

*(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: How lovely, Lord, how lovely to worship in this Holy place.

People: **How lovely, Lord, how lovely to walk with you all of our days.**

Leader: How lovely, Lord, how lovely to live as your people on earth.

People: **How lovely, Lord, how lovely to be strengthened and blessed by your grace.**

### **\*OPENING PRAYER**

### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

*(Few moments of silent prayer)*

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Leader: We are confused, Great and Loving God,

People: **by the messages of our world and by the messages of your Scripture, they do not fit together.**

**And yet we live in this world, you have put us here. The world says we should be strong and confident; yet the great people of the bible were often hesitant and felt inadequate and unworthy of the task to which they were called.**

**Perhaps we should feel pride only in the accomplishments of others; and yet, we know that false humility is false and true neither to ourselves or others.**

**Guide our thoughts and actions that each of us may become the person you would have us be— confident and secure in your love, able to live in our world with your values. Amen.**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: Happy are those whose strength is in God. Happy are those who trust in Christ's love. Happy are those who seek the Spirit's guidance. Believe the good news. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and made new!

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. 548—OT)*

Psalm 90:12-17

GOSPEL READING *(p. 46—NT)*

Mark 10:17-31

### **SERMON**

Impossibilities

John Golden

## **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. 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.**

## **GOING OUT TO SERVE**

### **BENEDICTION**

### **POSTLUDE**

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\*Please rise, in body or spirit.

**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.

**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 week we welcome John Golden back to our virtual pulpit.** John is the Director of UKirk ETSU and is starting his fourth year as a student at Emmanuel Christian Seminary. John was born and raised in Longview, Texas, and grew up attending St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. He earned his undergraduate degree at Georgia Tech, where he fell in love with the community within college campus ministry. In his free time, John enjoys running and biking, cooking, and eating, reading as much as he can, and has recently started learning how to garden.

## **A NEW PASTOR FOR COVENANT!**

We're getting closer! She's written us a letter (it was included in the email announcement). There are copies of it on the table in the Narthex if you would like to have one. This is an exciting time! We thank the PNC for their dedication and commitment to finding just the right person for Covenant.

## **ATTN: COMMITTEE CHAIRS / LIAISONS**

It's time to prepare your **2022 budget requests**. Please turn them in to Gary Smith by October 31, 2021.

## **STATEMENT ON MASKS**

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

Out of an abundance of caution, we require participants attending indoor activities at Covenant to wear masks.

## **GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD OFFERING**

The **Good Samaritan grocery carts** continue to be placed outside the double doors in front of the office, under the overhang, **between the hours of 10 AM and 3 PM, Monday thru Thursday**. Just drive up, load your items into the cart, and drive off! The grocery carts will be in the hallway on Sundays. We will continue collecting the following food items as they are staples: **Jelly/Jam; Peanut Butter; Canned Veggies; Canned Fruits; Dry / Canned Beans; Rice; Soups; Cereals (*hot and cold*); Canned Meats (*Tuna, Vienna Sausage, etc.*)**

If you wish to make a monetary donation, we will pass it along, too. Thank you for your generous donations to this local ministry!

## **THE RIVER'S CRAFT & GOODIES SALE**

**The River's Craft & Goodies Fair will be held on Saturday, October 16, from 10 AM to 2 PM.** The event will be held outside under the pavilion behind The River and in back of First Presbyterian. All proceeds from the sale benefit The River. The will feature handcrafted items, themed baskets, a game of chance, and yummy goodies!!

## **GIVING TO THE CHURCH**

**Besides online giving or dropping off or mailing a check**, it is also easy (and free) to set up **automatic payments** through your banking institution or online BillPay. Thank you for continuing to support the work of Covenant Presbyterian Church. *If you have any questions, please contact Tina in the church office.*

## 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.”

## 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.

## 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.

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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.



## TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:  
Liturgist:

Jim Starr  
Kathi Cary

## CHURCH STAFF

Music Director:  
Office Administrator:  
Administrative Assistant:

Jessica Siple  
Tina Simon  
Anne Webb

## PRAYER CONCERNS

### Week of October 10—16, 2021

Traci Starr Honeycutt, Jim & Norma Starr's daughter.  
Sharon Fuhrman, who is recovering from double pneumonia.  
Gary Salazar, friend of Cynthia Erdei.  
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

## THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

### Today, October 10

8:30a  
9:30a  
11:00a  
12:30p  
4:00p  
7:00p

Issues Class on Zoom  
Sojourner's Class on Zoom  
Worship Service  
Session Meeting  
Library reserved  
N.A. Mtg

### Monday, October 11

10a—3p  
6p—8p  
7:00p

Good Sam Food Dropoff  
Black/White Dialogue on Zoom  
NarAnon Mtg

### Tuesday, October 12

10a—3p  
10:00a  
11:00a  
7:00p

Good Sam Food Dropoff  
Al-Anon Mtg  
Joy Circle(?)  
Al-Anon Mtg

### Wednesday, October 13

10a—3p  
Noon—2p  
1:30p  
7:00p  
7:00p

Good Sam Food Dropoff  
Sanctuary reserved  
Friendship Circle(?)  
Chancel Choir on Zoom  
N.A. Mtg

### Thursday, October 14

10a—3p  
Noon  
7:00p

Good Sam Food Dropoff  
Al-Anon Mtg  
Red Tent Circle(?)

### Friday, October 15

6:30p

Al-Anon Mtg

### Saturday, October 16

10a—2p

**The River Craft & Goodies Sale**



# Covenant

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY

603 Sunset Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604

423-282-5324 ♦ fax 423-282-5346 ♦ office@cpcjc.org ♦ www.cpcjc.org

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

Instagram: @covenantpcjohnsoncity

## OCTOBER 10, 2021 20<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Prepare us, O God,

for the worship of your house,

and give us grace to serve you

with reverence, joy, and thanksgiving;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.