

RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH From *The Theological Declaration of Barmen*

As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so, in the same way and with the same seriousness he is also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to his creatures. We reject the false doctrine, as though there were areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ, but to other lords – areas in which we would not need justification and sanctification through him. Amen.

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 *Jesus, Name Above All Names* arr., Mark Hayes

*DOXOLOGY 710 "We Lift Our Voices" OFFERING
We lift our voices; we lift our hand; 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 175 "Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God" LAFFERTY

*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 *Create In Me a Clean Heart* arr., Mark Hayes

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MUSIC DIRECTOR: Aaron Carter-Enyi

PIANO: Betsy Burmeister ADULT CHOIR FLUTE: Winnie Mburu

* denotes standing as able.

LITURGIST: Jim Anderson



March 09, 2025
Covenant Presbyterian Church
1065 Gaines School Road
Athens, GA 30605
www.covpresathens.org

COVENANT at WORSHIP

Liturgical Color: Purple

March 09, 2025

11:00am Worship

1st Sunday of Lent

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

PREPARATION

Open My Eyes/Be Thou My Vision

arr., Mark Hayes

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTARY

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley

arr., Carter-Enyi

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord is merciful and gracious,

slow to anger and abounding in love.

Let us put aside lesser things which distract us from seeking God,

that we may we embrace and practice better things.

Let us worship God!

*HYMN 166

"Lord Who Throughout These Forty Days"

ST. FLAVIAN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

O God of Love and Abundance, you have given us so much: talents and treasure in unlimited supply. And yet, so often, we throw away our plenty on little hungers and petty desires. We seek the fleeting delights of novelty and veneer, and seem more interested in noise and sparkle than in sturdy faithfulness. We chase after happiness while neglecting joy; we skim the surface while fearing the depths. Forgive us, we pray, for our fearfulness. Help us to trust in your grace, in your abundance, in the covenant promises that you have renewed with every generation. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. (*Silent prayers of confession*)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS (*Responsive*)

Come, all you who are thirsty. If we take the first step, if we are willing to plunge once again into the waters and to emerge into new life, we will receive a love beyond all we can imagine.

We turn our hearts to God, and by grace our hunger and thirst are satisfied; through Christ we are made whole; by the Spirit we are led forth as God's people.

Let us 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

Matthew 4: 1-11

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 55: 1-5

PROCLAMATION

Fasting & Feasting

Rev. Tom Buchanan

LITANY OF FASTING & FEASTING (see insert)

*HYMN 167

"Forty Days and Forty Nights"

AUS DER TIEFE RUFE ICH