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December 08, 2024
Covenant Presbyterian Church
1065 Gaines School Road
Athens, GA 30605

www.covpresathens.org

COVENANTAL WORSHIP

<u>Liturgical Color: PURPLE</u> Second Sunday of Advent 11:00am Worship

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PREPARATION

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY

Do you Hear What I Hear?

arr.. Simeone

*CANDLE LIGHTING LITURGY

Chris & Cheryl Gazlay

A voice cries out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord."

A choir sings in the silence,

"Come, Emmanuel."

Every valley shall be filled.

Every heart shall be made whole,

for peace will overcome turmoil,

and love is stronger than hate.

As we light our second Advent candle,

we pray for the holy peace of God.

(The Advent Candles of Hope and Peace are lit)

Come now, O Child of Mary.

Come now, O Prince of Peace.

*HYMN 88 (verses 6 & 7)

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" VENI EMMANUEL

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

O God of Advent, when our faith is rooted deeply in you our lives reflect your kingdom values of justice and righteousness, but often we get so entangled with the values of the world that your call takes second place. Forgive us, Lord, and reconnect us to your Holy Spirit, source of power and life. May our lives bear fruit worthy of our faith in you, as we watch and wait for your breaking into our world in the person of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

[Silent prayers of confession]

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS (Responsive)
Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn?
Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us,
Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation:

The old life has gone; a new life has begun!

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 HYMN 583

"Glory to God"

GLORIA

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest! Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

LISTEN FOR THE GOOD NEWS

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Malachi 3: 1-4

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 3: 1-6

PROCLAMATION

Counter-imagination

Rev. Tom Buchanan

*HYMN 96

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

WINCHESTER NEW

RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Adapted from A Brief Statement of Faith In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel ... With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, including Concerns and Celebrations
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

*DOXOLOGY 606 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" OLD HUNDREDTH Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*HYMN 82 "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

HYFRYDOL

*BENEDICTION

*SENDING HYMN 384

"Soon and Very Soon"

Andrae Crouch

Verse 1: Soon and very soon, we are gonna see the King (3x) Hallelujah, hallelujah, we are gonna see the King!

POSTLUDE