

The background features a stylized illustration of three fish in grey, swimming towards the right. They are framed by thick red lines that form a partial border on the left and bottom. A solid red circle is positioned in the upper left, and another is in the lower right.

ATHENS FIRST
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

Trinity Sunday

May 31, 2026
9:30 & 11:00 A.M.

The Worship of God

*Please stand as you are able. The congregation speaks the text in **bold** type.

Large print hymnals are available in the Narthex. Please ask a member of our Welcome Team for assistance.

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THE FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD

In loving memory of Colonel Jack Turner by Muriel Turner and family.

Trinity Sunday invites us into the mystery of the triune nature of God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This day is a celebration of God as One being reflected through the Father’s will, the Son’s redeeming work, and the Holy Spirit’s active presence in believers and calls us to join in God’s ongoing work of love and renewal.

GATHERING

The Prelude

“Meditation on the Holy Trinity” | Jean Langlais

Raina Wood, Organist

The Welcome and Opening Prayer | Rev. Dr. Natalee Dukes Hamby

The Call to Worship | Isaiah 6:1-8

Minister: In the year that King Uzziah died, Isaiah saw the Lord sitting on a throne.
Seraphs attended him; each had six wings and called to another,

People: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.”

Minister: And Isaiah said, “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips,

People: and I live among a people of unclean lips, yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

Minister: Then one of the seraphs took a live coal from the altar with a pair of tongs
And touched his mouth with it, saying,
**People: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your
sin is blotted out.”**
Minister: Then the Lord said, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?”
All: And Isaiah said, “Here am I; send me!”

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

**The Processional Hymn*

UMH 64 “Holy, Holy, Holy” | NICAEA

**The Affirmation of Faith* | “The Nicene Creed”

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**The Gloria Patri* | MEINEKE

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.

**The Passing of the Peace*

The Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer | Rev. Dr. Nancy Johnson

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 Hymn

UMH 408 "The Gift of Love" | GIFT OF LOVE

The Offering and Offertory Anthem

"I'll Fly Away" | Albert Brumley, arr. Faith Zimmer

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir; Rachael Fischer, fiddle;

Ryan Ferguson, Director of Music and Worship

This anthem has been placed in the choir library to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Mary Zittrouer by Muriel Turner.

Some glad morning when this life is over I'll fly away; to a home on God's celestial shore, I'll fly away. I'll fly away, oh Glory, I'll fly away; when I die, Hallelujah by and by, I'll fly away. When the shadows of this life have gone, I'll fly away; like a bird from prison bars has flown, I'll fly away. Just a few more weary days and then I'll fly away; to a land where joy shall never end, I'll fly away.

Text by Albert E. Brumley

**The Doxology* | 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.

PROCLAMATION

The Scripture Reading | Matthew 28:16-20

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

The Message | Rev. Jeremy Lawson

“Learning How to Talk About God”

RESPONSE

**The Hymn of Response*

UMH 593 “Here I Am, Lord” | HERE I AM, LORD

**The Blessing and Choral Benediction*

“God Be with You till We Meet Again” | Ralph Vaughan Williams

Sung by the Sanctuary Choir

God be with you till we meet again; by his counsels guide, uphold you, with his sheep securely fold you;

God be with you till we meet again.

**The Postlude*

“Toccata on St. Anne” | Gordon Young

THE STEEPLE

May 31, 2026



WYC Choir Tour '26 | Home Concert Today!

The Wesleyan Youth Choir is wrapping up their choir tour today. They've been to Charlotte, NC, Massillon, OH, Erie, PA, and Pittsburgh, PA. They are concluding their tour with a **Home Concert in our sanctuary today, May 31, at 3:30 p.m.** We hope you will come join us!

Thank you for your prayers and support as our students and leaders traveled and shared their gifts through music.

Janis Maxwell, Director of Children and Youth Music Ministry
janis@athensfirstumc.org



Vacation Bible School | Join Us in Prayer

Vacation Bible School begins Monday, and we invite you to join us in prayer. Pray for the kids who will walk through our doors and for the volunteers and leaders who will share God's love. Throughout the week, our kids will journey through towering trees, rushing waterfalls, and the beauty of God's creation as they discover foundational truths about God. May our church be a place where kids are filled with awe and wonder, shouting for all to hear the theme of our week: "Wow, God!"

Traci Lowry, Director of Kids Ministry at Athens First
traci@athensfirstumc.org



Summer Camps at Athens First UMC

Join Athens First UMC's Recreation Ministry this summer for an exciting line up of camp opportunities for kids of all ages!

