

*(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

**MINUTE FOR MISSION** Phyllis Thompson, *One Great Hour of Sharing*

### GREETING

Leader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: **Hosanna in the highest!**

**PRELUDE** "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" arr.: Lloyd Larson

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** from *Stages on the Way*, Iona Worship Resources

Leader: Humble and riding on a donkey,

People: **We greet you!**

Leader: Acclaimed by crowds and caroled by children,

People: **We cheer you!**

Leader: Moving from the peace of the countryside to the corridors of power,

People: **We salute you, Christ our Lord!**

Leader: You are giving the beasts of burden new dignity; you are giving majesty a new face;

you are giving those who long for redemption a new song to sing.

People: **With them, with heart and voice, we shout: Hosanna!**

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE** # 196 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

### CALL TO CONFESSION

*(Few moments of silent prayer)*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Triumphant God, we join the crowds of the ages in shouting your praises. Yet while our lips give you glory, our lives do not always reflect your purposes. We sing easily of your greatness, but we struggle to live faithfully. We hear of your salvation, yet sin is still close and real. Have mercy on us, O God. Ride into our hearts with healing grace. Forgive what we have done and direct who we shall be. Lord, save us; we cry: Hosanna!**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends: the one who rode into Jerusalem, struggled on the cross, and was sealed in the tomb, is risen from the dead! Jesus Christ has defeated sin forever. This is the good news: in Christ, we are forgiven!

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

### SHARING THE PEACE

Leader: Look! The King of Glory, the Prince of Peace comes to you, humble and riding on a donkey.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

## HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

### SPECIAL MUSIC

"Ah, Holy Jesus"

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**FIRST LESSON** (p. 565—OT)

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

**\*HYMN OF INVITATION** # 197

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

**SECOND LESSON** (p. 83—NT)

Luke 19:28-40

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

Rev. Maggie Rust

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** from *the Confession of 1967*

**God's reconciling act in Jesus Christ is a mystery which the Scriptures describe in various ways. It is called the sacrifice of a lamb, a shepherd's life given for his sheep, atonement by a high priest, the ransom of a slave, payment of a debt, and above all victory over the powers of evil. These are expressions of a truth which remains beyond the reach of all theory, in the depths of God's love for humankind. They reveal the gravity, cost, and sure achievement of God's reconciling work.**

**\*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

**\*HYMN OF BLESSING** # 200 "A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd"

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

\*Please rise, in body or spirit.

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**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. We invite you to fill out a Visitor Card, found in the pews. If you are seeking a church home, you are welcome to join us in discipleship as a community of faith and service. Pastor Maggie would be happy to talk to you about your journey.

**Session** is meeting this afternoon. Please be in prayer for our church leaders.

## COMMUNION NEXT SUNDAY

The **SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER** will be celebrated on Easter Sunday. Take time this week to prepare yourself in prayer and meditation.

## LENTEN STUDY—FINAL WEEK

**Wednesday, April 13**, is the final day of our Lenten Study. The in-person session will be at 3:30 PM at Covenant. The Zoom session will be at 7:00 PM and the invitation will be emailed on Wednesday morning.

## COLLEGE STUDENT CARE PACKAGES—DEADLINE IS TODAY!

Today is the deadline to sign cards and place items in the boxes and gift bags for our college students and students at UKirk. The Local & Worldwide Missions Committee will be mailing/delivering them tomorrow. Thank you for your support!

## HOLY WEEK SCAVENGER HUNT BEGINS TODAY!

We are hosting the first-ever Covenant Holy Week Scavenger Hunt beginning today and culminating on Saturday, April 16 at 3:00 PM with cookies and lemonade on the lawn to celebrate, share our "finds" and give out a few prizes! The Scavenger Hunt instructions are now available in the Narthex, and will also be emailed tomorrow. You can participate as an individual or partner up to form a team.

## HOLY WEEK LABYRINTH

Walking a labyrinth can provide a time for prayerful reflection and meditation. Again this year we have one on the lawn in the front of the church during Holy Week. Labyrinths have been used for centuries in Christian churches as a way to deepen prayer lives. A Labyrinth is like a maze, but it has no dead ends. The walk to the center of the labyrinth represents our life's journeys – there are many twists and turns, but life's path will lead us to the center. The center represents that part of ourselves that is irrevocably connected to God (nothing can "separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord"). After prayerful reflection in the center, the walk away from the center represents our taking the grace we have received in our relationship with God out into the world through seeking justice, through acts of loving kindness and through humility.

## HOLY WEEK AT COVENANT

**MAUNDY THURSDAY:** *April 14, 5:30 PM*

Please join us for a Maundy Thursday dinner and service at Covenant with Watauga Ave. Weather permitting, we will be outside.

Otherwise, we will be in the Fellowship Hall.

