

(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: Thanks be to God for your abundant faith.

People: **May the love of God continue to grow in us.**

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP based on Psalm 32

Leader: Happiness comes from having your rebellion taken away, from having your failure completely covered.

People: **Happiness comes from the Lord not counting your mistakes, from having nothing to hide.**

Leader: As long as I kept my stubborn silence, my bones grew weak with constant complaints.

People: **Day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped by a summer's heat.**

Leader: Finally I admitted my sin to you, and stopped hiding my guilt. I said, "I confess my rebellion, Lord," and you took away the guilt of my sin.

People: **That's why people of faith everywhere should pray to you – they'll find you. Lord, you protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of freedom.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*HYMN OF PRAISE # 275 *"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"*

CALL TO CONFESSION

(Few moments of silent prayer)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, we confess that we cannot see your image in each and every one of our neighbors. We call each other "sinner," when you call us Beloved. We misjudge one another, we underestimate ourselves, and we undervalue your Creation. Pardon us, Holy God, by your grace. Reveal to us your vision for the world that we may see all people through eyes of care and hearts of compassion, as Christ sees us. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Beloved of God, you are saved without condition; you are loved beyond measure.

Rejoice in the good news of the gospel: in Christ, we are forgiven.

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

SHARING THE PEACE

Leader: Live in faith and fellowship with one another; know God's grace and share Christ's peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

ANTHEM

"Let the Praise Go Round"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON (p. 82—NT)

Luke 19:1-10

*HYMN OF INVITATION # 694

"Great God of Every Blessing"

SECOND LESSON (p. 205—NT)

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 1-12

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 Scots Confession*

As we believe in one God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, so we believe that from the beginning there has been, now is, and to the end of the world shall be, one Kirk, that is to say, one company and multitude of those chosen by God, who rightly worship and embrace true faith in Christ Jesus, who is the only Head of the Kirk, even as it is the body of Christ. This Kirk is catholic, that is universal, because it contains the chosen of all ages, of all realms, nations, and tongues, who have communion with God the Father and the Son, through the sanctification of the Holy Spirit.

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 # 687 *"Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"*

*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.

Please join us in the library after this service for refreshments as we celebrate Maggie's first full year at Covenant, as well as the conclusion of Clergy Appreciation month!

Daylight Saving Time ends on November 6. Remember to turn your clocks back one hour before you go to bed on Saturday, November 5!!

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 **NOVEMBER COURIER** is on the table in the Narthex and/or has been emailed to you. There are extra printed copies on the table for those who want one. You will also be able to find the newsletter and November's calendar on our website under the "Media" tab: www.cpcjc.org.

SPECIAL GOOD SAM FOOD OFFERING—CANNED FRUIT!

Here we are at the end of October. **Only 1 day left to collect cans of fruit for Good Sam's holiday food boxes.** Thank you for your generosity to this important local mission agency.

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?

A letter has been mailed to you, along with a pledge card and an envelope. 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 AI 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.

Dedication Sunday will be on November 20th. Completed pledge cards can be placed in the offering plates, returned to the church office by mail, dropped off during the week, or for your convenience, you may e-mail your 2023 pledge intention to office@cpcjc.org. Thank you for supporting our ministry and being part of the Covenant Community!

For your calendar (details in Courier):

- Alternative Gift Fair AND After Church Lunch: Sunday, November 13
- Greening of the Church: Sunday, November 27th after church

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 30

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
<i>Following worship</i>	<i>Celebrate Maggie's 1st Year Anniversary!</i>
7:00p	N.A. Mtg

Monday, October 31

10a—3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
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Tuesday, November 1

9:00a	Worship Comm Mtg
10a—3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
10:00a	Al-Anon Mtg
7:00p	Al-Anon Mtg
7:00p	Property Comm Mtg

Wednesday, November 2

9a—Noon	Garden Club (Fellowship Hall)
10a—3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
6:00p	Handbell Choir
7:00p	Chancel Choir
7:00p	N.A. Mtg

Thursday, November 3

10a—3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
Noon	Al-Anon Mtg
3:30p	Congregational Life Comm Mtg

Friday, November 4

6:30p	Al-Anon Mtg
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TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:	Lauri Zembower
Liturgist:	Stacy Larsen
Accompanist:	Van Potterton
Nursery:	Kathi Cary & Anne Smith

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 30—November 5, 2022

Cathy Eades, Jim Starr's cousin; Charlotte Brumit, Betsy Moakler's mother; Sharon Fuhrman; Estelle Armistead; Vickie Koppel, friend of Don & Patti Coble; Bob Clark; Doris Sanders; Cynthia Erdei; Jeri DeWeese; David Armistead, Bob & Estelle's nephew, who is recovering from cancer of the tongue; 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.

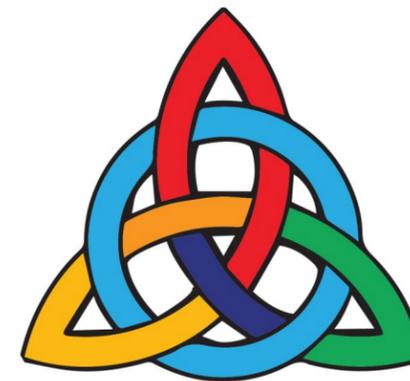


Covenant Presbyterian Church

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



Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY

OCTOBER 30, 2022

REFORMATION SUNDAY

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.