

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, *including Concerns and Celebrations*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Bow Down Low*

setting by David Bridges

\*PRAISE HYMN 710

"We Lift Our Voices"

OFFERING

**We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you:  
we are an offering.**

**Lord, use our voices; Lord, use our hands; Lord, use our lives; they are yours:  
we are an offering.**

**All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you,  
we give to you.**

**We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you:  
we are an offering; we are an offering.**

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

\*HYMN 757

"Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples"

KINGSFOLD

\*BENEDICTION

\*SENDING HYMN 541

"God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

RANDOLPH

**God be with you till we meet again;  
loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
with a shepherd's care enfold you:  
God be with you till we meet again.**

\*POSTLUDE

*May God be Gracious to Us*

J.S. Bach

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\* denotes standing as able.

PIANIST: Connor Austell

LITURGIST: Warren Combs

ADULT CHOIR under the direction of Betsy Burmeister

# FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT



*February 26, 2023*

*Covenant Presbyterian Church  
1065 Gaines School Road  
Athens, GA 30605*

# COVENANT at WORSHIP

Liturgical Color: Purple      1st Sunday of Lent      11:00am Worship

## GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PREPARATION      *Hymn Tune Prelude on Song 13*      Ralph Vaughan Williams

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY      *Come, Share the Lord*      setting by John Carter

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

For forty days and forty nights,

**led by the Spirit, Christ fasted in the wilderness.**

For forty days and forty nights,

**we prepare ourselves to meet the crucified and risen Christ.**

\*HYMN 216      "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"      ST. CHRISTOPHER

CALL TO CONFESSION

*Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful One, we are so easily tempted.**

**We turn away from your word so quickly.**

**We seek anything that claims to save us from discomfort, inconvenience, pain, fear, and emptiness.**

**But these are false idols, dissolving in the wind.**

**You are our true hope and salvation, our hiding place, our guide, our guardian.**

**We confess our transgressions to you: forgive our sins. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

\*RESPONSE HYMN 423 "Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God"      SARADAY

**Create in me a clean heart, O God;**

**create in me a clean heart, O God;**

**create in me a clean heart, O God,**

**and renew a right spirit within me.**

**LISTEN FOR THE GOOD NEWS**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE READING

Romans 5: 12-19

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 2: 15-17, 3: 1-7

PROCLAMATION

Dana Waters

**RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS**

\*HYMN 65      "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"      CWM RHONDDA

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.21*

**The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind.**

**His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope**

**for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed.**

**In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all,**

**moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience,**

**and initiates the new life in Christ. Amen.**