



## Unified for Service

A joint worship service offered by the saints at Forsyth, Fort Valley, Northminster (Macon), Saint Andrews (Macon), First (Thomaston), First (Warner Robins), Washington Avenue, and Westminster (Warner Robins)

### GATHERING

Bag Pipe Prelude

Ken Marek (Forsyth)

Greeting and Welcome

Debra Tregaskis (Flint River Presbytery)

*Come to us, O servant Lord. Pour water in your bowl and wash our feet.*

*We are bold to ask this because of our longing for fellowship with you.*

*Wash our feet, then, and be our companion during this space and forevermore. AMEN*

*--based on a prayer of Origen (c. 185-254)*

Musical Meditation

Sandy Smith (Northminster)

Call to Worship

Bryan Whitfield (Fort Valley)

One: In the beginning before time, before people, before the world began,

All: **God was!**

One: Here and now, among us, beside us, enlisting the people of the earth for the purposes of heaven,

All: **God is!**

One: In the future, when we have turned to light and dust, and all is fulfilled,

All: **God will be!**

One: Not denying the world, but delighting in it, through Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit,

All: **God who was, God who is, and God who is to come, will be praised! Glory to you forever!**

Opening Prayer

Bryan Whitfield (Fort Valley)

Hymn      *We Are One in the Spirit*

Ken Marek (Forsyth)

Call to Confession

Ralph Hawkins (Northminster)

Prayer of Confession:

**Eternal God, in every age you have raised up men and women to live and die in faith.**

**We confess that we are often indifferent to your will.**

**You call us to proclaim our name, but we are silent.**

**You call us to do what is just, but we often remain idle.**

**You call us to live from a place of abiding trust, but we are often afraid.**

**In your mercy, forgive us.**

**Give us courage to follow in your way, that joined with those from ages past, who have served you with faith, hope, and love, we may inherit the kingdom you promised in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## LISTENING

Prayer for Illumination:

Lucie Perkins (Westminster/Warner Robins)

**Come to us, Holy Spirit!**

Pour your word into our hearts. Wash our minds with your truth.

Refresh us with the gifts of memory and mystery

that we may be strengthened to listen, to learn, and to act. In Jesus' name, we make this prayer. Amen

Old Testament Lesson and Brief Meditation

Lucie Perkins (Westminster/Warner Robins)

Psalm 51: 1-12

Epistle Lesson and Brief Meditation

Glenn Gilstrap (Thomaston)

Ephesians 4:1-6

Gospel Lesson and Brief Meditation

Sarah McClelland Brown (First/Warner Robins)

Matthew 10:40-42

Hymn      *Called as Partners in Christ's Service*

Ken Marek (Forsyth)

## RESPONDING

Affirmation of Faith

*Confession of Belhar*

Curtis White (St. Andrews/Macon)

**We believe in the triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects, and cares for the church through Word and Spirit. This, God has done since the beginning of the world and will do to the end.**

**We believe**

- that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another;
- that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought; one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain;
- that this unity can be established only in freedom and not under constraint; that the variety of spiritual gifts, opportunities, backgrounds, convictions, as well as the various languages and cultures, are by virtue of the reconciliation in Christ, opportunities for mutual service and enrichment within the one visible people of God.

Prayers of the People

Debra Tregaskis (Flint River Presbytery)

Hymn	<i>May the God of Hope Go with Us</i>	Ken Marek (Forsyth)
Benediction		Debra Tregaskis (Flint River Presbytery)
Postlude		Sandy Smith and Northminster Singers