

(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: Give thanks to God for the faith we share;

People: **Be steadfast in hope through Christ Jesus our Lord.**

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 121

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills –
from where will my help come?

People: **My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**

Leader: God will not let your foot be moved;
the Lord who keeps you will not slumber nor sleep.

People: **The Lord is your keeper,
the shade at your right hand.**

Leader: The sun shall not strike you in the heat of the day.
The Lord will keep you from all evil.

People: **God will guard your going out and coming in
from this time on and forevermore.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*HYMN OF PRAISE # 12

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

CALL TO CONFESSION

(Few moments of silent prayer)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace, we confess that we pursue our own needs, neglecting the needs of others. We pursue our own desires, while slowly destroying the gifts of your creation. We are drawn to proclaim the gospel, yet live it out only at our convenience. Have mercy on us, O God. Open our eyes to the truth of the gospel that, at any time and in every place, we may fully embody your love and justice for all the world. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Whoever we are, wherever we are, however we are,
we belong to God. Through Jesus Christ,
God cleanses us from all unrighteousness and leads us into life.
People of God, we are forgiven.

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

SHARING THE PEACE

Leader: The Lord guide you into paths of peace,
keep you in the way of holiness,
and strengthen you in God's service.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

ANTHEM “Be Thou My Vision” traditional

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON (p. 30—OT) Genesis 32:22-31

*HYMN OF INVITATION # 463 “How Firm a Foundation”

SECOND LESSON (p. 213—NT) 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

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 Larger Catechism*

Q. 157: How is the Word of God to be read?

A: **The Holy Scriptures are to be read with a high and reverent esteem of them; with a firm persuasion in the Spirit that they are the Word of God, and that only by the Spirit are we enabled to understand them; with desire to know, believe, and obey, the will of God revealed in them; with diligence, and attention to the matter and scope of them; with meditation, application, and prayer.**

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 # 610 “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

*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.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS—TODAY AT 4 PM

Bring your furry, feathered, or scaled friend to be blessed this afternoon at 4p. If they can't come in person (so to speak), bring a picture of them!

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

There is still time to give to the Peace & Global Witness Offering. God's presence empowers us to live joyfully within our communities and to bring peace to all around us. Through this Offering, we connect with each other to confront systems of injustice and promote reconciliation in places around the world — and right here at home. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot! Together we are building God's household of peace where everyone is welcome; where all can find compassion, peace and justice.

SPECIAL GOOD SAM FOOD OFFERING—CANNED FRUIT!

It's getting close to the end of the month, so please remember that we are collecting **canned fruit** to contribute to Good Sam's holiday food boxes. **Their** goal is to fill 1,500 boxes of food, so **OUR** goal is to collect as many cans as we possibly "can" towards their goal. As of Thursday, we have _____

If you are unable to shop in person and you would still like to help, you may contribute financially, and **someone will go shopping for you.** Just make your check payable to CPC and note on the memo line "fruit for Good Sam". Thank you!

OCTOBER IS CLERGY APPRECIATION MONTH!

This month we have the opportunity to intentionally express our appreciation and gratitude to our Pastor, Maggie Rust. Expressing pastor appreciation is our way of saying “Pastor, we notice you and the work you do serving our church.” Most of all, we want to say “Thanks Maggie, we are blessed by the dedication and service that you are giving to our church.” We'll conclude the month with a celebration of Maggie's first full year at Covenant with refreshments in the library after our worship service on October 30.

2023 STEWARDSHIP SEASON

Fall is a beautiful time of year – the colorful leaves, the crisp morning air, and a harvest season that invites us to gratitude and thanksgiving. The return of autumn also means another opportunity to deeply consider our Stewardship. With the gifts God has graciously given us, how will we build up our church and our community, giving glory back to God through our generosity?

You'll be seeing pledge cards go out in the coming weeks. It is from the pledges of Covenant's members and friends that our Stewardship Committee and Session are able to develop our budget for the coming year. Your personal financial contributions are necessary to support every aspect of our ministry as our congregation engages in worship and mission together.

