



August 2, 2026
Covenant Presbyterian Church
1065 Gaines School Road
Athens, Georgia 30605
www.coupresathens.org

COVENANT at WORSHIP

Liturgical Color: GREEN

10:00am Worship

10th Sunday after Pentecost/Holy Communion

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY

Sleepers Awake

J. S. Bach

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, all who have traveled by many roads, all who are still finding your way home.

God meets us on the road and stays with us through the night.

Come, all who carry complicated stories – memories of blessing and injury, love and regret.

God calls us by our own names and gathers our whole lives into grace.

Come, all who hunger for reconciliation, for a world where strangers are welcomed and wounded lives may begin again.

At the table of Christ, mercy makes room for us, and open hands receive the bread of life.

So let us come with honesty, longing, and hope.

Let us worship God!

*HYMN 39

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

FAITHFULNESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

God of truth and mercy, you created us for trust, hospitality, and communion, yet we confess how often fear governs our lives. We bend the truth to protect ourselves. We manage other people rather than meeting them openly. We use words, relationships, and power for purposes love cannot bless. We allow old injuries to harden into suspicion and treat strangers as threats before we have learned their names. We hide behind identities that promise safety, while avoiding the truth that might lead us toward freedom. Forgive us, gracious God. Meet us in the darkness where we can no longer rely upon our disguises. Give us courage to speak our own names, to acknowledge the harm we have caused, and to seek repair with humility. Loosen our grasping hands, that we may receive your grace and offer blessing to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
(*Silent prayers of confession*)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS (*Responsive*)

The God who met Jacob in the night meets us in the truth of our lives.
The mercy revealed in Jesus Christ reaches deeper than our fear, shame, and failure.

Grace does not leave us imprisoned in what has been.

Grace opens a road toward healing, freedom, and new life.

My friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

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

*RESPONSE 591 "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!" HALLE, HALLE
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! (*repeat*)

LISTEN FOR THE GOOD NEWS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 13: 1-2 (Pew Bible p. 1100)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 32: 22-31 (Pew Bible p. 29)

PROCLAMATION

The Long Way Home

Rev. Tom Buchanan

*HYMN 834

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

PRECIOUS LORD

RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS

OFFERING

Day by Day

Medley

PRESENTATION OF THE COMMUNION ELEMENTS

What do you bring to the Lord's Table?

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER including concerns and celebrations

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord Our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION/SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

Server: The body of Christ was broken for you. Served: Thanks be to God.

Server: The blood of Christ was shed for you. Served: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*HYMN 547

"Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

AR HYDY NOS

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*SENDING HYMN 600

"Amen"

AMEN

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

*POSTLUDE

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* denotes standing as able.

MUSIC DIRECTOR/PIANIST: Aaron Carter-Enyi

LITURGIST: Pam Knox

PIANIST: David Aina

COMMUNION PRESENTERS: Courtney & Britain Wiethorn