



November 30, 2025

Covenant Presbyterian Church

1065 Gaines School Road

Athens, Ga 30605

www.coupresathens.org

COVENANT at WORSHIP

Liturgical Color: PURPLE

11:00am Worship

1st Sunday of Advent

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PREPARATION

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY

English Advent Anthem

Patrick Liebergen

*LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE

The world says, "All is lost."

God says, "All is loved."

The darkness says, "The light is dying."

The light says, "The fire is catching."

Fear says, "Cover your eyes and your ears".

Hope says, "Wait, watch, and listen."

As we light our first Advent candle,

We pray for the holy hope of God.

[The Advent Candle is lit]

Come now, O Child of Mary.

Come now, O Prince of Hope.

*HYMN 347

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

PICARDY

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Unison)* **God of the promised dawn, you call us to stay awake — to notice where the world groans and where your Spirit stirs. But we confess that we grow weary. We numb ourselves to pain we think we cannot change. We accept violence as inevitable, injustice as unmovable, and fear as the final word. Forgive us. Awaken us to your coming — in surprising places, through unlikely people, with courage that unsettles the powerful and hope that lifts the lowly. Keep us watchful for the Light that breaks in, even now, even here. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. [Silent prayers of confession]**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS (*Responsive*)

The night is far gone; the day is near.

God's mercy rises new with every dawn.

**Christ comes not to condemn but to restore,
not to frighten us but to free us.**

In the name of Jesus Christ,

the One who is coming and the One who is already here:

We are forgiven, awakened, and made new.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*PRAISE HYMN 88
(VERSE 1)

"O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL"

VENI EMMANUEL

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

LISTEN FOR THE GOOD NEWS

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

MUSIC

Sonata in C Major, BWV 1005, III. Largo

J.S. Bach

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

(Pew Bible p. 618) Isaiah 2: 2-5

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

(Pew Bible p.905) Matthew 24: 36-44

MUSIC

Sonata in C Major BWV 1005 , IV Allegro Assai

J. S. Bach

PROCLAMATION

Keep Awake

Rev. Tom Buchanan

HYMN 352

"My Lord! What a Morning"

African American Spiritual

RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Unison*)

We believe in God, whose dream for the world is justice, compassion, and peace. We believe in Jesus Christ, God-with-us, who comes in vulnerability and in glory, awakening us to the nearness of Love. We believe in the Holy Spirit, who stirs our sleeping hearts, urges us toward courage, and leads us in the ways of God's new day. We believe that the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it. Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Unison*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING

Vocalise

Sergei Rachmaninoff

*DOXOLOGY 609 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" LASST UNS ERFREUEN
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia! Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word and Spirit one. Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 384
(verses 1 - 3)

"Soon and Very Soon"

Andraé Crouch

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*SENDING HYMN 384

"Soon and Very Soon"

Andraé Crouch

(verse 4) **Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.
Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.
Soon and very soon we are going to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah,
we're going to see the King!**

*POSTLUDE

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* denotes standing as able.

MUSIC DIRECTOR/PIANIST: Aaron Carter-Enyi

LITURGIST: Kirche Rogers

Itamar Zorman, violin Richard Zimdars, piano

CANDLE LIGHTERS: Haylee Nunn, Chaz Rooks

Winnie Mburu, flute

ADULT CHOIR