

RESPOND

*HYMN 753 “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace” PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

PRAYER OF PENITENCE

“...Hear us, O God. **Have mercy on us.**”

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

The congregation is invited forward to receive the imposition of ashes.
A worship leader marks the forehead of each person with the ashes,
using the following words:

“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return (Gen. 3:19).”

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

**Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,
that we may show forth your glory in the world.
By the cross and passion of our Savior,
bring us with all your saints
to the joy of Christ’s resurrection. Amen.**

*HYMN 675 “All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night” TALLIS CANON

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE *Who Trusts in God, a Strong Abode* J. S. Bach
(In Heaven and Earth Possesses)

Congregation standing as able. All Music Rights Reserved. OneLicense.net #A714395

MINISTER: Dana Waters

PIANIST: Connor Austell

ELDER: Ansley Tweedell, assisting in worship

Thank you Eli & Valerie Stone and Rich Reaves for preparing the ashes



*Forgive in us what has
gone wrong,
Repair in us what
is wasted,
Reveal in us what
is good. Amen.*

February 22, 2023

6:30pm

Covenant Presbyterian Church
Athens, Georgia

GATHER

PRELUDE

Sarabande in A Minor

J.S. Bach

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from John 3:17; Psalm 46:1–3

God sent Christ into the world not to condemn the world,
but that the world might be saved through him.

God's love endures forever.

God is our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though the waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

God's love endures forever.

*HYMN 816

"If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee"

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we know that you are near, for you are always here, gathered
among us, just a breath away. And despite knowing your nearness, we still
stumble over ourselves, unsure of how to pray.

Bring our hearts into the room.

So often we talk to you like a stranger, praying prayers of small talk about
the weather and surface level concerns. We keep genuine fear and doubt
tucked into corners, out of sight, out of mind.

Bring our hearts into the room.

And so often we try to think our way to you, as if we could use logic or our
minds alone to explain your great unknown. We forget what we knew as chil-
dren; we forget how to feel our way to you.

Bring our hearts into the room.

And too regularly, we limit our experience of you to one hour a Sunday,
missing your constant invitation into the holiness all around us. Forgive us.
Guide us.

Bring our hearts into the room.

We are here, God. We want to begin again.

Bring our hearts into the room. Amen.

RESPONSE HYMN 577

"Lord, Have Mercy"

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy on us.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

LISTEN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 51:1-17

NEW TESTAMENT READING

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

PRAYER POEM

"Invited"

by Sarah Are