

(As we enter the sanctuary, let us quietly prepare our hearts and minds for worship. Please observe social distancing, keep your masks on while you are in the building, and please silence your cell phones for the duration of the service.)

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

SOUNDING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME

GREETING

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made!

People: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The God of heaven has made a home on earth,

People: **Christ dwells among us and is one with us.**

Leader: The highest in all creation lives among the least,

People: **Christ journeys with the rejected and welcomes the weary.**

Leader: Come now all who thirst

People: **the cup of salvation is prepared for you.**

Leader: Come now all who hunger

People: **and taste the bread of heaven.**

Leader: Come now all who seek

People: **and be warmed by the fire of love.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE # 612

"We Praise You, O God"

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO CONFESSION

(Few moments of silent prayer)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Merciful God,

People: **we confess that we have sinned against you**

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.

In your mercy forgive what we have been,

help us amend what we are,

and direct what we shall be,

so that we may delight in your will

and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, brothers and sisters,
believe the good news of the gospel,
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

THE PEACE

Leader: As people forgiven by the abundant grace of God,
we are at peace with God,
and we are called to live in peace with one another.
The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READING FROM THE PSALMS (*p. 520—OT*)

Psalm 51:1-12

GOSPEL READING (*p. 98—NT*)

John 6:24-35

SERMON

The Bread of Life

Rev. Dr. Brian Alderman

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN OF CONTEMPLATION # 525

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father (and the Son), who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: With joy we praise you, gracious God,
...to proclaim the glory of your name, saying:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

(continued)

Leader: For your kindness to...

...the great mystery of our faith:

**All: Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

Leader: Lord God, send your Holy Spirit...

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

GOING OUT TO SERVE

*HYMN OF SENDING # 81

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Please rise, in body or spirit.

Large-print Hymnals are available in the back of the sanctuary; and **large-print bulletins** are on the table in the Narthex.

Hearing Assist Devices are located in the rear of the Sanctuary. Disposable ear buds are available for your convenience. They can be disposed after use in the labeled slot. **Please note**, only one ear bud receives signal, so please check both buds to determine that the unit is working. Contact the church office with any other issues.

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WELCOME VISITORS! We are glad you are here. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to join with us in service to Christ.

This morning we once again welcome the Rev. Dr. Brian Alderman to the pulpit. Brian is a native of Galax, VA, serves as Chaplain and Associate Professor of Religion at King University. He has taught at McAfee School of Theology (Mercer University), Lee University, and Hiwassee College. He also served as pastor of Madisonville Presbyterian Church in Madisonville, TN, and as chaplain at Hiwassee College. Brian lives in Bristol, TN with his wife, Monica, and their two children, Ella Kate & Wes.

5 CENTS A MEAL OFFERING

There is a separate Offering Plate in the back for the 5 Cents a Meal Offering. You are asked to consider giving 5 cents for each meal you have eaten last month (or any amount you wish) to help feed those who are hungry. This offering supports both local and global hunger programs.

GARAGE SALE—SATURDAY, AUGUST 7: 8A—NOON

Mark your calendar and **tell your friends**—our Garage Sale is happening! All proceeds will be used to support Covenant's mission activities.

We need more **volunteers** to help with organizing, pricing and then working on the day of the sale. If you feel led to help support this effort, contact any of the LWWMC members, or email Don Coble at dwcoble1@gmail.com.

We continue to accept any donated items, except for clothing. Items are **now** being stored in the classroom **opposite** the kitchen off the Fellowship Hall. (The other classroom and the basement storage area are FULL). The Habitat for Humanity "Restore" will receive all donated items that do not sell.

The Local & Worldwide Missions Committee thanks everyone for their support of this and all of Covenant's mission activities.

UPCOMING CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICES

A Celebration of Life service for **Bob Maletich** will be held at Covenant on Friday, April 6, 2021, at 4:30 PM in the sanctuary. Everyone is invited.

From Marti Saltzman (Glax's daughter): "Please join us to celebrate the life of **Glax Hood** on Sunday, August 8 at 3:30 at the Down Home, 300 West Main Street, Johnson City." **UPDATE: Event has been canceled.**

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CIRCLE BOOKS

The **2021-2022 PW Circle study books have arrived.** If you are in the Red Tent Circle, the Friendship Circle, or the Joy Circle, you may pick up your book from the workroom next to the church office. There's a sign-out sheet next to the box. The Red Tent Circle will begin this month; the others will begin in September. Details are in your August Courier.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The **weekly Men's Bible Study group will begin meeting again on Thursday, August 5, 2021!!** All men of the church (and friends of the men in the church) are invited to the Men's Bible Study on Thursday mornings from 8:30 to 9:30 AM. We will meet every week in the Fellowship Hall, rain or shine. The coffee is hot and the discussion is lively.

