

RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

We believe in the God who meets us in the midst of our lives — not only in clarity, but in confusion, not only in joy, but in grief. We believe in Jesus Christ, the risen one who walks beside us, who listens before he speaks, who opens the scriptures, and is made known in the breaking of the bread. We believe in the Holy Spirit, who rekindles hope, who expands our vision, and makes our hearts alive again. We believe that no story is finished, and no life is beyond the reach of resurrection. Thanks be to God! 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

We Bow Down

Twila Paris

*DOXOLOGY 609 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Wren/Hopson

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 700

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

I'M GONNA LIVE

*CHARGE & BENECTION

*SENDING HYMN 600

"Amen"

DANISH AMEN

(singing 3 x's)

Amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen.

*POSTLUDE

Hallelujah

Brown/Doerkson

All Music Rights Reserved. OneLicense.net #A71439

MUSIC DIRECTOR/PIANIST: Aaron Carter-Enyi

ADULT CHOIR

PRAISE BAND: Donny Whitehead, sax
Bill Rigsby, bass

* denotes standing as able.

LITURGIST: Pam Knox

Albert Rinaudo, guitar
Matthew Muir, drums



April 19, 2026
Covenant Presbyterian Church
1065 Gaines School Road
Athens, GA 30605
www.covpresathens.org

COVENANT at WORSHIP

Liturgical Color: WHITE

11:00am Worship

3rd Sunday of Easter

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

VOLUNTARY

(see insert and sing along)

Above All

LaBlanc/Baloche

*CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsive)*

Come, you who have walked through shadowed days,
you who have known grief that narrows the world.
Come, you who carry questions without answers,
and stories that no longer seem to hold.

**For Christ draws near on every road we travel,
even when we do not yet recognize him.**

Christ walks beside us in our confusion,
Christ opens the story wider than we imagined.

**Let us praise the Lord who meets us on the road,
and brings us back to life.**

Let us worship God!

*HYMN 236

"The Strife Is O'er"

VICTORY

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

**God of the open road, we confess that our hearts are often slow to see.
We live in narrowed worlds — worlds shaped by fear, by grief, by
disappointment. We let what has wounded us define what is possible.
We listen to voices that tell us hope is foolish and that love will not prevail.
And still, you come near. Forgive us when we fail to recognize your presence.
Forgive us when we cling to despair instead of trusting your unfolding story.
Open our eyes. Soften our hearts. Expand our vision that we might see you
again — in scripture, in one another, and in the breaking of the bread.
We pray in the name of the risen Christ. *[Silent prayers of confession]***

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS *(responsive)*

Even when we walk in confusion,

Christ walks beside us.

Even when our hope feels dim,

Christ is already opening the way.

Even when our hearts are slow to believe,

Christ is making them alive again.

My friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*RESPONSE 591

"Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!"

HALLE, HALLE

(SINGING 2 X'S)

Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

LISTEN FOR THE GOOD NEWS

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

(Pew Bible p.553) Psalm 116: 1-4, 12-19

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

(Pew Bible p. 966) Luke 24: 13-35

PROCLAMATION

When a Heart Is Really Alive

Rev. Tom Buchanan

*HYMN 462

"I Love to Tell the Story"

HANKEY