

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Adapted from the Belhar Confession 10.5*

We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world; that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker; that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, *including Concerns and Celebrations*
"...Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**"

OFFERING *The Garden* arr. Larry Shackley

*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 450 "Be Thou My Vision" SLANE

*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 *Go Down, Moses* Traditional Spiritual
arr., Larry Shackley

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* denotes standing as able.

PIANIST: Connor Austell

LITURGIST: Warren Combs

ADULT CHOIR under the direction of Betsy Burmeister



March 26, 2023
Covenant Presbyterian Church
1065 Gaines School Road
Athens, GA 30605

COVENANT at WORSHIP

Liturgical Color: Purple 5th Sunday in Lent 11:00am Worship

Portions of today's liturgy are adapted from a Lenten service created by the ECCB/PCUSA partnership, which includes our sister church in Olomouc, Czech Republic.

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PREPARATION *Darkest Hour* arr., Joel Raney

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT Clayton Adams

VOLUNTARY *I Will Arise* by Gwyneth Walker

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Someday, the house of God will stand on the highest mountain.

People will come from every place to learn how to walk in God's path.

God will show us what is fair and put an end to our fighting.

People will turn their old weapons into new tools for growing food.

Come, people of God:

Let us walk in the light of the Lord!

*HYMN 366 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" HYFRYDOL

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you have called us to love you with heart, mind, soul, and strength, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. But, if we are honest, we know that sometimes we hurt each other and fail to keep our promises to you. Forgive us, God of grace. Teach us, day by day, to turn away from what is wrong and turn to you in faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 8: 6-11

OLD TESTAMENT READING Ezekiel 37: 1-14

PROCLAMATION Dana Waters

RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS

*HYMN 286 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" TRENTHAM