

## RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(unison)*

We believe in God, who creates us for relationship — who calls us into community, into a shared life of love, justice, and joy. We believe in Jesus Christ, who walks with us in every season — in our joy and in our sorrow, in our courage and in our fear— and who shows us the path of love. We believe in the Holy Spirit, who binds us together as one body, who stirs generosity among us, who gives us courage to share what we have and to care for one another with glad and generous hearts. We believe the church is called to be a living sign of this promise — a community where all belong, where burdens are shared, where hope is practiced, and where love is made visible. And we believe that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God or from one another in Christ. For we belong to God, and we belong to each other. 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      *You'll Never Walk Alone/Climb Ev'ry Mountain*      arr., Mark Hayes

\*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 *for pledges and offerings*

\*HYMN 301      "Let Us Build a House"      TWO OAKS

\*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

\*SENDING HYMN 600      "Amen"      DANISH AMEN  
(singing 3 x's)      Amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen.

\*POSTLUDE

*you'll  
never  
walk  
alone*

April 26, 2026  
*Stewardship Dedication Sunday*

Covenant Presbyterian Church  
1065 Gaines School Road  
Athens, GA 30605  
[www.covpresathens.org](http://www.covpresathens.org)

# COVENANT at WORSHIP

Liturgical Color: WHITE

11:00am Worship

4th Sunday of Easter/Stewardship Sunday

## GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY

*The Holy City*

Stephen Adams

\*CALL TO WORSHIP *(responsive)*

Beloved community, we come not as strangers,  
but as companions on the way —

**drawn together by grace, held together by love.**

In a world that teaches us to walk alone,

God gathers us into a different story —

**a story of shared bread, shared burdens, shared joy.**

Where two or three are gathered, Christ is among us.

**Where hearts are open, the Spirit is at work.**

Come, let us devote ourselves again to the life we share together.

**Let us worship God!**

\*HYMN 394

“Christ is Made the Sure Foundation”

AURELIA

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

**God of communion and compassion, you have created us for life together — for shared tables, shared stories, shared care. Yet we confess how often we choose isolation over connection. We guard what we have instead of sharing it. We turn away from one another's pain, unsure of what to say or afraid of what it might cost. We long to belong, yet we resist the vulnerability that belonging requires. Forgive us, O God. Draw us back into the life of your Spirit — a life where no one walks alone, where burdens are carried together, and where joy is multiplied in community. Renew us in your grace, that we may become a people who live what we long for. Through Christ we pray. *[Silent prayers of confession]***

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS *(responsive)*

Hear the good news:

God does not wait for us to find our way back alone.

**God comes to meet us —again and again — in mercy and love.**

In Jesus Christ, we are not abandoned.

**We are forgiven, restored, and gathered in.**

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. 541) Psalm 100

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

(Pew Bible p. 995) Acts 2: 42-47

PROCLAMATION

*You'll Never Walk Alone*

Rev. Tom Buchanan

\*HYMN 306

“Blest Be the Tie that Binds”

DENNIS