

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

# SUMMER Saints Series

***Jane Goodall***

June 28, 2026  
Covenant Presbyterian Church  
1065 Gaines School Road  
Athens, Ga 30605  
[www.covpresathens.org](http://www.covpresathens.org)

# COVENANT at WORSHIP

Liturgical Color: GREEN

10:00am Worship

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Summer Saints: Jane Goodall

## GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY

*Fantasiestücke, I. Des Abends*

Robert Schumann

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Ask the animals, and they will teach you.

**The birds of the air will tell us of God's wisdom.**

Ask the plants of the earth, and they will show you.

**The creatures of the sea will declare God's praise.**

The life of every living thing rests in the hand of God.

**The breath of all humanity is held in God's care.**

The reign of God is like a seed:

**small, hidden, alive with holy possibility.**

Come, let us wonder at the works of God!

**Come, let us make room for all creation to flourish!**

**Let us worship God!**

\*HYMN 15

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

**Creator God, you have surrounded us with teachers: animals and birds, forests and fields, rivers and oceans, roots and seeds. Yet we confess that we have not listened. We have treated the earth as a possession rather than as your beloved creation. We have taken more than we need, ignored the consequences of our choices, and remained distant from the suffering of vulnerable people, creatures, and places. Forgive us when convenience matters more than care, when despair becomes an excuse for inaction, and when the scale of the need keeps us from planting the seeds entrusted to us. Open our eyes to the life around us. Awaken wonder, deepen compassion, and give us courage to tend what you have placed within our reach. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, in whom all things hold together.**

*[Silent prayers of confession]*

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS (*responsive*)

The God who sends roots into hidden soil is already at work beneath the surface of our lives.

**God's mercy is renewing us. God's Spirit is restoring our capacity to love.**

In Christ, we are not condemned to repeat the harm of the past.

**We are forgiven and set free to choose another way.**

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Job 12: 7-10

(Pew Bible pp. 452-453)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 4: 30-32

(Pew Bible p. 916)

PROCLAMATION

*Seeds of Hope*

Rev. Tom Buchanan

\*HYMN 14

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

DIX

WELCOME OF A NEW MEMBER

## RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*unison*) We believe in God, Creator of heaven and earth, whose wisdom is revealed in every living thing. We believe that the earth belongs to God and that we belong within creation, not above it or apart from it. We believe in Jesus Christ, who spoke of seeds and soil, birds and branches, bread and shared abundance; who saw those others overlooked and made room for life to flourish. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath within all life, who awakens wonder, stirs compassion, and gives courage for the work of repair. We believe no act of love is wasted, no seed of hope is too small, and no life is beyond the care of God. Therefore, we will seek justice, cherish creation, and plant what we can, trusting God to bring the growth. 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 in E major, Op.109: III. Tema* Ludwig van Beethoven

**\*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 22

"God of the Sparrow"

ROEDER

### \*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

### \*SENDING HYMN 600

"Amen"

AMEN

**Amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen.**

### \*POSTLUDE

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\*Denotes standing as able.

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LITURGIST: Sandy Whitney

GUEST PIANIST: Shirley Chen, BM