

A vibrant blue rectangular graphic featuring the word "SUMMER" in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. The letters are decorated with various summer-themed illustrations: a hot air balloon, a pineapple, a rainbow, a watermelon slice, a donut, and various tropical leaves and flowers. Below "SUMMER" is the text "Saints Series" in a white, serif font.

SUMMER Saints Series

Howard Thurman

June 21, 2026

Covenant Presbyterian Church

1065 Gaines School Road

Athens, Ga 30605

www.covpresathens.org

COVENANT at WORSHIP

Liturgical Color: GREEN

10:00am Worship

4th Sunday after Pentecost/Father's Day
Seasoned Saints: Howard Thurman

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY *Sonata No 8 "Pathetic" 2nd movement Adagio Cantabile*

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Come, all who are weary from the noise of the world.

God meets us in stillness.

Come, all who are tired from caring, praying, resisting, hoping.

God meets us with mercy.

Come, all who have known the cave of fear, loneliness, or despair.

God meets us with bread for the journey and a voice that calls us beloved.

The Holy One is not always found in wind, earthquake, or fire.

Sometimes God comes in the sound of sheer silence.

So let us listen beneath the noise. Let us rest in the mercy of God.

Let us rise in courage for the work of love.

Let us worship God!

*HYMN 169

"Dear Lord and Father of Mankind"

REST

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Holy and Merciful God, you call us to listen for your voice, but we confess that we are often ruled by noise. We mistake urgency for faithfulness, outrage for courage, and busyness for love. We confess that fear can narrow our vision, hatred can harden our hearts, and despair can make us forget your promises. We confess that we sometimes believe we are alone, or that everything depends on us. Forgive us, O God. Meet us in those caves where our courage runs dry. Feed us with grace. Quiet what is frantic within us. Restore in us the deep center of your peace, that we may return to the world you love with courage, compassion, and hope. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. [*Silent prayers of confession*]

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS (*responsive*)

God does not abandon us in the wilderness.

God does not scold our weariness or turn away from our fear.

In Jesus Christ, God comes near — to restore, forgive, strengthen, and make us new.

So let us rise in peace, rise in courage, and rise in hope!

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
(SINGING 2 X'S)

"Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!"

HALLE, HALLE

**Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

LISTEN FOR THE GOOD NEWS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 46

(Pew Bible pp. 506-507)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

I Kings 19: 9-18 (Pew Bible pp. 322-323)

PROCLAMATION

The Courage Born in Silence

Rev. Tom Buchanan

*HYMN 792

"There Is a Balm in Gilead"

BALM IN GILEAD

RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*unison*) We believe in God, whose voice speaks creation into being and whose silence is deeper than all our fear. We believe in Jesus Christ, God's Word made flesh, who came among the poor, the weary, the threatened, and the forgotten; who told the truth without hatred, loved without fear, and gave himself for the healing of the world. We believe in the Holy Spirit, breath of courage and comfort, who meets us in stillness, roots us in grace, and sends us into the world with compassion. We believe the work of love is God's before it is ours. We are called, but we are not alone. We are needed, but we are not the saviors of the world. We are held by grace, accompanied by the saints, and sent to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with 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 *Sonata No 15 from Mozart, 1st movement Allegro*

***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 824 "There Is a Place of Quiet Rest" MC AFEE

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*SENDING HYMN 600 "Amen" AMEN
Amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen.

*POSTLUDE

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*Denotes standing as able.

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Aaron Carter-Enyi

LITURGIST: Pam Knox

GUEST PIANIST: Carlos Breña, DMA