James Banks Basketball Camp | June 8-12 | June 22-26

Enjoy a fun-filled week of skill-building, basketball games, and fellowship. Camp runs Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. with an additional option of Extended After Care. Basketball Camp registration is \$175.

Road Runners Volleyball Camp | July 20 - 23

Hosted by the coaches of the Road Runners club team, this camp is a wonderful opportunity for girls entering grades 3-6 to learn the skills and fundamentals of volleyball!! Volleyball Camp is scheduled Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Volleyball Camp registration is \$110.

Rev. Montana Hamby, Associate Minister | montana@athensfirstumc.org

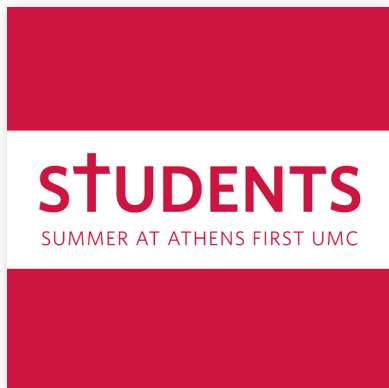


The Heartthrobs Luncheon | June 3

The Heartthrobs will hold their quarterly luncheon on **Wednesday, June 3, at 11:45 a.m. at Hilltop Grille**. The Heartthrobs is a support group for men who have experienced heart-related health issues such as heart surgery, pacemakers, heart disease, and other cardiovascular conditions. It is a meaningful opportunity to connect, share experiences, and encourage one another. We are excited to welcome this month's speaker, Randy Keene, who will share his journey with us. The cost is \$15 per person, payable by cash or check at the luncheon. **Please register by Monday, June 1.**

If you have questions, please contact event coordinator Jud Guest at jguest@ladtrcklines.com.

Rev. Dr. Natalee Dukes Hamby, Associate Minister
natalee@athensfirstumc.org



Student Ministry Summer Fun

Start planning your summer with Students at Athens First UMC! We've got a full schedule of fun for middle school and high school students to stay connected all summer long. Check out the dates below and register online:

June 12-13 | High School Lake Retreat

June 25 | Rising 6th Grade Tubing Trip

July 12, 19, 26 | Summer Supper Club

July 13-16 | Middle School Mission Trip to St. Simons Island

Rev. Montana Hamby, Associate Minister | montana@athensfirstumc.org



Summer Music and Arts | July 6-9

We are excited to bring back Summer Music and Arts—and this year we're thrilled to announce that we'll be putting on a musical! Along with music, movement, instruments, and art, students will work together to produce Mark Burrows' musical *Storms*. It's going to be an incredibly fun and creative week, and we hope your kids can join us! Summer Music and Arts will take place **July 6-9, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** The cost is \$60 (\$40 for each additional sibling), and the program is open to rising 1st-6th graders. Families are invited to an end-of-week performance on **Thursday, July 9, at 3:00 p.m.** Please register by May 15.

Janis Maxwell, Director of Children and Youth Music
janis@athensfirstumc.org

MEMBER NEWS

Wedding Bells

Congratulations to Emma Katharine Williams and Dallas Pettus on their marriage on May 23 in our sanctuary.

FINANCIAL REPORT *As of May 24, 2026* (finance@athensfirstumc.org):

2026 Budget: \$3,055,000 | **YTD Actual Giving:** \$1,120,000 | **YTD Actual Expenses:** \$1,240,593

WAYS TO GIVE



OFFERING PLATE:

Fill out the envelope located in your pew.



ONLINE:

Scan to be taken to Realm, our online giving platform.



TEXT-TO-GIVE:

Text "AFUMCTTG" to 73256.

FOLLOW UP WITH A MINISTER

Rev. Jeremy Lawson | Senior Minister
jeremy@athensfirstumc.org | 404-304-3574

Rev. Montana Hamby | Associate Minister
montana@athensfirstumc.org | 770-633-3140

Rev. Dr. Natalee Dukes Hamby | Associate Minister
natalee@athensfirstumc.org | 404-414-1701

Rev. Dr. Nancy Johnson | Associate Minister
nancy@athensfirstumc.org | 762-233-4761

REQUEST PRAYER | Have a prayer request? Scan the QR code located in your bulletin and select "**Needing Prayer**" to fill out a form to submit your prayer request. If you desire for the request to be shared with our Prayer Ministry team, please indicate that in your submission. Prayer requests can also be made directly via email prayer@athensfirstumc.org.

CCS #12591 • CCLI #1097880

ATHENS FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
327 N LUMPKIN ST. ATHENS, GA 30601 • 706-543-1442 | athensfirstumc.org