julie Bishop, and John Tebeau and their families in the loss of their grandmother, Mary Lovett Robinson, on May 14.

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Helen Plymale and her family in the loss of her sister, Mary Henderson Campbell, on May 17.

## New Arrival

Congratulations to Harris and Jamie Haley on the birth of their son, Hatcher Gaines, on May 11. Hatcher is the grandson of Carlyn Haley.

## Senior Fun Trip | Register Today

Tomorrow is the last day to register for the Senior Fun Trip. Join us Thursday, June 16, as we visit Flat Rock Playhouse to see *The Music Man*. The cost is \$65, plus money for lunch. Make checks payable to AFUMC with "SFG June 16 day trip" in the memo. Mail checks to Dan Maxey.

Dan Maxey | 706-340-5097

1010 Coday Bluff | Athens, GA 30606-7048

## Connect Group (Young Adults)

Have you ever thought of Jesus as an "outlaw?" Jesus has a lot of typical descriptions: loving, generous, and kind. But what about his "outlaw" side that made him a threat to Jewish and Roman leaders alike? He spoke above the law, said outrageous things, and did whatever it took to save the lives of His children. If you are interested in learning more, join the Young Adult Connect Group on Thursday, May 26, at 7:00 p.m. as they begin John Eldredge's book, *Beautiful Outlaw*. Beth Dickinson | [beth@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:beth@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## Senior Fun Luncheon

This month's Senior Fun Luncheon is Thursday, May 26, at 12:30 p.m. in Hancock Hall. Our program features 15-minute presentations followed by a "Q & A" with two distinguished physicians and members of our church. Dr. Ormonde Mahoney, an orthopedist, will discuss caring for your bones, and Dr. David Woodard, a cardiologist, will speak on the hearts of senior adults. Prior to their presentations, Laura Cotney, a gifted soprano from the UGA music school, will sing four beautiful solos. Call the church office by 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 25, to register. Church office | 706-543-1442

## Families on the Fifth | Next Sunday

Join us next Sunday, May 29, at 9:45 a.m. in Hancock Hall for Families on the Fifth, a family-friendly Sunday School program for children in kindergarten through grade 4 and their parents. We will equip families with "Take Out Church." Each family will decorate a pizza box that will provide ways to worship God, grow as disciples, and love your neighbors. This program will take the place of our regular Sunday School classes.

Robin Stewart | [robin@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:robin@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## Summer Prayer Shawl Ministry

For the summer, Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Panera Bread! Bring your handwork and all are welcome to attend! For more information, contact Dianne Morrison.

Dianne Morrison | [dianne.morrison@gmail.com](mailto:dianne.morrison@gmail.com)

## Smart Lunch, Smart Kid

You are invited to join us any Wednesday in June and July to distribute sack lunches to hungry children in our community. Assembly of lunches will be handled by Clarke County schools. We will meet at the church to depart and serve the lunches in the community. Please email Betsy or Mary Claire if you would like to participate.

Betsy Butler | [betsy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:betsy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

Mary Claire Wills | [maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org)

## Recreation Summer Camps

Volunteers are needed for various recreation camps this summer! If you enjoy working with young children, we would love your help with the many summer camps coming up. Experience with sports camps would be appreciated. Contact Mary Claire for information.

Mary Claire Wills | [maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org)

## Music and Arts Week | June 1-3

Please help our children discover hidden treasure at Music and Arts Week, June 1-3! Our special guest Mr. Mark will use found objects and recyclables to turn trash into treasure as he tells exciting stories of Biblical proportions. We are currently collecting several items to help make Music and Arts Week a lot of fun for the children. If you would like to

donate bars of Ivory soap, cardboard toilet paper rolls, or small plastic yogurt containers, we have donation baskets in the Galleria or in the basket behind the reception desk area. Sarah Lawing | [sarah@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:sarah@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## Vacation Bible School | June 6-9

VBS is quickly approaching, but there is still time to register online. Children who turned three by September 1, 2015, through those completing grade 4 this year are invited to go on a quest to follow Jesus, the Light of the World.

