



**FOR JUST AS EACH
OF US HAS ONE BODY
WITH MANY MEMBERS,
AND THESE MEMBERS DO NOT
ALL HAVE THE
SAME FUNCTION.
SO IN CHRIST WE, THOUGH
MANY, FORM ONE BODY,
AND EACH MEMBER BELONGS
TO ALL THE OTHERS.
-ROMANS 12:4-5**

August 23, 2026

Covenant Presbyterian Church

1065 Gaines School Road

Athens, Ga 30605

www.covpresathens.org

COVENANT at WORSHIP

Liturgical Color: GREEN

11:00am Worship

13th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY

Gift of Finest Wheat

arr. John Ferguson

Refrain: **You satisfy the hungry heart with gift of finest wheat;
Come give to us, O saving Lord, The bread of life to eat.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

By the mercies of God, we are gathered here: many lives, many stories,
many gifts.

We come as members of one body, belonging to Christ and to one another.

Some come ready to give; some come needing to receive.

**Some carry strength for the journey; some need the strength of others
today. Yet grace has made room for every one of us.**

So let us bring our whole selves before God —

our bodies and minds, our gifts and needs, our gratitude and hope.

Let us worship God!

*HYMN 306

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

DENNIS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Unison)*

Merciful God, you have created us for life together, yet we confess how easily we imagine that we belong only to ourselves. We protect what is ours, compare our gifts with those of others, and measure people by what they can accomplish or provide. We confuse independence with strength and sometimes treat another person's need as an interruption. We forget that our gifts are graces received from you, given for the flourishing of the whole body. Forgive us, O God. Renew our minds. Free us from anxious comparison and fearful scarcity. Teach us the humility to offer what we have, the grace to receive what we need, and the wisdom to recognize how deeply our lives are bound together in Christ. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. *(silent prayers of confession)*

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS *(Responsive)*

Hear the good news: the life we share begins in the mercies of God.

We do not earn our place in the body of Christ. Grace has already made us members.

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

*PRAISE HYMN 582 "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me" GLORY TO GOD

1. **Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.**
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.
2. **World without end, without end. Amen. World without end, without end.**
Amen. World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

LISTEN FOR THE GOOD NEWS

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

(Pew Bible pp. 667-668) Isaiah 51: 1 - 5

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

(Pew Bible pp. 1035-1036) Romans 12: 1 - 8

PROCLAMATION

Members of One Another

Rev. Tom Buchanan

*HYMN 727

"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"

THE SERVANT SONG

RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

We believe in the God of abundant mercy, from whom every good gift comes. We believe in Jesus Christ, who has gathered us into one body and taught us that life is found in love freely given and received. We believe in the Holy Spirit, who renews our minds, awakens gifts among us, and binds our different lives together in grace. We believe that every person bears the image of God, that no one's worth is measured by usefulness, and that no member of Christ's body is disposable. We are many, yet in Christ we are one. We are gifted differently, yet every gift comes from grace. We belong to God, and by the mercy of God, we belong to one another. 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

MY SAVIOR'S LOVE

Charles H. Gabriel, arr. Tornquist

***DOXOLOGY 609 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" LASST UNSERFREUEN**
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 716

"God, Whose Giving Know No Ending"

BEACH SPRING

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

***SENDING HYMN 853 "We are Marching in the Light of God" SIYAHAMBA**
We are marching in the light of God; we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God; we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, we are marching, we are marching,
oh, we are marching in the light of God.

*POSTLUDE

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MUSIC DIRECTOR/PIANIST: Aaron Carter-Enyi

ASSISTANT MUSIC DIRECTOR: David Aina

ADULT CHOIR

* denotes standing as able.

LITURGIST: Pam Knox