

*(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 has promised us a new creation

People: **where righteousness shall be at home.**

### PRELUDE

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 104

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul.  
O Lord my God, you are very great.  
Clothed in honor and majesty,  
wrapped in light as with a garment,  
you stretch out the heavens like a tent.  
You set the earth on its foundations,  
so that it shall never be shaken.

People: **You make springs gush forth in the valleys  
and flow between the hills.**

**Every wild animal receives a drink to quench their thirst.**

Leader: By the streams, the birds of the air nest and sing among the  
branches of trees. From your lofty abode, you water the  
mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.

People: **You cause grass to grow for cattle  
and plants for people to cultivate.  
From the earth you bring forth food:  
wine to gladden the heart,  
oil to make the face shine,  
and bread to strengthen the body.**

Leader: O Lord, how manifold are your works!  
In wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your creatures.  
In the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there;  
the high mountains are for the wild goats  
and the rocks are a refuge for the badger.

People: **All look to you for their food in due season;  
when you open your hand they are filled with good things.  
When you hide your face they are dismayed;  
they return to the dust.  
When you send forth your spirit,  
they are created and you renew the face of the ground.**

Leader: May the glory of the Lord endure forever;  
may God find delight in his works.  
I will sing praise to God as long as I live.

People: **May my meditation be pleasing to God,  
for I rejoice in the Lord. Bless the Lord, O my soul.**

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE # 32

*"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"*

### CALL TO CONFESSION

*(Few moments of silent prayer)*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Creator God, your vision of peace is beyond our knowing. We  
have been hurt and we have seen destruction, so we in turn hurt  
others and destroy what you have called good. Forgive us Lord,  
and fill us with your knowledge and grace, so that we may help  
bring forth your peaceful reign, through Jesus Christ in whom we  
pray. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Beloved of God, know this: the God of Presence,  
the God of Transformation, the God of Peace,  
hears our prayers and grants us  
the mercy to live together in shalom.  
Through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

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

### SHARING THE PEACE

Leader: As people forgiven by the abundant grace of God, we are at  
peace with God, and we are called to live in peace  
with one another. The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

## HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### FIRST LESSON (p. 158—NT)

Romans 8:19-25

### \*HYMN OF INVITATION # 370

*"This Is My Father's World"*

### SECOND LESSON (p. 640—OT)

Isaiah 11:1-9

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

Rev. Maggie Rust

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

### ANTHEM

*"Creation will be at Peace"*

Anna Laura Page

### \*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.**

*(continued)*

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: **Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

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 # 378

*"We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom"*

### \*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.

## 5 CENTS A MEAL OFFERING

The basket is out 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.

## BACKPACKS FOR BABMOC

We continue to collect backpacks and school supplies for the BABMOC students. Bring your items to Covenant 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!

## PRESBYTERIAN Women's Circles

### “Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God’s Gift of Rest and Delight”

by Carol M. Bechtel

All of the women of the church, and friends, are invited to attend our monthly PW Circle study groups, which are resuming for the fall. There are three (3) groups from which to choose: two daytime and one in the evening. All 3 use the same study book, available for pick up on the table in the church office. If you are interested in learning more about the PW Circles, please connect with one the contacts.

- **Friendship Circle** meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 1:30 PM in the church library. First meeting will be on **Wed., Sept. 14**. Contact this year is Rosemary Whitson.
- **Red Tent Circle** normally meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at the home of BJ King (through December). The first meeting, though, will be on **Thurs., Sept. 15** (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday). Contact is BJ King.
- **Joy Circle** meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 11:30 AM in the pavilion at Metro Kiwanis Park. First meeting will be on **Tues., Sept. 13**. Contact is Anne Smith.

## PATH OF PEACE DAILY REFLECTIONS

As we move into the **2022 Season of Peace**, there is a set of daily devotions available from the Presbyterian Mission Agency. The writers cover four areas of peace work:

- Week 1** Sept. 4-10: Climate Change
- Week 2** Sept. 11-17: Non-Violence
- Week 3** Sept. 18-24: The Intersection Between Race and Poverty
- Week 4** Sept. 24-Oct. 2: Immigration and Migration

You can subscribe to these reflections for daily delivery into your inbox or download and print the written portion of the reflections as a devotional resource. Please contact the office for the links.

## 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](mailto: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.”

Please see your September Courier for **birthdays** and **anniversaries**, and the full September calendar for this month's events.

## TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeters: Jim Starr & Stacy Larsen  
Liturgist: Anne Smith  
Accompanist: Liesl Huhn  
Nursery: Julie Wood & Pat Smith

## CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Maggie Rust  
Director of Music: Dr. Matthew Potterton  
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 September 4—10, 2022

Cynthia Erdei  
Bob, Estelle, & Rob Armistead  
Jim Starr and his grandchildren, Keaton & Kaden  
Charlotte Brumit, Betsy Moakler's mother  
Pat and Vickie Koppel, friends of Don & Patti Coble  
David Armistead, Bob & Estelle's nephew  
Annette Mullins, Holly Bland's mother  
BJ King's sister, Mary Lynn  
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.

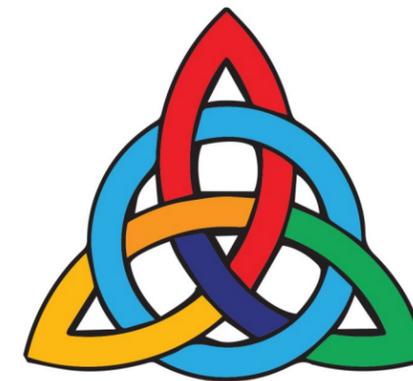


Covenant Presbyterian Church

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



# Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY**

**SEPTEMBER 4, 2022**

**13<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.