

*(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**

### **GREETING**

Leader: Live as children of the light.

People: **Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.**

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP** based on Psalm 146

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing to my God all the days of my life.

People: **Put not your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help. When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that day their plans perish.**

Leader: Happy are those whose help is in the Lord, who hope in the Lord, the God who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in it.

People: **God keeps faith forever; the Lord executes justice for the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.**

Leader: The Lord sets the prisoners free and opens the eyes of the blind. God watches over the stranger and upholds the orphan and widow.

People: **The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down and loves the righteous. The Lord will reign forever, throughout all generations.**

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

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE # 475** *“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”*

### **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 compassion and mercy, we sometimes fail to see what you are doing in the world. We want you to act in ways we predict, but we forget: you do what is good, not what is expected. Forgive us when we do not recognize your miracles among us. Forgive us when we doubt the wisdom of your actions. Forgive us when we do not respond to your call, avoiding or ignoring what we need to do to let the world see your love and grace. 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 Christ, we are forgiven.

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

### **SHARING THE PEACE**

Leader: As we are reconciled to God in Christ, we are called to live in peace with one another. 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. 43—NT)

Mark 8:22-26

**\*HYMN OF INVITATION # 450**

*“Be Thou My Vision”*

**SECOND LESSON** (p. 192—NT)

Ephesians 1:3-23

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### **SERMON**

Rev. Maggie Rust

### **STORIES FROM HOLSTON CAMP**

Hal & Gwen Hunter

## **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

**\*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.**

### **OFFERTORY**

### **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 # 546** *“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”*

**\*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.

**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.

### **ENTERED INTO THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT:**

Helen Davis — July 26, 2022

*The congregation expresses its deepest sympathy to the family of Helen Davis.*

## **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 **AUGUST COURIER** is on the table in the Narthex and has been emailed to you. There are extra printed copies on the table. You will also be able to find the newsletter and August’s calendar on our website under the “Media” tab: [www.cpcjc.org](http://www.cpcjc.org).

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

## **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.)

## **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 6<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup>. 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 7<sup>th</sup> from 3—5 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.

**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.*

**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@cpjc.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 31**

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

**Monday, August 1**

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

**Tuesday, August 2**

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

**Wednesday, August 3**

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

**Thursday, August 4**

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

**Friday, August 5**

6:30p Al-Anon Mtg

**Saturday, August 6**

9a—1p BABMOC Soccer Camp

**Sunday, August 7**

3p—5p BABMOC Open House at the Carys

*Please see your August Courier for birthdays and anniversaries, and the full August calendar for this months’ events . 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  
Liturgist: Betsy Moakler  
Accompanist: David Butzu

**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 31—August 6, 2022**

Felix Emmanuel Wood, David & Julie Wood’s new grandson  
Cynthia Erdei  
Sharon Benner  
Christian Zembower & his family  
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.

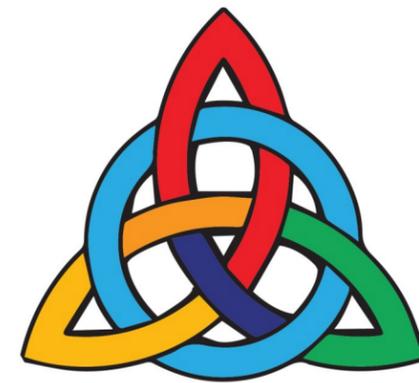


Covenant Presbyterian Church is proud to have received the designation of being an Earth Care Congregation, through the PC (USA).

Covenant Presbyterian Church has been certified as a **Recovery Congregation** by the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.



Covenant Presbyterian Church  
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Facebook: “Covenant Presbyterian Church (Johnson City, TN)”



# Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY**

**JULY 31, 2022**

**8<sup>TH</sup> 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.