

*(As we enter the sanctuary, let us quietly prepare our hearts and minds for worship. Please silence your cell phones for the duration of the service.)*

## GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

### SOUNDING OF THE HOUR

### WELCOME

### GREETING

Leader: God rules over all: let the earth be glad!

People: **The Spirit is at work: creation is renewed!**

### PRELUDE

*"Safe Within Your Arms, Lord"*

Mark Hayes

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 26

Leader: Grant me justice in your wisdom O Lord,  
for I have walked with integrity  
and trusted in you without wavering.

People: **Search me O God, and test me.  
Examine my heart and my mind.**

Leader: For your love is always before my eyes,  
and I walk in your truth. I do not sit with  
the deceitful nor consort with hypocrites.

People: **I wash my hands in innocence and minister  
at your altar, O Lord. I lift my voice in praise  
and recount your wondrous deeds.**

Leader: Lord, I love the house in which you dwell,  
the place your glory resides.

People: **I will worship the Lord in the midst of the congregation.  
I will walk with integrity and bless God's holy name forever.**

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE # 233

*"The Day of Resurrection!"*

### CALL TO CONFESSION

*(Few moments of silent prayer)*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Creator God, we confess that all too often we have ignored and denied your lordship of the land entrusted to our care. We have assumed the right to do with it as we please, to take more from it than is sustainable, and take for granted its productivity and resources. Material values, rather than kingdom realities, have often determined our relationships, with our neighbors and with this planet we share. Lord, have mercy on us. Grant us the peace and grace to live as you intend, so that all might flourish in shalom. This we pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, our world, though broken and scarred,  
still belongs to God, who holds it together and gives us hope.  
The risen Christ is the firstborn of the new creation,  
whose reign is righteousness and peace.  
This is the good news: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

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

### SHARING THE PEACE

Leader: May the presence and power of our risen Lord fill you  
with all joy and peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

## HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

### SPECIAL MUSIC

Joe Gumina

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### FIRST LESSON (p. 127—NT)

Acts 9:1-20

### \*HYMN OF INVITATION # 5

*"God the Sculptor of the Mountains"*

### SECOND LESSON (p. 50—OT)

Exodus 3:1-12

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 Brief Statement of Faith (PCUSA)*

**In sovereign love, God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, men and women, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator and ignore God's commands. We violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet, God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her children, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, our God is forever faithful.**

### CHORAL ANTHEM *"Anthem at the Breaking of Bread"*

Tom Gibbs

Cantor: David DeWeese

### INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

#### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

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 to the Lord our God.

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

Leader: It is truly right and our greatest joy...  
...forever sing to the glory of your name:.

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.**

Leader: You are holy, O God of majesty...  
...the mystery of faith:

All: **Dying you destroyed our death.  
Rising you restore our life.  
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

Leader: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit...  
...almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*(continued)*

All: **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.**

### SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

## GOING OUT TO SERVE

\*HYMN OF BLESSING # 234 *"Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"*

### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION *"The Lord Bless and Keep You"* Peter Lutkin

\*Please rise, in body or spirit.

*All music reprinted/streamed under CCLI copyright licenses #20361799 & 11359569.*

**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.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**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.

## 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.

## JESSICA'S LAST DAY

Today is Jessica Siple's last day at Covenant. She has served as our Music Director since January 15, 2018 and has been a vital part of our services and was invaluable in seeing us through the pandemic. We will miss her beautiful music and wish her well in the future.

## NEWSLETTER

**The MAY COURIER** is on the table in the Narthex, so if you have not already received it via email, please pick up your copy. There are **extra copies** on the table if you want a printed one, but first **look to see if there's one with your name on it**. You will also find the newsletter and May's calendar **on our website** under the "Media" tab: [www.cpcjc.org](http://www.cpcjc.org).

**\*\*Please note** that there is information on the following topics in the newsletter **that are not here** in your bulletin, so be sure to read it!!!  
**Examples:** PW Women's Circle meetings, Mom Power, Congregational Life Survey, food for Good Samaritan, the church Library, Black/White Dialogue, plans for Pentecost (outdoor service), and much more!

## 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.*

### NAME TAGS AND CONTACT INFO

If you are a member or a regular visitor, or even if you have just started coming to Covenant, you **most likely** have a name badge hanging on the wall in the Narthex. We're asking **everyone** to wear their name tags while at the church to make it easier to get to know each other. **If you don't find one with your name on it, please let us know!**

Also, if you would like to be added to our **congregation-wide email list**, please send a message to Tina at [office@cpcjc.org](mailto:office@cpcjc.org). Include your address and phone number if you feel comfortable doing so.

### 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.

### 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.”

### THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

#### Today, May 1

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

#### Monday, May 2

10a—3p Good Sam Food Dropoff

#### Tuesday, May 3

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

#### Wednesday, May 4

9:30a – 2:00p	Mom Power
10a—3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
7:00p	N.A. Mtg

#### Thursday, May 5

10a—3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
Noon	Al-Anon Mtg
3:30p	Congregational Life Comm Mtg

#### Friday, May 6—Holston Camp Helpers Day

6:30p Al-Anon Mtg

#### Friday, May 7—Holston Camp Helpers Day

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

### TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:  
Liturgist:  
Soloists:

Jim Starr  
Eileen Madden  
Shawn Hale, tenor  
Joe Gumina, baritone  
David DeWeese, tenor

Covenant Chancel Choir

### 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 May 1—7, 2022

Lucas Schmidt, whose appendix burst and is now recovering from surgery.  
Annette Mullins, Holly Bland's mother  
Mary Elizabeth Armistead, Bob & Estelle's daughter-in-law, who has been diagnosed with cancer. Also her husband, Daniel.  
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 people 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.

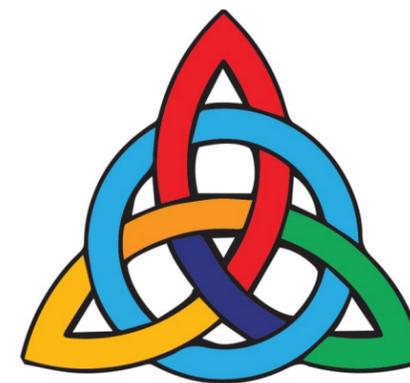


Covenant Presbyterian Church

603 Sunset Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604

423-282-5324 ♦ fax 423-282-5346 ♦ [office@cpcjc.org](mailto:office@cpcjc.org) ♦ [www.cpcjc.org](http://www.cpcjc.org)

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



# Covenant

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY

## MAY 1, 2022 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

### 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.