



March 16, 2025
Covenant Presbyterian Church
1065 Gaines School Road
Athens, GA 30605
www.covpresathens.org

COVENANT at WORSHIP

Liturgical Color: Purple

March 16, 2025

11:00am Worship

2nd Sunday of Lent

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PREPARATION

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY

There Is a Fountain

arr., Sandra Eithun

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from *St. Patrick's Breastplate*

Christ with us, Christ before us, Christ behind us,

Christ inside us, Christ beneath us, Christ above us,

Christ on our right hand, Christ on our left hand,

Christ when we lie down, Christ when we sit down, Christ when we rise up,

Christ all around us, Christ in the heart of everyone who beholds us,

Christ in every eye that sees us, and Christ in every ear that hears us.

Today we shield ourselves with Threefold power, the invocation of the Trinity,

belief in the three-ness, profession of the oneness, in union with the Creator.

Let us worship God!

*HYMN 182

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

KINGSFOLD

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

Traditional Celtic Christian Prayer

Count us not as nothing, O God; count us not at nothing, O Christ; count us not as nothing, O kind Spirit, nor abandon us to eternal loss. We confess our sins to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Compassionate God of life, your kindly pardon give: for our careless talk, our broken oath, our empty speech; for all that we have left undone, for all that we have done amiss. Jesus, only-begotten Son and Lamb of God the Father, you gave the blood of your body to save us from the grave. As we receive the Word and knowledge of your forgiveness, enshield us, encircle us, each day, each night, each dark, each light. Uphold us, be our treasure, our triumph everlasting; strong Son of God most high. (*Silent prayers of confession*)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS (*Responsive*)

Be joyful; our saving God stretches out the divine hand,
reaching out towards us, to announce a loving forgiveness:

All who are truly sorry, all who forgive, will be forgiven.

My friends, be at peace —the Lord's pardon makes us whole once more.

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 423 "Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God"

SARADAY

Create In me a clean heart, O God; Create in me a clean heart, O God;

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

LISTEN FOR THE GOOD NEWS

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 84

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 2: 37-47

PROCLAMATION

Colonies of Heaven

Rev. Tom Buchanan

*HYMN

"He Looked Beyond My Fault and Saw My Need"

RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (unison)

God creates and calls us; Jesus reconciles and redeems us; the Spirit energizes and empowers us for worship, love, and service. In response to God's love and forgiveness, we pledge to inspire each other to prayer, study, and stewardship, to cultivate an open, caring church where diverse gifts are discovered, respected, and employed; to minister faithfully to the poor, lonely, sick, and those in need; to reach out, sharing our faith, inviting and welcoming others into our fellowship; and to seek justice and healing in the church, community, and world.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

The Road to Jerusalem

William E. Gross

*DOXOLOGY 710

"We Lift Our Voices"

OFFERING

We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices; Lord, use our hands; Lord, use our lives; they are yours; we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are; all that we hope to be; we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you; we are an offering, we are an offering.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 450

"Be Thou My Vision"

SLANE

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*SENDING HYMN 541

"God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

RANDOLPH

God be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherd's care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again.

*POSTLUDE

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MUSIC DIRECTOR: Aaron Carter-Enyi

HANDBELLS under the direction of David Boardman

PRAISE BAND: Winnie Mburu, Voice; Nderitu Kiragu, Voice, Guitar; Donny Whitehead, Sax; Bill Rigsby, Bass; Abby Horvath, Drums

* denotes standing as able.

LITURGIST: Kirche Rogers