

*(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: The Lamb of God is our Good Shepherd.  
People: **The Lord will guide us to the water of life.**

PRELUDE "The Gentle Savior" Kenney

\*CALL TO WORSHIP based on Psalm 23

Leader: Lord, you are my shepherd; I want for nothing.  
People: **You let me lie down in green meadows;  
you lead me beside still waters;  
you refresh and restore my soul.  
You guide me to lush pastures  
for the sake of your righteous name.**

Leader: Even if I'm surrounded by the shadows of death,  
I fear no danger, for you are with me.

People: **Your rod and your staff give me courage and comfort.**

Leader: You spread a table for me in the presence of my enemies,  
you anoint my head with oil. My cup overflows!

People: **Surely goodness and love will follow me  
all the days of my life, and I will dwell  
in your house, O Lord, for days without end.**

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

\*HYMN OF PRAISE # 803 "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

### CALL TO CONFESSION

*(Few moments of silent prayer)*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Creator God, the earth is full of your creatures; in wisdom you have made them all, and you have delivered us into one another's care, asking that we love as you first loved us. But we have fostered discord rather than unity, contempt rather than respect, ignorance rather than love. Our way has led to extinction, where you intended flourishing and life. Lead us back to your path Lord, as you have promised. Gather your flock, restore us to harmony, and reconcile us in your spirit of peace. 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 "Fairer Lord Jesus"

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON (p. 103—NT) John 10:7-18

\*HYMN OF INVITATION # 15 "All Creatures of our God and King"

SECOND LESSON (p. 554—OT) Psalm 104

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 # 42 "Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure"

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE "Legions for Christ" Wilson/Barnby

\*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.

## BLACK/WHITE DIALOGUE—MON., MAY 9, 2022 ON ZOOM

The May 9<sup>th</sup> meeting will take place on Zoom from 6—8 PM. It will be co-sponsored by the Johnson City/Washington County NAACP and Black/White Dialogue and will feature Dr. Cerrone Foster as our presenter/facilitator. Her discussion will focus on "The Biology of Race." In addition, Dr. Foster will likely discuss her commitment to mentoring and preparing the next generation to carry on the progress of our culture. *Please email Ed Wolff at bbwolff1937@gmail.com for your Zoom invitation.*

## PW CIRCLES IN MAY

- The **Joy Circle** MAY meet on Tuesday, May 10, at 11:30 AM. Contact Anne Smith to find out!!!
- The **Friendship Circle** will meet on Wed., May 11 at 1:30 PM. Elaine Warehime is the contact person.
- The **Red Tent Circle** will meet on Thursday, May 12 at 7:00 PM. BJ King is the contact person.

## CHURCH SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY—SAT., MAY 14, 2022

**Please join the Property Committee for Church Spring Clean-Up Day!** (*rain date is May 21.*) Some of us will begin at 8:30 AM, others at 9:00 AM and continue until we are done or until everyone gets tired. The Committee will have some cleaning materials available, but everyone is encouraged to bring cleaning-type supplies and materials, such as cleaning cloths/buckets/brooms/step ladders, etc. The work tasks will be split into groups such as window cleaning group, floor cleaning group, landscape bed cleaning, etc., so come prepared to work on a particular task, or several. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact a Property Committee member.

## WATAUGA AVE. VEGGIE DISTRIBUTION—SAT., MAY 14

Our friends at Watauga Avenue Presbyterian Church are again distributing plants to residents in the Johnson City Housing Authority. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> year of their partnership with Evergreen Nurseries to provide tomato, pepper, and marigold plants (along with soil) to our neighbors in the community, and they've asked us to help! They will be delivering the plants to 125 households and could use more volunteers. Interested helpers should meet in the Watauga Ave. Parking Lot at 9:00 AM on Saturday, May 14th, to pick up their plants and receive a route assignment for deliveries.

## 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.

## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE SURVEY

As we continue to define our "new normal" we need to better understand how the congregation is feeling about gatherings and to see what activities you are interested in participating in. There is a brief survey on the table in the Narthex. Please fill it out and return it to the collection box located on the table outside the sanctuary where the bulletins are located or in the church office. On behalf of the Congregational Life team, thank you for sharing your thoughts and ideas.

## 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.

## GOOD SAM OFFERING IN MAY

Baby Foods and Fruit, Pudding & Applesauce Cups.

## 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 8

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 9

10a—3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
6p—8p	Black/White Dialogue on Zoom

### Tuesday, May 10

10a—3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
10:00a	Al-Anon Mtg
11:30a	Joy Circle (?)
7:00p	Al-Anon Mtg
7:00p	Property Comm Mtg

### Wednesday, May 11

9:30a – 2:00p	Mom Power
10a—3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
1:30p	Friendship Circle
7:00p	N.A. Mtg

### Thursday, May 12

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

### Friday, May 13

6:30p	Al-Anon Mtg
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### Friday, May 14

Morning	Church Spring Clean-Up Day!
9:00a	Watauga Ave. Veggie Distribution 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:  
Accompanist:  
Liturgist:

Jim Starr  
Anne Smith  
Christian Zembower

Covenant Chancel Choir

## CHURCH STAFF

Pastor:  
Office Administrator:  
Administrative Assistant:

Rev. Maggie Rust  
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 8—14, 2022

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  
Charles Trifiletti  
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.

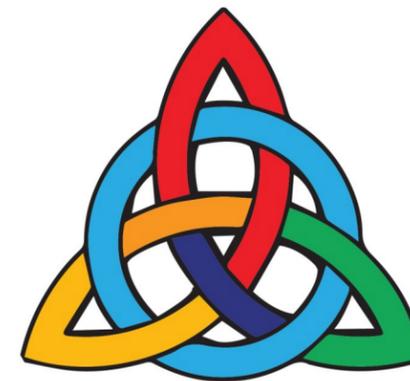


Covenant Presbyterian Church

603 Sunset Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604

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

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



# Covenant

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY

## MAY 8, 2022 4<sup>TH</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.