From Sunday school, worship services, and retreats that feed our souls, to fellowship meals and picnics that feed our stomachs, when you give you support the church in its work. Mission projects with our partners like BABMOC, ETSU UKirk, Frontera de Cristo, and The River, maintaining our building to host almost daily recovery meetings for NA and Al Anon, supporting our staff to preach, provide music, and keep us connected – none of this would be possible without your gifts.

We are a community of faith, hope, and love. We may be small in number, but we are mighty in what we can do in ministry together. God has faithfully shown us exactly that in recent years, and we trust the Spirit will continue to guide us in the days to come. Please prayerfully consider how you will be a part of this community and give your financial support, your talents and time, in the coming year.

Completed pledge cards can be returned to the church office by mail, dropped off during the week, or emailed to office@cpcjc.org. Thank you for supporting our ministry and being part of the Covenant Community!

NOVEMBER COURIER DEADLINE

The **deadline** to send Tina articles, blurbs, meetings/events dates, or any other information you would like printed in the **November Courier and listed on the November calendar is Monday, October 17.** Please send your information via email to office@cpjc.org. Thanks!

CHRISMONS/DECORATIONS PARTY—OCT. 22

Join us in the Fellowship Hall on **Saturday, October 22nd at 1:00 PM** as we make decorations for the Christmas tree we will have in the park downtown this year. Everyone is welcome!

GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER

Name tags are 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!

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, October 16

| | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| 8:30a | Issues Class on Zoom |
| 9:15a | Sojourner's Class on Zoom |
| 9:45a | Bible Discovery Class |
| 9:45a | Explorers Class |
| 11:00a | Worship Service |
| 4:00p | Blessing of the Animals! |
| 7:00p | N.A. Mtg |

Monday, October 17 – COURIER DEADLINE

10a—3p *Good Sam Food Dropoff*

Tuesday, October 18

| | |
|--------|------------------------------|
| 9:00a | Admin/Budget Comm Mtg |
| 10a—3p | <i>Good Sam Food Dropoff</i> |
| 10:00a | Al-Anon Mtg |
| 7:00p | Al-Anon Mtg |

Wednesday, October 19

| | |
|--------|------------------------------|
| 10a—3p | <i>Good Sam Food Dropoff</i> |
| 6:00p | Handbell Choir |
| 7:00p | Chancel Choir |
| 7:00p | N.A. Mtg |

Thursday, October 20

| | |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| 10a—3p | <i>Good Sam Food Dropoff</i> |
| Noon | Al-Anon Mtg |
| 7:00p | Red Tent Circle |

Friday, October 21

| | |
|-------|-------------|
| 6:30p | Al-Anon Mtg |
|-------|-------------|

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.

GENTLE REMINDER: COMMITTEE BUDGETS DUE

It's time to prepare your **2023 budget requests**. Please turn them in to Gary Smith by November 1, 2022.

TODAY AT COVENANT

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Morning Greeters: | Jim Starr & Lauri Zembower |
| Liturgist: | Lauri Zembower |
| Accompanist: | Van Potterton |
| Nursery: | Eileen Madden & Frank Hagelberg |

CHURCH STAFF

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Pastor: | Rev. Maggie Rust |
| Director of Music: | Dr. Matthew Potterton |
| Office Administrator: | Tina Simon |
| Financial Assistant: | Anne Webb |
| AV Tech: | Harvey Trueblood |

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 October 16—22, 2022

The Hines family; Charlotte Brumit, Betsy Moakler's mother; Sharon Fuhrman; Vickie Koppel, friend of Don & Patti Coble; Bob Clark; BJ King's sister, Mary Lynn; Cynthia Erdei; Jeri DeWeese; David Armistead, Bob & Estelle's nephew; Annette Mullins, Holly Bland's mother; 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.

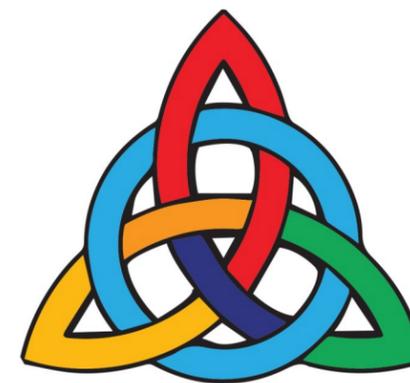


Covenant Presbyterian Church

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



Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY

OCTOBER 16, 2022

19TH 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.