

*(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 earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it;

People: **The world and all who live in it belong to God!**

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

from Rev. M. Barclay

Leader: God is calling us  
Out of the places we hide  
Out of insecurity  
Out of shame  
Out from under that which silences love and justice.

People: **Come out, people of God!**

Leader: Though we may be afraid  
Though we will be at risk  
Though the cross stands as a threat

People: **God calls us to courage!**

Leader: Our God is a god of resurrection.  
Of new life after devastation.  
Of hope in the grip of evil.  
And so we dare to proclaim,  
with pride and faith, our truths:

People: **We believe in the power of love.  
We believe in solidarity with the suffering.  
We believe we are each valuable.  
We believe that our togetherness is transformative.**

Leader: The world is longing for Holy truths that reveal,  
voices that speak real words of hope.

People: **Come out, people of God!**

#### **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

#### **\*HYMN OF PRAISE # 301**

*“Let Us Build a House”*

#### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

*(Few moments of silent prayer)*

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of love, in the wrong we have done and the good that we have left undone, we have sinned in ignorance; we have sinned in weakness; we have sinned through our own deliberate fault. Forgive us. God of grace, as we repent and turn to you, as we express our sorrow and remorse, as we seek your will and way in our lives and our communities, show us your shalom. God of joy, teach us to delight in your goodness, reflected in one another, and lead us to new life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: Friends, God’s love is poured out through the Holy Spirit.  
This is love from God’s own heart, which cleanses and renews.  
This is the good news of the gospel:  
in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

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

#### **SHARING THE PEACE**

Leader: God has given us a new commandment:  
to love one another as Christ loves us.  
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. 158—NT)**

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

\*HYMN OF INVITATION *(see insert)* “*God Loves Us in Mysterious Ways*”  
(tune: ST. FLAVIAN)

#### **SECOND LESSON (p. 104—NT)**

John 11:1-6, 17-44

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 Westminster Confession*

**God in infinite and perfect love, having provided in the covenant of grace, through the mediation and sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ, a way of life and salvation, sufficient for and adapted to the whole lost race of humanity, doth freely offer this salvation to all in the gospel. All those that are justified, God vouchsafeth, in and for God’s only Son Jesus Christ, to make partakers of the grace of adoption: by which they are taken into the number and enjoy the liberties and privileges of the children of God; have God’s name put upon them; receive the Spirit of adoption; have access to the throne of grace with boldness; are enabled to cry, ‘Abba, Father’; are pitied, protected, provided for, and chastened by God as by a parent, yet never cast off, but sealed to the day of redemption, and inherit the promises as heirs of everlasting salvation.**

#### **OFFERTORY**

#### **A PRAYER TO THE GOD WHO IS QUEER**

Rev. M. Barclay

**Queer One, You are the strangest of us all.**

**For centuries we have tried to encapsulate you with words and ideas,  
and yet, you just keep spilling over every boundary we construct.**

**Just when we think we’ve got you figured out, you surprise us,  
confront us, bewilder us.**

**You make the “strange” sacred.**

**Like the queer creations you delight in,  
you are so ordinary and everyday while simultaneously outside  
of the norm, the definable, the respectable.**

**We are so used to looking for you in the people, places, and actions  
that don’t challenge us.**

**And so, when you took on flesh in the person of Jesus Christ,  
we called you queer.**

**Because of the ways you loved, the people you hung out with,  
the borders you transgressed, you were named:  
freak. abomination. godless.**

**When we are uncomfortable with the way others love and look and  
live, especially when it challenges our conceptions of you,  
we join our ancestors in condemning you all over again.**

**We struggle to learn our lesson. In all the ways you are queer,  
our lives are more enriched by the invitation to deepen and  
broaden our understanding of what is holy.**

*(continued)*

**May we be summoned into the same joyful reflection when we  
encounter queerness wherever it manifests.**

**To follow you, O God, is anything but a straight path.**

**Give us the courage to go in whatever directions we are led by love.**

**And if we find that others begin to think us peculiar as well,  
remind us of the good company we share.**

**In the name of the One who transgresses every norm that binds,  
may it be so. Amen.**

## **GOING OUT TO SERVE**

\*HYMN OF BLESSING *(see insert)* “*God of Queer, Transgressive Spaces*”  
(tune: CONVERSE)

#### **\*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 flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Frank Lamons by his daughters, Linda Honaker and Betsy North.*

## **NEXT WEEK—CHRISTMAS IN JULY!**

We will have a special worship service next Sunday, July 3, with Christmas carols followed by cookies and fellowship time. We hope you will join us!

## **SPECIAL OFFERING AFGHAN REFUGEE FAMILY—JULY 3**

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 will be taking up a special offering next Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

## **COMMUNION NEXT SUNDAY**

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

## **NEWSLETTER**

The **JULY COURIER** will be mailed/e-mailed to you this week. (OR it’s on the table in the Narthex.) You will also be able to find the newsletter and July’s calendar on our website under the “Media” tab: [www.cpcjc.org](http://www.cpcjc.org).

## 2022 PENTECOST OFFERING

There is still time to give to the Pentecost Offering. Your gift 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.

## 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.

## 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, June 26

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, June 27

10a—3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
7:00p	NarAnon Mtg

### Tuesday, June 28

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

### Wednesday, June 29

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

### Thursday, June 30

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

### Friday, July 1

6:30p	Al-Anon Mtg
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### Saturday, July

9a—1p	N.A. Mtg
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Please see your June Courier for the full June 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).

## TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:	Jim Starr
Accompanist:	Liesl Huhn
Liturgist:	Eileen Madden

## 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 June 26—July 2, 2022

Jim & Norma Starr and Keaton & Kaden Honeycutt  
Tristan Wood, David & Julie Wood's daughter-in-law  
Rosemary Whitson, tested positive for Covid  
Charlotte Brumit, Betsy Moakler's mother  
Marian Norman, close friend of Frankie Wolff for over 60 years, just diagnosed with ALS.  
Pat Smith, recovering from surgery  
Annette Mullins, Holly Bland's mother  
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  
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.

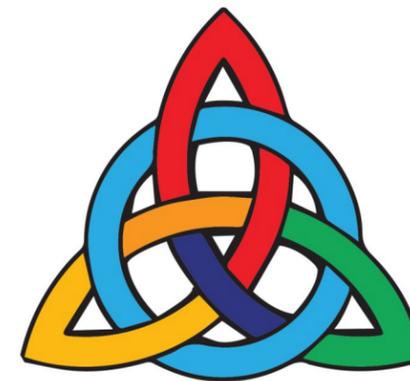


Covenant Presbyterian Church

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

## JUNE 26, 2022

## 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## PRIDE 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.