**[Please sign up in the Narthex or by calling or e-mailing the church office by April 11.]**

**GOOD FRIDAY:** *April 15, Noon*

There will be a Good Friday Service of Prayer and Remembrance at Watauga Ave. Presbyterian Church beginning at Noon. (610 E. Watauga Ave., J.C.) We encourage everyone to attend.

**EASTER SUNDAY:** *April 17*

**Sunrise Service** at 7:00 AM—

This will be a brief service followed by refreshments.

**Traditional Service** at 11 AM in the Sanctuary.

## RESURRECTION FLOWER CROSS

This year between the Easter Sunrise service and the regular worship service, we will have a Resurrection Flower Cross set up on the patio outside of the Narthex. We will have flowers for you to place on it, and if you would like to bring fresh flowers from your home garden, you are welcome to do so.

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING—APRIL 17

In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering—Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People—all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Please plan to make a contribution to our One Great Hour of Sharing part of your Easter celebration.

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CIRCLES IN APRIL

- The **Joy Circle** MAY meet on **Tues., April 12**, at 11:30 a.m. Contact **Anne Smith to find out!!!**
- **Friendship Circle:** **Wed., April 13 at 1:00 PM** (note change of time).
- **Red Tent Circle:** **Tues., April 12 at 7p.**

## EARTH CARE SUNDAY IS APRIL 24<sup>TH</sup>

Join us for a special service of worship as we celebrate Creation.

## GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD OFFERING

In April, we are collecting: **Canned Meats (tuna, Spam, Vienna Sausages, Ravioli, etc.) and Canned Veggies.** You may continue to drop off your contributions in the shopping cart outside the front door during office hours. On Sundays, the cart will be in the Narthex. If you wish to make a monetary donation, we will pass it along, too. Thank you for your generous donations to this local ministry!

## STATEMENT ON MASKS

On behalf of Session:

Out of an abundance of caution, we require participants attending indoor activities at Covenant to wear masks, unless Washington County is in the Yellow or Green zone on CovidActNow.org. Then masks will be optional. The weekly email announcement to prepare for worship and the signs on the church doors will have that week's color status. They may differ if the status changes after Tina posts the signs and sends the email.

## 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.”

## 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.*

*Please see your April Courier  
(extra printed copies are on the table in the Narthex)  
for the full April calendar and for birthdays and anniversaries!*

## TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:  
Liturgist:  
Clarinet:

Jim Starr  
Lauri Zembower  
Betsy Hagelberg

## CHURCH STAFF

Pastor:  
Music Director:  
Office Administrator:  
Administrative Assistant:

Rev. Maggie Rust  
Jessica Siple  
Tina Simon  
Anne Webb

## PRAYER CONCERNS

*If you know of other reasons for rejoicing or concerns you would like to share feel free to complete a prayer card with your request. Please contact the church office with any updates to this list. Names will remain in the bulletin for three weeks unless we are notified about a change.*

## Week of April 10—16, 2022

Family of Eli Cramer, Ron & Pat Smith's grandson's roommate at Milligan  
BJ King's sister, Mary Lynn  
Family of BJ King's office administrator  
Jim & Norma Starr  
Pat Smith's mother, Betty  
Sharon Fuhrman  
Rosemary Whitson's sister, Marshia Adams, and her niece  
Pat Zembower, Christian's mom  
Don & Anita Wolf, Julie Wood' parents  
Ron Smith's sister, Rhonda and her husband Joe  
Pat and Vickie Koppel, friends of Don & Patti Coble  
Steve Jones, friend of Sharon Fuhrman  
Traci Starr Honeycutt, Jim & Norma Starr's daughter  
Sarah Campbell, Sharon Fuhrman's granddaughter  
All those in our community affected by Covid-19.  
The people of Ukraine, its neighbors, and the innocent peoples of Russia.

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

Bob & Kristi Rice: South Sudan  
The Adams Maldonado Family: Frontera de Cristo  
*and these Covenant ministry partners:*

UKirk ETSU (Pres. Campus Ministry) † Holston Presbytery Camp  
LatinX Ministry † The River † BABMOC



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.



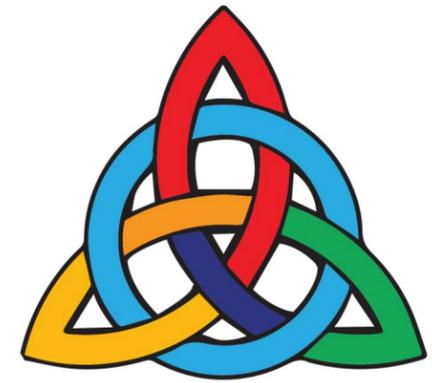
Covenant Presbyterian Church is proud to have received the designation of being an Earth Care Congregation, through the PC(USA).

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



Covenant Presbyterian Church  
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.)"



# Covenant

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY

## APRIL 10, 2022 PALM SUNDAY

## 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.