



*Forgive in us what has gone
wrong,
Repair in us what
is wasted,
Reveal in us what
is good. Amen.*

March 05, 2025

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

GATHER

PRELUDE

Kyrie Eleison

NEW WORLD

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from John 3:17; Psalm 46:1-3

God sent Christ into the world not to condemn the world,
but that the world might be saved through him.

God's love endures forever.

God is our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though the waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

God's love endures forever.

*PRAYER FOR THE DAY

*HYMN 424

"Out of the Depths"

AUS TIEFER NOT

LISTEN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17

INTERLUDE 434
(verse 1 – repeat once)

"Restore In Us, O Lord"

BAYLOR

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

II Corinthians 5: 20b-6:10

ASH WEDNESDAY REFLECTION

Rev. Tom Buchanan

ANTHEM

Dust and Ashes

Hass/Wren

RESPOND

INVITATION TO THE OBSERVANCE OF THE LENTEN DISCIPLINE

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Adapted from *Psalms 51:1-17*

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

**Wash me through and through from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.**

For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.

**Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight.**

And so you are justified when you speak
and upright in your judgment.

**Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,
a sinner from my mother's womb.**

For behold, you look for truth deep within me,
and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

**Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.**

Make me hear of joy and gladness,
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

**Hide your face from my sins
and blot out all my iniquities.**

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

**Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy Spirit from me.**

Give me the joy of your saving help again
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

**I shall teach your ways to the wicked,
and sinners shall return to you.**

Deliver me from death, O God,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, O God of my salvation.

**Open my lips, O Lord,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice,
but you take no delight in burnt offerings.

**The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

LITANY OF PENITENCE

Holy and merciful God,
we confess to you and to one another,
and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth,
that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.
Holy and merciful God, **have mercy on us.**

We have not listened to your call to serve as Christ served us.
We have not been true to the mind of Christ.
We have grieved your Holy Spirit.
Holy and merciful God, **have mercy on us.**

We confess to you, O God, all our past unfaithfulness:
The pride, hypocrisy, and impatience in our lives,
Our self-indulgent appetites and ways and our exploitation of other people,
Our anger at our own frustration and our envy of those more fortunate than
ourselves,
Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life
and work,
Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to commend the faith that is in
us,
Holy and merciful God, **have mercy on us.**

Accept our repentance, O God, for the wrongs we have done.
For our neglect of human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and
cruelty,
For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors,
and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,
For our waste and pollution of your creation
and our lack of concern for those who come after us,
Holy and merciful God, **have mercy on us.**

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.
Favorably hear us, O God, for your mercy is great. Amen.

INVITATION TO RECEIVE THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

The congregation is invited forward to receive the imposition of ashes.
The worship leader marks the forehead of each person with the ashes,
using the words:

“Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”

*IMPOSITION OF ASHES

*UNISON PRAYER

**Bless, O God, these ashes and those
who have received them.**

**Let them be for us a reminder of
our mortality,
a call to sincere repentance, and a
testimony
to your abundant mercy in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

SENDING

*HYMN 836

“Abide with Me”

EVENTIDE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Change My Heart, O God

Mark Hayes

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PIANO: Betsy Burmeister