

RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A New Creed

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, *including Concerns and Celebrations*

OFFERING

On Eagle's Wings

arr., Fred Brock

*PRAISE HYMN 716 "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending" BEACH SPRING

**God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door:
gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*HYMN 748

"Go with Us, Lord"

TALLIS' CANNON

*BENEDICTION

*SENDING HYMN 765 "May the God of Hope Go with Us" ARGENTINA

May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all; working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

*POSTLUDE

All Hail the Power of Jesus Name

arr., Bethany Smith

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* denotes standing as able.

GUEST PREACHER: Sue Jacobson

PIANIST: Aaron Carter-Enyi

LITURGIST: Stephanie Cahill

A New Creed is a brief and well-loved affirmation of faith used widely by the United Church of Canada.



July 30, 2023

Covenant Presbyterian Church

1065 Gaines School Road

Athens, Ga 30605

Covenant at Worship

Liturgical Color: GREEN July 30, 2023

9th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHER IN GOD’S PRESENCE

PREPARATION Lord, Be Glorified arr., Fred Bock

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY Goodness of God by Bethel Music

*CALL TO WORSHIP
Let us worship God, who created everything that is.
Let us worship God, who brings us together!
Let our songs ring out;
Let our prayers soar to the heavens;
Let us praise our Lord with all we are,
So that the whole world will know God’s love.
Let us praise the One who formed us, and loves us,
And makes all things new! Alleluia!

*HYMN 240 “Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks” ALLELUIA NO. 1

CALL TO CONFESSION
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
God of mercy and grace, we are meant to praise you and give thanks to you always. We confess that we do not live out of constant gratitude.
We harbor resentment for what we lack. We blame you; we blame others.
We doubt your compassion, even your power. We find it hard to give ourselves away to you, or to others, in generous expressions of gratitude and praise. Forgive us, we pray, for attitudes and behaviors that diminish in us joyful thanksgiving. Heal and restore us so that we may return to you with a right spirit. Help us live holy and joyful lives befitting people you love and save. We pray in Christ’s name. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*RESPONSE HYMN 582 “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me” GLORY TO GOD
(singing twice) (verse 1) **Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,**
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

LISTEN FOR THE GOOD NEWS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
PSALM READING Psalm 134
GOSPEL READING Matthew 13: 45-46
PROCLAMATION Sue Jacobson
*HYMN 749 “Come! Live in the Light!” WE ARE CALLED