

RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (UNISON)

We believe in God, who is Love – Love that created us, sustains us, and calls us by name. We believe in Jesus Christ, the embodiment of God’s love, who taught us to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, and mind, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We believe that God’s love is wider than our failures and deeper than our wounds – that nothing can separate us from it, and nothing can erase our worth in God’s sight. We believe the Holy Spirit moves among us, healing what is broken, lifting up voices long silenced, and teaching us to love ourselves with humility and hope – not as an end, but as the beginning of love for others. We believe that as we rise into our God-given belovedness, we rise to love boldly, live justly, and proclaim the good news of grace. 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 (342) *My Lord! What a Morning* African American Spiritual

*DOXOLOGY 608 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” HOPSON
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

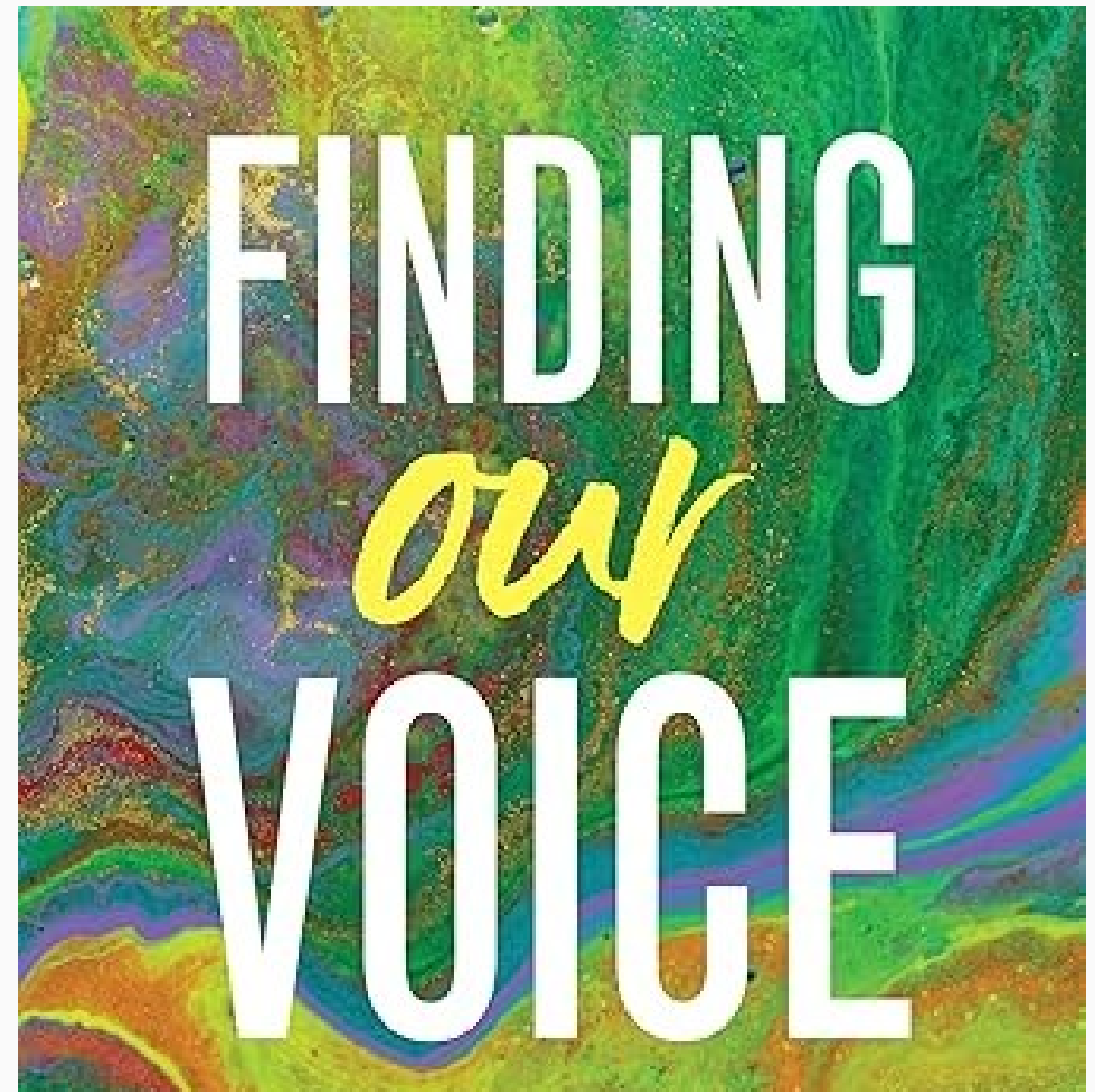
*HYMN 741 “Guide My Feet” African American Spiritual

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*SENDING HYMN 730 “I Sing a Song of the Saints” GRAND ISLE
(verse 1) **I sing a song of the saints of God, patient and brave and true, who toiled and fought and lived and died for the Lord they loved and knew. And one was a doctor, and one was a queen, and one was a shepherdess on the green: they were all of them saints of God, and I mean, God helping, to be one too.**

*POSTLUDE

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MUSIC DIRECTOR/PIANIST: Aaron Carter-Enyi LITURGIST: Jim Anderson
VOCALS: Lisa Buchanan, Quintina Carter-Enyi, Winnie Mburu-Brett, DRUMS: Donnie Lindsey
VIOLIN: Graham Osei-Frimpong, PIANO: Bayard Osei-Frimpong



July 13, 2025
Covenant Presbyterian Church
1065 Gaines School Road
Athens, Ga 30605

COVENANT at WORSHIP

Liturgical Color: GREEN

10:00am Worship

Summer Saints 4: Maya Angelou
5th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PREPARATION

Gavotte from Suite in C Minor

J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY

Let The River Run

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Come, beloved of God—

come with your doubts, your dreams, your wounds, your wonder.

**We are here because God calls us,
loved beyond measure, and made to love.**

Come with your divided hearts,
your weary spirits, your fragile hope.

We are here to remember:

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God.

Come to be renewed in grace, to discover yourself beloved,
and to rise with courage to love God, neighbor, and self.

We are here to worship the One who is our source, our center, our home.

Let us worship God!

*HYMN 610

“O For a Thousand Tongues”

AZMON

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

God of extravagant love and compassion, we are precious in your eyes, and yet we often live as those who don't know that they are beloved. We have tried – and often failed – to love you and our neighbors, but we have hardly loved ourselves. Heal us, gentle Spirit, and help us to live into our identity in you. Help us to discover who we are. Free us to find our voice as those who are called and claimed by Christ, and who are sent into the world to spread the good news of your boundless love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (*Silent prayers of confession*)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS (*Responsive*)

We are your beloved children, O God:

Your grace overcomes our guilt,

**Your embrace overcomes our shame,
Your love overcomes our sin.**

My friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

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

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*PRAISE HYMN 591

“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 40: 1-10

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 22: 34-40

PROCLAMATION

Finding Our Voice
(Summer Saints: Maya Angelou)

Rev. Tom Buchanan

*HYMN 700

“I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me” African American Spiritual