We'd love to have you join us, even if you aren't able to come every week. More participation equals more perspective, and more perspective can lead to a greater understanding of the Bible.

STATEMENT ON MASKS

On behalf of Session and the Re-Opening Task Force:

Out of an abundance of caution, we advise that participants attending indoor activities at Covenant continue to wear masks until the risk level of COVID-19 infection is low. The CDC guidelines relaxing the wearing of masks apply to fully vaccinated individuals. Our informal poll of Covenant worship attendees found that approximately 20% are not vaccinated. There are some that are too young, are allergic, or are immunosuppressed and can't be fully vaccinated. To determine the COVID-19 risk level, we are using the Covid Tracker website for Washington county:

https://covidactnow.org/us/tennessee-tn/county/washington_county/

We will check the website each week, and when the parameters are all in the **green - low risk - zone**, we will email a notice and place signs on the doors indicating that **masks are voluntary**. Should the COVID-19 risk level cross back into the **yellow - medium risk - zone**, we will email a notice and place signs on the doors that **masks are required**. Thank you.

AFFIRMING ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

We at Covenant Presbyterian Church of Johnson City, Tennessee, under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church (USA), aka PC(USA), present its Churchwide Antiracism Policy, first adopted in 1999 and revised in 2016. It proclaims the following:

"While recognizing that racism victimizes many different racial ethnic groups, we acknowledge its unique impact on the African American community. Given the particular forms that anti-Black racism has taken in the United States of America, both historically (including slavery and Jim Crow) and today (including mass incarceration, disproportionate policing, economic inequality, and continuing acts of racially oriented violence and hate), we state clearly: **GOD LOVES BLACKNESS**. Too many have denied this basic truth for too long. Our choice to align ourselves with love and not hate requires both a rejection of racism and a positive proclamation that God delights in Black lives."

TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:
Liturgist:

Jim Starr
Frankie Wolff

CHURCH STAFF

Music Director:
Office Administrator:
Administrative Assistant:

Jessica Siple
Tina Simon
Anne Webb

PRAYER CONCERNS

Week of August 1—7, 2021

Gary Salazar, friend of Cynthia Erdei.
Vance Egan, friend of the Cobles.
Pat Zembower, Christian's mom, has improved in health over the past month. She is now back at home with Tom and is taking care of herself more independently as well. The cancer that was detected in her colon was a misdiagnosis. Please continue to keep her/them in your prayers.
Traci Starr Honeycutt, Jim & Norma Starr's daughter, who continues her recovery at home.
Gary Davis, Charlotte Corbett's son-in-law.
Sarah Campbell, Sharon Fuhrman's granddaughter.

Join us in continually lifting up in prayer our mission co-workers:

Bob & Kristi Rice: South Sudan
Jon & Kathy Christiansen: Zimbabwe

and Ministries of the Presbytery:

UKirk ETSU (Pres. Campus Ministry)
Holston Presbytery Camp

MISSION STATEMENT

Covenant Presbyterian Church exists to glorify and enjoy God. We live knowing that God calls us to be a place of love, support, hope and acceptance regardless of earthly labels. Jesus Christ commissions us to make disciples and passionately share our gifts with the world through prayer, teaching, and service. The Holy Spirit allows us to determine and carry out Christ's will for our lives and the life of our church and empowers us to seek out and respond to the needs of our local and global community.

CPC STATEMENT OF OPENNESS AND WELCOME

We aspire to Christ's model of openness and love for all persons. As God has welcomed us, we also welcome everyone into the life, leadership, and community of Christ's church, regardless of abilities, age, economic status, education, ethnicity, gender identity, race, sexual orientation, social position or any identity or status that might be perceived as separating us from God or one another.

We pledge to affirm the inherent worth and dignity of each of God's children, with membership, leadership, and employment open to whomever God calls.



In the event of emergency, be aware that our Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Unit is located on the wall outside the front door of the Church Office.



Covenant Presbyterian Church is proud to have received the designation of being an Earth Care Congregation, through the PC(USA).

Covenant Presbyterian Church has been certified as a **Recovery Congregation** by the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.



Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY

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Facebook: "Covenant Presbyterian Church (Johnson City, TN.)"

Instagram: @covenantpcjohnsoncity

AUGUST 1, 2021

10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

O God,
by your power may we,
with all the saints,
comprehend the breadth and length
and height and depth
of the love of Christ
that surpasses knowledge,
so that we may be filled
with your fullness. Amen.