

*(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: Pray always, and do not lose heart.

People: **For God will grant justice to the faithful.**

### PRELUDE

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: How lovely is the house of the Lord;

People: **How beautiful to be gathered together in God's presence.**

Leader: How lovely is the place where God dwells;

People: **How beautiful the image of God we behold in one another.**

Leader: Come let us worship God in this place;

People: **Let us join together in song and prayer to the Lord of Love.**

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE # 401

*"Here in This Place"*

### CALL TO CONFESSION

*(Few moments of silent prayer)*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Loving God, too often we hide beneath the veil of religion or trust too much in the good works we do. Smug and safe in our pews, we look down on those not here, thankful we are not like them. Shatter us with the truth that all have sinned. When we fail to live as the people you call us to be, cleanse us and restore us, for the sake of Jesus our Savior, in whom we pray. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Whether we are close or we are standing far off, God's love in Christ Jesus seeks us out and gathers us in. This is the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

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

### SHARING THE PEACE

Leader: May Almighty God stand by you and give you strength; the Prince of Peace travel with you and grant you peace; and the Spirit of God restore and refresh you today and always. The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

## HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

### ANTHEM

*"Shall We Gather at the River"*

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### FIRST LESSON (p. 543—OT)

Psalm 84:1-7

### \*HYMN OF INVITATION # 442

*"Just as I Am, without One Plea"*

### SECOND LESSON (p. 81—NT)

Luke 18:9-14

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

Rev. Beth Jarvis

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *The Westminster Larger Catechism*  
Q. 178 & 185: What is prayer and how are we to pray?

A: **Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God, in the name of Christ, by the help of the Spirit, with confession of our sins and thankful acknowledgment of God's mercies. We are to pray with an awful apprehension of the majesty of God, and deep sense of our own unworthiness, necessities, and sin; with penitent, thankful, and enlarged hearts; with understanding, faith, sincerity, fervency, love, and perseverance, waiting upon the Lord with humble submission to God's will.**

### 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 # 353

*"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"*

### \*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.

Maggie is on vacation this week. She will return next Sunday, October 30. Be sure to join us next week for this special service and celebration of Maggie's first year with Covenant!

**This morning we welcome back to Covenant the Rev. Beth Jarvis.** Beth is the director of the Ministry Resource Center at Milligan University, where she helps ministers connect with each other to thrive in ministry. She is an ordained minister and holds an MDiv from Emmanuel Christian Seminary at Milligan. She and her husband, Daniel Silliman, live in Johnson City, TN.

## 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.

**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](mailto:office@cpcjc.org). Thank you for supporting our ministry and being part of the Covenant Community!

## 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.

## 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 23

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
7:00p	N.A. Mtg

### Monday, October 24

10a—3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
7:00p	Local & World Wide Missions Comm Mtg

### Tuesday, October 25

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

### Wednesday, October 26

10a—3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
6:00p	Handbell Choir
7:00p	Chancel Choir
7:00p	N.A. Mtg

### Thursday, October 27

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

### Friday, October 28

6:30p	Al-Anon Mtg
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### Saturday, October 29

6p—11p	Fellowship Hall reserved (N.A.)
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## TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:	Lauri Zembower
Liturgist:	Kathi Cary
Accompanist:	Van Potterton
Nursery:	Anne Smith & Julie Wood

## 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 23—29, 2022

Charlotte Brumit, Betsy Moakler's mother; Sharon Fuhrman; Estelle Armistead; Vickie Koppel, friend of Don & Patti Coble; Bob Clark; Doris Sanders; 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.

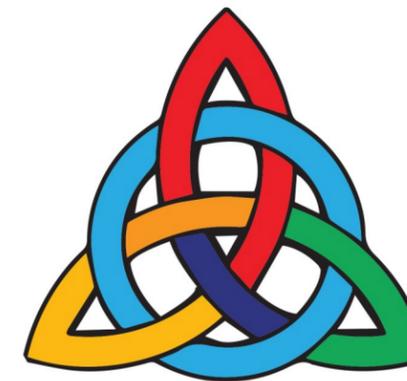


Covenant Presbyterian Church

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



# Covenant

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY

## OCTOBER 23, 2022

## 20<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.