

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.09

God's reconciling act in Jesus Christ is a mystery which the Scriptures describe in various ways. It is called the sacrifice of a lamb, a shepherd's life given for his sheep, atonement by a priest; again it is ransom of a slave, payment of debt, vicarious satisfaction of a legal penalty, and victory over the powers of evil. These are expressions of a truth which remains beyond the reach of all theory in the depths of God's love for humankind. They reveal the gravity, cost, and sure achievement of God's reconciling work.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, *including Concerns and Celebrations*

OFFERING *10,000 Reasons (reprise)* arr., Mark Hayes

*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 803 "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" RESIGNATION

*BENEDICTION

*SENDING 541 "God Be with You Till We Meet Again" RANDOLPH

(Verse 1) **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 *God the Father, be our Stay* J.S. Bach

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* denotes standing as able.

PIANIST: Connor Austell

LITURGIST: Jim Newland



Fourth SUNDAY IN LENT

March 19, 2023

Covenant Presbyterian Church

1065 Gaines School Road

Athens, GA 30605

COVENANT at WORSHIP

Liturgical Color: Purple

4th Sunday in Lent

11:00am Worship

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PREPARATION

10,000 Reasons

arr., Mark Hayes

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Pam Knox

RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS

VOLUNTARY

He Leadeth Me! O Blessed Thought

arr., Mary Ellen Kerrick

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to sanctify ourselves.

We come seeking to be worthy of our call.

The Lord looks not at our outward selves,

but seeks to know what is in our hearts.

Let us learn what is pleasing to the Lord,

that we might live as children of the Most High.

*HYMN 744

“Arise, Your Light Is Come!”

JUNKANOO

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of compassion and mercy, we sometimes fail to see what you are doing in the world.

We want you to act in ways we predict, but we forget: you do what is good, not what is expected.

Forgive us when we do not recognize your miracles.

Forgive us when we doubt the wisdom of your actions.

Most of all, forgive us when we do not respond to your call, ignoring what we need to do to show the world your love and grace.

In the name of Christ we pray. 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

PSALM READING

Psalm 23

OLD TESTAMENT READING

I Samuel 16: 1-13

PROCLAMATION

Dana Waters

RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS

*HYMN 451

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

Clara H. Scott