

*(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: God's grace is sufficient for us;

People: **In Christ, the weak are made strong.**

### PRELUDE

\*CALL TO WORSHIP based on Psalm 30

Leader: I will praise you, O God, because you raised me up.  
When I cried to you for help, the Lord answered me.  
You healed me and spared me from the pit.

People: **Sing praises, you that love the Lord!  
Praise God's holy name!**

Leader: The anger of the Lord is fleeting,  
but God's favor endures forever.  
There may be tears in the night,  
but joy comes in the morning.

People: **When I stood in your favor, O Lord,  
I stood as firm as a mountain.  
But when you hid yourself from me,  
I was filled with terror.**

Leader: I called to the Lord for help:  
"What good would come from my destruction?  
Can the dust sing your praises, O Lord?  
Hear me and be merciful!"

People: **Then you changed my despair into a dance –  
you stripped off the death shroud and clothed me with joy!  
My heart will sing to you and I will not be silent.  
The Lord is my God and I will give thanks forever!**

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

\*HYMN OF PRAISE # 645 *"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"*

### 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

**Holy God, you have loved us from the beginning. Forgive us when we do not share your love with the world: when we choose selfishness over compassion; what feels comfortable rather than what is right; when we strive for success instead of faithfulness. Forgive us, O God, for all the ways we fall short. Free us to try again, that we might be led in your way of love by 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 Christ, we are forgiven.

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

### SHARING THE PEACE

Leader: Friends, rejoice that your names are written in heaven.  
Christ has gone to prepare a place for you,  
that we may abide forever in his 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. 76—NT)

Luke 13:10-17

\*HYMN OF INVITATION # 833

*"O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"*

SECOND LESSON (p. 191—NT)

Galatians 6:9-18

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

Rev. Maggie Rust

### STORIES FROM JOHN GOLDEN, DIRECTOR OF UKIRK

## 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 # 295

*"Go 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.

**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.

## 2022 TRIPRIDE FESTIVAL—SATURDAY, AUGUST 27

The annual TriPride Festival is in **Bristol** this year at Cumberland Square Park, 200 Lee Street, Bristol, VA. The parade will be down State Street in both TN and VA and begins at 11:00a. The festival begins immediately after, around Noon. The event is free, but tickets are required to enter the festival grounds. Register online at <https://www.tripridetn.org/pride2022/#tickets> or get your free ticket at the gate. Covenant will have a table at the event, and we are looking for volunteers to help us greet our neighbors and pass out popsicles. If you're available to help, please let the church office know! This is a large event so we will be carpooling. Let us know if you plan to attend. More details will be shared as we have them.

## BACKPACKS FOR BABMOC

We are collecting backpacks and school supplies for the BABMOC students. You may bring your items to Covenant Tuesdays thru Thursdays (and Sundays, of course) 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. Thank you for your generosity!

## UKIRK CAMPUS MINISTRY MEALS

It's August, which means the new semester is beginning at ETSU! As students come back to campus, UKirk is planning for another great year of ministry! If you'd like to help sponsor a Monday night meal, please sign-up online (check your email for the link). Everyone be in prayer for these students and for our friend, UKirk Chaplain John Golden!

## FLOOD RELIEF

The flooding our neighbors in Eastern KY are experiencing has left devastating damage. The Holston Presbytery is helping organize a couple of aid efforts:

First Presbyterian Church, Bristol is collecting supplies throughout the month of August. There may also be opportunities to volunteer to help transport these items to the areas where they will be distributed.

The most needed items to donate are:

- Large cases of bottled water (please bring packs of at least 24)
- Large packs of diapers, variable sizes
- Large packets of baby wipes

FPC Bristol is also accepting donations of "Clean-Up Buckets" - more information on these can be found on the table in the Narthex.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is also on the ground. If you would like to give money to support relief efforts, or volunteer to go with a PDA group, you can do so at their website [pda.pcusa.org](http://pda.pcusa.org). You can also donate through the church: please make your checks payable to Covenant and note "flood relief" in the memo.

## 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](mailto:office@cpcjc.org) or 423-282-5324)

## 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.*

## 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!

## 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, August 21

8:30a	Issues Class on Zoom
9:15a	Sojourner's Class on Zoom
9:45a	Bible Discovery Class
11:00a	Worship Service
1p—4p	N.A. Area Mtg
7:00p	N.A. Mtg

### Monday, August 22

10a—3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
7:00p	LWWM Mtg on Zoom

### Tuesday, August 23

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

### Wednesday, August 24

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

### Thursday, August 25

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

### Friday, August 26

6:30p	Al-Anon Mtg
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### Saturday, August 27

**TriPride Parade & Festival**

*Please see your August Courier for **birthdays** and **anniversaries**, and the full August 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](http://www.cpcjc.org).*

## TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeters:	Jim Starr & Tony Madden
Liturgist:	Gwen Hunter
Accompanist:	David Butzu

## CHURCH STAFF

Pastor:	Rev. Maggie Rust
Office Administrator:	Tina Simon

## 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 August 21—27, 2022

Jim Starr and his grandchildren, Keaton & Kaden  
Pat and Vickie Koppel, friends of Don & Patti Coble  
Felix Emmanuel Wood, David & Julie Wood's new grandson  
David Armistead, Bob & Estelle's nephew  
Annette Mullins, Holly Bland's mother  
Cynthia Erdei  
Sharon Benner  
Christian Zembower & his family  
Charlotte Brumit, Betsy Moakler'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).

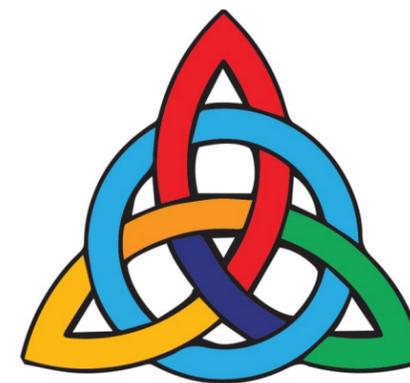
Covenant Presbyterian Church has been certified as a **Recovery Congregation** by the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.



Covenant Presbyterian Church

603 Sunset Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604

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



# Covenant

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY

## AUGUST 21, 2022

## 11<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.