

(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

PRELUDE # 455 "Listen to the Word God Has Spoken"

***CALL TO WORSHIP** based on Psalm 126

Leader: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, it was like a dream.

People: **Our mouths were filled with laughter and our tongues with shouts of joy!**

Leader: Then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."

People: **The Lord has indeed been faithful to us, and so we rejoice!**

Leader: O Lord, once again set free the captives and make streams flow through the driest desert. Restore and redeem your people.

People: **May those who sow now in tears, reap with shouts of joy. Let those who go out weeping, return with songs of praise as they carry the harvest home.**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

***HYMN OF PRAISE # 852** "When the Lord Redeems the Very Least"

CALL TO CONFESSION

The psalmist prays: "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wickedness in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." Let us express our own longing for God's leading in our lives through prayer together, beginning with silent reflection...

(Few moments of silent prayer)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the old, old story, we hear the witness of our ancestors, the saints who have gone before, and we are astounded by their faith. They trusted where you led, but we waver and would rather walk our own way. They believed in your promise, but we too often cling to our own ideas. Forgive us and free us from our fear, that we may follow with joy your path of life and love, through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: The psalmist testifies: "Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you are acquainted with all my ways. You hem me in, behind and before. Your Spirit is always with me, your hand guides me and holds me fast." Friends, nothing can separate us from the love and mercy of God. in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

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

SHARING THE PEACE

Leader: Our God is a very present help in trouble, ready to guide us into the ways of peace. 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. 10—OT) Genesis 12:1-7

***HYMN OF INVITATION # 687** "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

SECOND LESSON (p. 196—NT) Philippians 1:1-18

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Rev. Maggie Rust

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

VIDEO STORYTELLING Jim Starr

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** from *the Confession of 1967*

New life in Christ takes shape in community in which we know that God loves and accepts us in spite of our sin. We therefore accept ourselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace. Christian community nurtures the life of faith and equips us for ministry. The church goes out to serve God wherever its members are, at work or play, in private or in the life of society. Our prayer and Bible study are part of the church's worship and theological reflection. Our witness is the church's evangelism. Our daily action in the world is the church in mission in the world. The quality of our relation with other persons is the measure of the church's fidelity. Each member is the church in the world, endowed by the Spirit with some gift of ministry.

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 # 839** "Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!"

***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, and place it in the offering plate. 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.

CPC T-Shirts: Please see your insert to order!!!!

CHURCH-WIDE PICNIC/POOL PARTY—SAT., JULY 30!!

Get ready to have some fun!! 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!

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR AFGHAN REFUGEE FAMILY

Covenant continues to take 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.)

AN OPPORTUNITY TO HELP FEED LOCAL CHILDREN

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 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.

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!

BEAR ANOTHER'S BURDENS MINISTRY OF CHRIST (BABMOC)

BABMOC to Kick Off "Backpacks for BABMOC School" drive with Wilfred Williams Free Soccer Camp

Professional soccer player and coach Wilfred Williams is holding this one-day camp and is asking that all proceeds go to BABMOC Free Elementary School in Liberia, West Africa. A former Science Hill Topper, Coach Williams was born in Liberia. **The camp will be free!** Parents and players are encouraged to make donations of soccer cleats, jerseys, and equipment. Our students in Liberia are also in need of **backpacks** that are in good condition and **school supplies**. **Monetary** donations will also be accepted.

When: Saturday, August 6th from 9 AM to 1 PM

Who: Children ages 5 to 17 and all parents and friends of BABMOC are welcome to hang out and have fellowship.

Where: Civitan Park, 1000 N Broadway St., Johnson City

What to Bring: Soccer ball, water to last four hours, snacks, sunscreen

How else can you help? If you are unable to attend but still would like to help BABMOC Students, please bring **cleats, jerseys, and backpacks** to Covenant Tuesdays thru Thursdays up until September 15th. Backpacks can be filled with school supplies such as pens, pencils, erasers, composition books, pencil sharpeners, compasses, rulers, protractors, and glue sticks.

Come to the BABMOC Open House—Sunday, August 7 at 3 PM

We are having a BABMOC Open House to thank our supporters on Sunday, August 7th at 3 PM. Isaac Mayon plans to be in attendance and give an update on the school. It will be at the Cary's house, 601 Douglas Drive in Johnson City.

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.*

GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER

Do you have a name tag? If you are a member or a regular visitor, or even if you have just started coming to Covenant, you **most likely** have one 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 Tina know!** (*office@cpcjc.org or 423-282-5324*)

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 24

8:30a	Issues Class on Zoom
9:45a	Bible Discovery Class
11:00a	Worship Service
4:00p	Library reserved
7:00p	N.A. Mtg

Monday, July 25

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

Tuesday, July 26

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

Wednesday, July 27

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

Thursday, July 28

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

Friday, July 29

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

6:00p	Church Picnic & Pool Party!!!
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Please see your July Courier for **birthdays and anniversaries**, and the full July calendar for this month's events. Extra printed copies are on the table in the Narthex. The Courier & Calendar are also posted on our website at www.cpcjc.org.

TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:
Liturgist:

Jim Starr
Ron Smith

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 July 24—30, 2022

Cynthia Erdei, recovering from knee surgery at NHC
Sharon Benner
Helen Davis
Christian Zembower & his family
Maggie Rust & her family
Jim & Norma Starr and Keaton & Kaden Honeycutt
Tristan Wood, David & Julie Wood's daughter-in-law
Charlotte Brumit, Betsy Moakler's mother
Marian Norman, close friend of Frankie Wolff
Annette Mullins, Holly Bland's mother
BJ King's sister, Mary Lynn
Pat Smith's mother, Betty
Sharon Fuhrman

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 ☎ www.cpcjc.org

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



Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY

JULY 24, 2022

7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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.