

(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: Christ Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega,
People: **Praise the Lord who was and is and is to come!**

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP based on Psalm 148

Leader: Alleluia! Praise the Lord! Praise God in the heavens;
all you angels, all you host, praise God in the heights!
People: **Sing praise sun and moon and all you shining stars!
Praise in the highest heavens!**

Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord
by whose command they were created.
God established them forever and ever.

People: **Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea creatures and ocean depths.
Lightening and hail, snow and frost,
and storm winds that fulfill God's word.**

Leader: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars,
wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

People: **Rulers of the earth, leaders of every nation,
young men and women alike,
old and young children together –
let all people praise the Lord!**

Leader: For God's name alone is exalted and worthy of praise.
God's glory transcends heaven and earth,
who has raised up salvation for God's people.

People: **The faithful shall forever sing the Lord's praises!
Alleluia! Praise the Lord!**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*HYMN OF PRAISE # 245 *"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!"*

CALL TO CONFESSION

(Few moments of silent prayer)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, you loved us into being, yet we often flee our responsibilities to care for your creation. When we exploit your gifts, forgive our greedy grasping. We confess our part in the devastation of our planet home, mirrored in the brokenness of our hearts and the damaged state of our relationships. Restore us, nurturing God; remind us of other ways to live and of a place called home, where creation reflects your goodness, and every living thing exists in harmony. Come set us right again and lead us home. 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

ANTHEM

"All Praise to Thee"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON (*p. 696—OT*) Isaiah 65:17-25

*HYMN OF INVITATION # 14 *"For the Beauty of the Earth"*

SECOND LESSON (*p. 259—NT*) Revelation 21:1-7

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.

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 # 41 *"O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!"*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *"Rejoice"* Sheppard

*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.

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.

CARPOOL DRIVERS NEEDED!!

Do you have room in your car on Sunday mornings for one more person? The Congregational Life Committee is looking for volunteers to help transport members of our congregation to worship and fellowship events who would otherwise not be able to attend. You don't have to sign up for a long-term, every week, every time commitment, but if you are available *sometimes*, please contact the church office or CL Committee co-chairs Stacy Larsen and Betsy Moakler. Thank you!!

PENTECOST SERVICE AND LUNCHEON

Mark your calendars: **June 5th is Pentecost!** Covenant is already making plans to celebrate the Church's Birthday. Worship that morning will be at **10:00 AM** outside (hopefully before it's too hot), followed by a Church Picnic! The meal will be catered by The Firehouse BBQ restaurant. If you wish, please bring a dessert to share with the congregation. There is no charge for the meal, although we will have a donation basket available to help offset costs. We're also looking for volunteers to help with setup and cleanup. Contact Stacy Larsen or Betsy Moakler if you can help. We hope you will join us!

2022 PENTECOST OFFERING

The Pentecost Offering will be received on Sunday, June 5. A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church as a whole to encourage, develop and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Offering will remain with Covenant and will be given to a local mission project to make an impact in the lives of young people within our own community. Please give generously.

EARTH CARE RESOURCES

We've been enjoying our Eastertide of Earth Care series this Spring. Check out our website for more resources and ideas about how we care for Creation and live out this ministry in our everyday lives.

MOM POWER—OPPORTUNITY TO HELP WITH SUPPLIES

Mom Power is going great! We have volunteers preparing a hot meal, providing hospitality, child care, and others transporting mothers and babies. This is a real Covenant group effort! **If you would like to help with supplies for the little ones, they need diapers (newborn & sizes 1 and 4); small soft balls to play with; and a size 4 soccer ball.**

Thank you to all for being a part of this ministry! As the Mom Power Team works hard to build trust within this little community please continue to pray for transformation in each life.

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. Include your address and phone number if you feel comfortable doing so. If you would like to fill out a **Visitor Card**, you'll find them in the pews and on the tables in the Narthex.

GOOD SAM OFFERING IN MAY

Baby Foods and Fruit, Pudding & Applesauce Cups or canned meats, soups, veggies, Mac 'n Cheese, cereal...let's just fill up the shopping carts!

UPDATING THE PRAYER LIST

Please remember to contact the church office in a timely manner with any updates to this list. Going forward, names will remain in the bulletin for three weeks only unless you ask to keep them on longer. Thank you.

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.”

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Today, May 22

8:30a	Issues Class on Zoom
9:30a	Sojourner's Class
9:45a	Bible Discovery Class
11:00a	Worship Service
5:30p	PW Circles at Olive Garden
7:00p	N.A. Mtg

Monday, May 23

10a—3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
7:00p	Local & World-Wide Missions Comm Mtg—Zoom
7:00p	NarAnon Mtg

Tuesday, May 24

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

Wednesday, May 25

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

Thursday, May 26

10a—3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
Noon	Al-Anon Mtg

Friday, May 27

6:30p	Al-Anon Mtg
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*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:	Jim Starr
Accompanist:	Anne Smith
Liturgist:	Stacy Larsen

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor:	Rev. Maggie Rust
Office Administrator:	Tina Simon
Administrative Assistant:	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 22—28, 2022

Traci Starr Honeycutt, Jim & Norma Starr's daughter, who is in the hospital
 Jim & Norma Starr
 Annette Mullins, Holly Bland's mother
 Don & Anita Wolf, Julie Wood' parents, who both have Covid
 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
 Pat Smith's mother, Betty
 Sharon Fuhrman
 Rosemary Whitson's sister, Marshia Adams, and her niece
 Pat Zembower, Christian's mom
 Ron Smith's sister, Rhonda and her husband Joe
 Pat and Vickie Koppel, friends of Don & Patti Coble
 Steve Jones, friend of Sharon Fuhrman
 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
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Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY

MAY 22, 2022
6TH 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.