



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH ATHENS

October 5, 2025

11:00 a.m.

*World Communion Sunday*

## The Worship of God

Texts in **bold** are said or sung by the congregation.

The asterisk (\*) is an invitation for you to rise in body and/or spirit.

### Song of Gathering

*Yesu Kwetu ni Rafiki (What a Friend)*

Mark Burrows

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!

O what peace we often forfeit; O what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!

Yesu kwetu ni rafiki. (*What a friend we have in Jesus.*)

Youth Choir and Elinor Ellis, piano

### Call to Worship

Psalm 96:1-4a

O sing to the Lord a new song;

**sing to the Lord, all the earth.**

Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord;

**proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

Declare God's glory among the nations

**and God's wonders among all peoples.**

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised. . . .

### Introit

*Cantate Domino*

Giuseppe Ottavio Pitoni

Cantate Domino canticum novum: laus ejus in ecclesia sanctorum.

*Sing to the Lord a new song: his praise is in the assembly of the saints.*

Laetetur Israel in eo, qui fecit eum: et filiae Sion exultant in rege suo.

*Let Israel rejoice in him who made him: let the daughters of Zion exult in their king.*

## Hymn

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

SANTO, SANTO, SANTO

*Please remain seated. The choir will sing in Spanish. Please join on the English stanza.*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. My heart, my heart a-dores you! My  
San - to, san - to, san - to. ¡Mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra! Mi

heart knows how to say to you: you are ho - ly, Lord!  
co - ra - zón te sa - be de-cir: ¡San - to e-res, Se - ñor!

*Please rise in body and/or spirit to sing the following hymn.*

## \* Hymn 1

*Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*

NICAEA

## Prayer for Illumination

## Children's Moment

Janet Cleland

*Following the Children's Moment, children (Pre-K through Grade 2) are invited to Children's Worship in Room 121 (first floor).*

## Scripture

Exodus 29:38-42

x

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

*Returning Thanks: The Daily Offering*

Matt Marston

## Invitation

## \* Hymn 265

*When We Are Living*

SOMOS DEL SEÑOR

*Please sing four stanzas in English. Please remain standing for the Confession and Affirmation.*

\* **Confession and Assurance**

Alexis and Sam Jorgensen

Across the barriers that divide race from race:

**reconcile us, O Christ, by your cross.**

Across the barriers that divide rich from poor:

**reconcile us, O Christ, by your cross.**

Across the barriers that divide people of different cultures:

**reconcile us, O Christ, by your cross.**

Across the barriers that divide Christians:

**reconcile us, O Christ, by your cross.**

Across the barriers that divide men and women, young and old:

**reconcile us, O Christ, by your cross.**

**Confront us, O Christ,**

**with the hidden prejudices and fears**

**that deny and betray our prayers.**

**Enable us to see the causes of strife,**

**remove from us all senses of superiority.**

**Teach us to grow in unity with all God's children. Amen.**

... I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.



1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north, but



one great fellow-ship of love through-out the whole wide earth.

\* **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; he descended into hell;

the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on 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.

## Baptism of Isaac Hunter Marston

### \* Congregational Response

*Please rise in body and/or spirit to sing several times.*

Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-lu-jah!

hal-le -

*Fine*

Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-lu-jah!

hal-le -

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are 'Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-lu-jah!' and 'hal-le -'. The score ends with a 'Fine' marking.

### \* Stewardship Prayer

Margaret McDonald, Deacon

### Offertory

*When We Are Living*

Al Roberts

*Food brought forward will be shared through the Athens Area Emergency Food Bank.*

### Invitation to the Table

### Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The Sanctuary Choir sings:*

Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy is our God,

God, the Lord of earth and heaven. Holy, holy is our God.

Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy is our God,

God, the Lord of all of history. Holy, holy is our God.

Who accompanies our people, who lives within our struggles,  
of all the earth and heaven the one and only Lord.  
Blest are they who in the Lord's name announce the holy gospel,  
proclaiming the good news that our liberation comes.

*The congregation speaks:*

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

### 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.

### Breaking of the Bread

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

*We are receiving communion by intinction this morning. Ushers will guide you to the stations where you may take a piece of bread and dip it gently into the juice.*

### Communion of the People

*You Are Holy*

DU ÄR HELIG

You are holy, you are whole.  
You are always ever more  
than we ever understand.  
You are always at hand.  
Blessed are you coming near.  
Blessed are you coming here  
to your church in wine and bread,  
raised from soil, raised from dead.

You are holy,  
you are wholeness;  
you are present.  
Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!  
Hallelujah, hallelujah,  
hallelujah, hallelujah, our Lord.

