

*(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 angels announced good news of great joy:

People: **Glory to God in heaven, and on earth peace to all.**

### PRELUDE

\*CALL TO WORSHIP based on Psalm 98

Leader: Sing a new song to the Lord, who has worked wonders,  
whose holy arm has brought deliverance!  
The Lord has made salvation known  
and has shown justice to the nations.

People: **All the ends of the earth have seen the glory of our God.  
Shout to the Most High, all the earth,  
break into joyous songs of praise!**

Leader: Sing praise to God with the harp and melodious singing!  
With trumpet and the blast of the horn,  
raise a shout to God, the ruler of all!

People: **Let the sea and all within it thunder;  
the world and all its peoples.  
Let the rivers clap their hands  
and the hills ring out their joy.**

Leader: The Lord comes to judge the earth,  
who will rule with justice and equity.

People: **Let us sing to the God of our salvation!  
Let us worship the Lord together.**

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

\*HYMN OF PRAISE # 113 *“Angels We Have Heard on High”*

### CALL TO CONFESSION

*(Few moments of silent prayer)*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ you came among us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not always welcomed the light or trusted the good news to be good. We have closed our eyes to the glory in our midst, expecting little and hoping for less. Forgive us our doubts and uncertainty; renew our hope, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace and live in the truth of Christ Jesus our incarnate Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, God has poured out the Holy Spirit upon us through Jesus our Savior, so that having been justified by his grace, we might have the hope of eternal life. This is the good news: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

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

### SHARING THE PEACE

Leader: As Christ took on flesh, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony, so that the peace of Christ might rule in your hearts. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

## HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON (p. 215—NT)

Titus 3:4-7

\*HYMN OF INVITATION # 118 *“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”*

SECOND LESSON (p. 58—NT)

Luke 2:1-20

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

Rev. Maggie Rust

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### 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.**

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 # 134

*“Joy to the World”*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

\*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 and church membership.

**The church office will be closed on Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup>.**

### 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.

### SPECIAL OFFERING AFGHAN REFUGEE FAMILY

For the last several months, Covenant's Mission Team has been partnering with Jonesborough Presbyterian Church in the process of co-sponsoring an Afghan refugee family. We are on track to welcome this family to Johnson City in the month of July! Given the inherent expenses of setting up a new home, purchasing clothes and household goods, and everything that comes with a transition of this magnitude, **Covenant is taking up a special offering for this family.** Please give generously as the Spirit leads you! If we hear of other specific needs or ways to help these new neighbors, we'll let you know. (Please make checks payable to Covenant and note “refugee” in the memo line.)

### TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME!!

Join us for an evening of baseball on **Wednesday July 13<sup>th</sup>!** The Johnson City Doughboys will be playing the Greeneville Flyboys at 7:00 PM. Come and sit with Covenant friends to root for the home team!

### SUMMER FUN—SATURDAY, JULY 30!!

Mark Your Calendars!! There will be a **Church-Wide Picnic & Pool Party** on Saturday, July 30 beginning at 6 PM at Betsy Moakler's clubhouse. (103 Sugarmill Drive) BBQ will be provided—please bring a side dish or a dessert to share. There will also be a chance to become the first-ever “Checkers Champion of Covenant”—all are encouraged to compete!

### MOM POWER

Mom Power concluded its 10-week session on Wednesday. It was a very successful and meaningful time for the participants. Thank you to everybody who helped out. Our prayers will continue to be with these families in our community.

## **BLACK/WHITE DIALOGUE—MONDAY, JULY 11, 2022**

The July meeting of Black/White Dialogue will be held **in person** on Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup> from 6—8p in the Fellowship Hall. Finger foods will be served by Taste Budz. Contributions toward the food are appreciated. The subject this month is “Addressing Inequities and Disparities in Our Health Care System.” Everyone is invited.

## **AN OPPORTUNITY TO HELP FEED LOCAL CHILDREN**

As you might be aware, the Langston Centre has weekly summer camps for children through the end of July. These camps are part of the **summer feeding program** through the Johnson City schools, but that feeding program ended in June. Langston provides a morning and afternoon snack along with lunch to the children in the camps. They have 33 students registered every week of camp, and it costs approximately \$123 a week to feed the campers. (They will not be hosting a camp the week of July 4<sup>th</sup>.) They also provide bottled water (small 8 oz.) to the campers and are always in need of water. Dropping off cases of water or grocery/Sam’s Club gift cards would be much appreciated. Langston Centre is located at 315 Elm St in Johnson City. Or, if you would like to drop these items off at the church, we will arrange for them to be taken to the Langston Centre for you.

## **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, July 3**

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, July 4—Independence Day**

**Church Office Closed**

7:00p	NarAnon Mtg
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### **Tuesday, July 5**

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

### **Wednesday, July 6**

10a—3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
7:00p	N.A. Mtg

### **Thursday, July 7**

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

### **Friday, July 8**

6:30p	Al-Anon Mtg
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Please see your July Courier for the full July calendar and for **birthdays and anniversaries**. Extra printed copies are on the table in the Narthex.

The Courier & Calendar are also posted on our website at [www.cpcjc.org](http://www.cpcjc.org).

## **GOOD SAM FOOD OFFERING FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR**

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

## **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.*

## **TODAY AT COVENANT**

Morning Greeter:	Jim Starr
Accompanist:	Liesl Huhn
Liturgist:	Mary O’Keeffe

## **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 July 3—9, 2022**

Maggie Rust & her family; Jim & Norma Starr and Keaton & Kaden Honeycutt; Tristan Wood, David & Julie Wood’s daughter-in-law; Rosemary Whitson; Charlotte Brumit, Betsy Moakler’s mother; Marian Norman, close friend of Frankie Wolff for over 60 years; Pat Smith; Annette Mullins, Holly Bland’s mother; BJ King’s sister, Mary Lynn; Pat Smith’s mother, Betty; Sharon Fuhrman; Pat Zembower, Christian’s mom; All those affected by gun violence; 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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Facebook: “Covenant Presbyterian Church (Johnson City, TN.)”



# Covenant

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY

## JULY 3, 2022

## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## CHRISTMAS IN JULY

## **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.