

(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: The Lamb of God is seated on the throne;
People: **Glory to Christ our Lord,
who was, and is, and is to come!**

PRELUDE "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation" arr.: A.L. Page

*CALL TO WORSHIP based on Psalm 95

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise the rock of our salvation!

People: **Come into God's presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise with songs of praise!**

Leader: For the Lord is a great God,
a mighty King above all gods.
In his hand are the depths of the earth
and the heights of the mountains.

People: **The whole of creation belongs to God,
who rules over the heavens and the earth.**

Leader: Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before God, our Creator!

People: **Christ is our Good Shepherd,
we are the people of his pasture,
the sheep of God's own hand.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

CALL TO CONFESSION

(Few moments of silent prayer)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and merciful God, you showed us what it means to live by your reign: sharing food with the hungry, freedom with the imprisoned, justice with the oppressed, and joy with the sorrowful. We ask your forgiveness, O God, for all the ways we fail to live as people who belong to your reign. Show us once more what our belonging means; for you are the beginning, you are the end, and in every time between, you fill our lives with grace through Jesus Christ in whose name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the Good News:
God has rescued us from the power of evil
and claimed us for the reign of Jesus Christ,
in whom we have redemption.
Friends, in the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

People: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

SHARING 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

SCRIPTURE LESSON (p. 29—NT)

Matthew 25:31-40

SERMON

Rev. Maggie Rust

MISSION PRESENTATIONS

Second Harvest Food Bank

Tony Madden

The River

Stacy Larsen

Tri-Cities Latin X

Melanie Jones

Rise Up! For Kids

Michael Marion

Holston Presbytery Camp

Gwen Hunter

BABMOC

Matt Cary

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

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.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

HYMN OF REFLECTION # 757 "Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples"

GOING OUT TO SERVE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Now Thank We All Our God" S. Karg-Elert

*Please rise, in body or spirit.

Large-print Hymnals are available in the back of the sanctuary.

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.

HANGING OF THE GREENS – TODAY

We will be decorating the church this afternoon after our worship service. Everyone who is able and willing to help is invited to stay and join us!

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The church office will be closed on Wednesday and Thursday this week, November 24 & 25. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone!

STEWARDSHIP

If you have not yet had the opportunity to turn in your pledge card for 2022, you may leave it in the offering plate, bring it or mail it to the church office, or send an email with your intention to office@cpcjc.org. Pledge cards & envelopes are in the pews in the Sanctuary and on the tables in the Narthex. Please prayerfully consider making your pledge to Covenant for 2022.

MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION—SUNDAY, DEC. 5

There will be a **Meeting of the Congregation** immediately following worship on **Sunday, December 5th** for the purpose of electing officers. The following are the nominees being presented by the Nominating Committee: Melanie Jones, Stacy Larsen, and Ron Smith. Short bios about these delightful people will be in next week's bulletin.

ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR – TODAY

Alternative Gift Fair brochures and giving forms are in your bulletins. The Local and World Wide Missions Committee hopes that you will take this opportunity to use some of your gift-giving dollars in support of the six ministries represented this year. It is an opportunity to enrich the lives of not only the loved ones you are giving the gift to, but also the lives of untold numbers of others. They will all appreciate your generosity and thoughtfulness. You will find greeting cards and envelopes in the Narthex, along with small cards describing each mission organization so that friends and family will know more about the gifts you've given in their honor. A basket for checks and order forms is also be on the table. You can pick up these materials on Sundays or during regular office hours, Monday–Thursday, 9:00am-4:00pm. Tina will buzz you into the building so you can leave your orders and help yourself to literature. The opportunity to give to these worthy ministry organizations will continue through the Advent season, so you will have ample time to participate.

PRISON FELLOWSHIP ANGEL TREE MINISTRY

As we did last year because of the pandemic, we will again participate in the Prison Fellowship Angel Tree program **virtually**. Anyone that would like to sponsor a child can do so from the comfort of their home by clicking the link in the email we will be sending out (instructions will be included in the email). There will be 20 Angel Tree children available. If you have questions regarding the virtual Angel Tree program, please contact Melanie Jones, our Angel Tree coordinator, at 423-737-5392.

THE MITTEN TREE

Every year we collect hats, scarves, and mittens for children in our area who need a little warmth during the winter. **This year we have added hoodies to the list!** The Mitten Tree is in its traditional spot—in the hallway across from the office. **Please bring hats, scarves, mittens and hoodies to hang on the tree or place in the box next to the tree.** They will be distributed to the youth at Rise Up! for Kids. **NOTE:** hoodie sizes will be for middle- and high-schoolers.

POINSETTIAS

If you would like to place a poinsettia in the Sanctuary in honor or in memory of a loved one, please fill out the enclosed order form and place it, along with your payment, in the offering plate. **Cost for the poinsettias is \$10 each.** Please make checks payable to *Covenant* and note "poinsettia" in the memo line.

GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD OFFERING

The **Good Samaritan grocery cart** continues 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.** 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!

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.

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Today, Nov. 21

8:30a	Issues Class on Zoom
9:30a	Sojourner's Class on Zoom
9:45a	Bible Discovery Class
11:00a	Worship Service
7:00p	N.A. Mtg

Monday, Nov. 22

10a—3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
7:00p	NarAnon Mtg

Tuesday, Nov. 23

10a—3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
10:00a	Al-Anon Mtg
7:00p	Al-Anon Mtg

Wednesday, Nov. 24

Church Office Closed	
Noon—2p	Sanctuary reserved
7:00p	Chancel Choir on Zoom
7:00p	N.A. Mtg

Thursday, Nov. 25—Thanksgiving

Church Office Closed

Noon	Al-Anon Mtg
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Friday, Nov. 19

6:30p	Al-Anon Mtg
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TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:
Liturgist:

Jim Starr
Anne Smith

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor:
Music Director:
Office Administrator:
Administrative Assistant:

Rev. Maggie Rust
Jessica Siple
Tina Simon
Anne Webb

PRAYER CONCERNS

Week of November 21—27, 2021

Maximus Silva, who is home from the hospital!
Tommy Brown, Mary O'Keeffe's nephew-in-law, who is in heart failure.
Christian Zembower, who is home recovering from surgery on his jaw.
Pat Zembower, Christian's mom, who has been diagnosed with uterine cancer.
Brian Wagoner, Christian's sister Shelby's boyfriend, who has Covid and has been placed on a ventilator.
Traci Starr Honeycutt, Jim & Norma Starr's daughter.
Sharon Fuhrman, who is still recovering from double pneumonia.
Sarah Campbell, Sharon Fuhrman's granddaughter.
Gary Salazar, friend of Cynthia Erdei.

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

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.

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.*

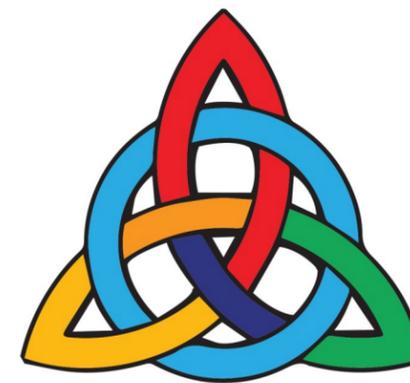


In the event of emergency, be aware that our Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Unit is located on the wall outside the front door of the Church Office.



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

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

NOVEMBER 21, 2021

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

We will give thanks to you, O LORD,

with our whole heart;

we will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

We will be glad and exult in you;

we will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

—from Psalm 9:1-2, NRSV