We are collecting several items for VBS. Donations of battery powered tealights, small glass jars, strands of twinkle lights, under-bed plastic bins (6), and large blue plastic waterproof tarps (8) can be made in the Galleria or in the basket behind the reception desk area.

Learn more | [athensfirstumc.org/vbs](http://athensfirstumc.org/vbs)

Robin Stewart | [robin@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:robin@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## Are You Interested in Missions?

Members of our church are nominated to serve on our Missions Advisory Board. This group works to discern how God is calling our church to serve in the community and the world. We are currently seeking to fill seats on this board. Individuals can self-nominate or nominate others. Mandatory meeting attendance, participation in our Missions Ministry, and an understanding of our mission and vision are a few of the requirements for serving. For more details about the responsibilities and expectations or to express interest in this service opportunity, contact Betsy. Betsy Butler | [betsy@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:betsy@athensfirstumc.org) | 706-543-1442

## Children's Consignment Sale

Help us as the Children's Consignment Sale approaches:

1. Donate your gently used children's items of all kinds.
2. Register to be a consignor.
3. Plan to attend Tagging Tuesdays this summer (every Tuesday in June and July) to help sort and tag clothes.
4. Volunteer to help August 8-13.

All volunteers get to shop at the preview sale on Thursday evening, August 11! Proceeds from this year's sale will go to support foster care efforts in the Athens area. Please bring items to room 103. Contact Mary Claire with any questions. Mary Claire Wills | [maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org](mailto:maryclaire@athensfirstumc.org)

# This Week

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## SUNDAY, MAY 22 | ROMANS 5:2b-5

- 8:30 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY
- Preschool Nursery** FIRST FLOOR
- 9:00 a.m. **Fun Gym** GYM
- 9:45 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY
- Adult Sunday School** SECOND FLOOR AND SAYE BUILDING
- Preschool Nursery & Sunday School** FIRST FLOOR
- Elementary Sunday School** THIRD FLOOR
- Grade 5 & 6 Sunday School: Fuel** FIRST FLOOR
- Youth Sunday School: First Word** FIRST FLOOR
- 10:00 a.m. **Sack Lunch Ministry** HULL STREET ENTRANCE
- 11:00 a.m. **Worship Service** SANCTUARY
- Preschool Nursery** FIRST FLOOR
- 3:45 p.m. **Agapé Choir Rehearsal** ROOM 148
- 4:30 p.m. **Wesleyan Youth Choir** ROOM 148
- 4:30 p.m. **Alleluia Ringers** ROOM 150

## MONDAY, MAY 23 | PSALM 96:1-9

- 5:30 p.m. **Church Council** HANCOCK HALL
- 7:00 p.m. **Spain Choir Tour Rehearsal** ROOM 148

## TUESDAY, MAY 24 | PSALM 96:10-13

- 7:00 p.m. **Boy Scouts Troop 1** SCOUT HUT

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 25 | I KINGS 18:20-21

- 12:00 p.m. **Red Cross Heroes Lunch** HANCOCK HALL
- 4:45 p.m. **Early Book Group** ROOM 247
- 5:30 p.m. **66 Love Letters | Women's Bible Study** HULL CONFERENCE ROOM
- 5:45 p.m. **Men's Prayer Group** ROOM 226
- 6:30 p.m. **Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal** ROOM 148
- The Battle Plan for Prayer** ROOM 240
- Later Book Group** ROOM 247

## THURSDAY, MAY 26 | I KINGS 18:20-39

- 12:30 p.m. **Senior Fun Luncheon** HANCOCK HALL
- 6:00 p.m. **Adult Softball** BISHOP PARK
- 7:00 p.m. **Connect Group (Young Adult)** ROOM 222

## FRIDAY, MAY 27 | LUKE 7:1-10

## SATURDAY, MAY 28 | GALATIANS 1:1-12

# Worship Bulletin (614-280)

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