

*(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: Since the beginning, God has not stopped creating,

People: **Calling us ever closer to all that is good.**

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 16

Leader: Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
I said to the Lord, "You are my God;
there is nothing good for me apart from you."

People: **The holy people of the land are wonderful;
my greatest pleasure is to be with them.**

Leader: You, O Lord, are all that I have, my portion and cup.
My life is safe in your hands; you keep me safe.

People: **Within the boundaries you set for me,
there are nothing but pleasant places!
God has provided my good fortune.**

Leader: I bless the Lord, who leads me,
who teaches me what is right.
I am always aware of God with me;
the Lord goes before me to guide my feet.

People: **You show me the path to Life;
your presence fills me with joy.
My tongue will sing your praise forevermore.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*HYMN OF PRAISE # 301

"Let Us Build a House"

CALL TO CONFESSION

(Few moments of silent prayer)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God whose spirit moved over the waters, you have washed us in your mercy, claimed us as your own, bound us in community, and called us to live lives of covenant grace. Forgive us, O God, for we have not lived as people of your baptism. We stumble over opportunities for forgiveness. We prioritize our own selfish interests. We are slow to disrupt the status quo, even when it means ignoring the suffering of our neighbors. God of grace, by your mercy lead us once again to the waters of transformation and new beginnings. Teach us to walk with you as faithful followers of Jesus Christ, in whom we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, just as Jesus called the disciples,
so we too are called.
Forgiven of our sin and set free to serve,
let us answer the call of Christ.

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

SHARING THE PEACE

Leader: May the joy of the Lord your strength
and the love of the Lord your peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON (p. 181—NT)

2 Corinthians 5:11-21

*HYMN OF INVITATION # 397

"¡Miren Que Bueno!"

SECOND LESSON (p. 1—OT)

Genesis 1

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Reconciliation in a Broken World

Mark Adams

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *"The Immigrant's Creed" by: José Luis Casal*

I believe in Almighty God, who guided the people in exile and in exodus, the God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon, the God of foreigners and immigrants.

I believe in Jesus Christ, a displaced Galilean, who was born away from his people and his home, who fled his country with his parents when his life was in danger and, returning to his own country, suffered the oppression of the tyrant Pontius Pilate, the servant of a foreign power. He was persecuted, beaten, tortured, accused, and condemned to death unjustly. But on the third day, this scorned Jesus rose from the death, not as a foreigner but to offer us citizenship in heaven.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the eternal immigrant from God's kingdom among us, who speaks all languages, lives in all countries, and reunites all races. I believe that the church is the secure home for the foreigner and for all believers who constitute it, who share the same purpose of God. I believe that the communion of the saints begins when we accept the diversity of the saints. I believe in the forgiveness of sin, which makes us all equal, and in reconciliation, which identifies us more than race, language, or nationality. I believe that in the resurrection God will unite us as one people, in which all are distinct and all are alike at the same time. Beyond this world, I believe in life eternal in which all will be citizens of God's kingdom, which will never end. Amen.

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 # 747

"The Lord Now Sends Us Forth"

*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 worship for fellowship
and refreshments with the Adams Maldonado family!*

ELDER RETREAT & OFFICER TRAINING

An Elder Retreat is scheduled for Saturday, January 28th, beginning at 10 AM at the UKirk House on ETSU's campus. This will be an opportunity for church leaders to have fellowship and discuss the vision for 2023. It will also serve as officer training for the year. All active elders (including both the incoming and outgoing class) are strongly encouraged to attend!

GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD OFFERING

We are collecting the following food items on a regular basis:

Jelly/Jam	Peanut Butter
Canned Veggies	Canned Fruits
Dry / Canned Beans	Rice
Soups	Cereals (<i>hot and cold</i>)
Canned Meats (<i>Tuna, Vienna Sausage, etc.</i>)	
Powdered Milk	

If you wish to make a monetary donation, we will pass it along, too. Remember, the Good Sam cart is outside in front of the church office Monday—Thursday from 10a—3p. Thank you for your generous donations to this local ministry!

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING??

From serving on a committee (Communications/Outreach, Local & World-Wide Missions, Congregational Life, etc.), to bringing snacks for times of fellowship, to helping with cleanup after a church lunch, there are ample opportunities to be more involved and connected here at Covenant. Contact Tina in the office for more information! 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.

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, January 22

8:30a	Issues Class—Zoom
9:30a	Sojourner's Class
9:45a	Bible Discovery Class
11:00a	Worship Service
Following worship:	Refreshments w/Adams Maldonado Family
7:00p	N.A. Mtg

Monday, January 23

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

Tuesday, January 24

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

Wednesday, January 25

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

Thursday, January 26

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

Friday, January 27

6:30p	Al-Anon Mtg
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Saturday, January 28

10:00a	Elder Retreat & Officer Training
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TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:	Stacy Larsen
Liturgist:	Christian Zembower
Accompanist:	Jeremi Lukanus
Nursery:	Don Coble & Victory Cooper

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor:	Rev. Maggie Rust
Music Director:	Katelyn Gabler
Office Administrator:	Tina Simon
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 January 22—28, 2023

Cathy Eades, Jim Starr's cousin; Allen White, Maggie's uncle; Charlotte Brumit, Betsy Moakler's mother; Estelle Armistead; Sharon Fuhrman; Vickie Koppel, friend of Don & Patti Coble; 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
Good Samaritan 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

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



Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY

JANUARY 22, 2023

3RD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

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.