### Prayer after Communion

God, who nourishes us for the journey,  
**it is strengthening to know that as we have gathered at your table today,  
your people throughout the world are offering praise and thanksgiving  
as bread and wine are shared.**

May the mystery of your presence, experienced in our worship,  
bind us together into one worldwide community. **Amen.**

\* **Hymn 458**

*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

LINSTEAD

\* **Benediction**

*Today's musical leadership comprises Youth Choir; Sanctuary Choir; Tony McCutchen, percussion; Eleazar Louis, oboe; Isaac Marston, cello; Elinor Ellis, piano; and Martha Thomas, piano.*

## Weekly Calendar

### Sunday, October 5

9:00 a.m. .... Church Council Meeting, FCR (3rd floor)  
9:00 a.m. .... Children's Team Meeting, Farrall Conference Room  
9:30 a.m. .... First Cup Café — 3rd Floor Gathering Area  
9:45 a.m. .... Sunday School for all ages — throughout the building  
10:00 a.m. .... College and Recent Grad. Sunday School — Room 316  
10:00 a.m. .... Young Adult Meeting — Fellowship Hall  
11:00 a.m. .... Worship — Sanctuary and Livestream  
2:00 p.m. .... Heart Youth Symphony Rehearsal — Rotunda  
4:30 p.m. .... Children's Choir — First Floor  
4:30 p.m. .... Youth Choir — Sanctuary  
5:15 p.m. .... Mission Kids— First Floor  
5:30 p.m. .... Youth & Parent Meeting—Youth Area

### Monday, October 6

10:30 a.m. .... Staff Meeting — Farrall Conference Room

### Tuesday, October 7

12:00 p.m. .... Bible Study — Third Floor Gathering Area

### Wednesday, October 8

5:00 p.m. .... Property Management Meeting — Farrall Conference Room  
5:45 p.m. .... Wednesday Night Supper — Fellowship Hall  
6:00 p.m. .... College Bible Study — 3rd Floor Gathering Area  
6:30 p.m. .... Adult Discipleship — Fellowship Hall  
6:30 p.m. .... Sanctuary Choir — Sanctuary

### Sunday, October 12

7:30 a.m. .... Cheer for AthHalf Marathon—FBC Front Steps  
9:30 a.m. .... First Cup Café — 3rd Floor Gathering Area  
9:45 a.m. .... Sunday School for all ages — throughout the building  
10:00 a.m. .... College and Recent Grad. Sunday School — Room 316  
11:00 a.m. .... Worship — Sanctuary and Livestream  
4:30 p.m. .... Virginia Appleton Circle, Fellowship Hall

# The Sunday Messenger

## Community Notes

Please join us for the Wednesday Night Supper series with Adult Discipleship. The October 1 menu is from White Tiger: choice of chicken or pork with potato salad, baked beans, and banana pudding. Please sign up on Realm by Monday at noon.

College students are invited to the College Bible Study, Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m., 3rd Floor Gathering Area.

Nursing mothers: A private area is provided for you in the outer room of the women's restroom below the sanctuary with a rocker and a counter for changing diapers.

Those in need of a hearing-assistance device may get one from an usher.

## Our Church on Mission

*In the early church, members would take food after their worship meal and share with the widows and orphans. In a similar fashion, the food contributed today will be shared with those in need at the Athens Area Emergency Food Bank. Thank you for your contributions.*

### Current Prayer Requests

Jim Hubert

Judy Ebert

Vickie Horton

Russell Cartwright

### Copyright Permission

Reprinted with permission under One License #A-74012. All rights reserved.

Much of the liturgy is from *The Worship Sourcebook*, © 2004 Faith Alive Christian Resources, and *Psalms for All Seasons*, © 2012 Faith Alive Christian Resources.

*Yesu Kwetu ni Rafiki (What a Friend We Have in Jesus)*, Mark Burrows. ©2011 Choristers Guild

*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*, John Bell. ©1990 Iona Community / WGRG (North America)

*When We Are Living*, Elise Eslinger. ©1989 United Methodist Publishing House

*Holy, Holy, Holy, Holy*, Guillermo Cuéllar. ©1988 GIA Publications, Inc.

*When We Are Living*, Al Roberts. ©2009 Augsburg Fortress Publishers

*You Are Holy*, Per Harling. ©1990 Augsburg Fortress Publishers

*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*, Fred Kaan/Doreen Potter. ©1975 Hope Publishing Company

# Ministers

Matt Marston

*Senior Minister*

Janet Cleland

*Minister of Children, Families, and Outreach*

Emily Glass

*Minister to Students and Young Adults*

Tom Granum

*Interim Director of Music Ministries*

Martha Thomas

*Pianist*

Austin Carter

*Choral Scholar*

Trip Drennan

*Choral Scholar*

Sydney Godfrey

*Choral Scholar*

De’Nasia Thomas

*Choral Scholar*

Nathan Vazquez

*Choral Scholar*

Karlie Horton

*Children’s Ministry Intern*

First Baptist Church offers  
**ONLINE GIVING** which can  
be found on our church  
website, by using this QR  
Code.



Want to learn more  
about FBC? Follow this  
QR code for FAQs and  
a way to connect.



To Love

To Serve

To Explore

For You

**First Baptist Church**

Mailing address:

PO Box 8107/Athens/GA/30603

706.548.1359/ [www.firstbaptistathens.org](http://www.firstbaptistathens.org)