

*(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: Jesus said: You are the light of the world.  
People: **Let our light shine, giving glory to God.**

HYMNS OF PREPARATION # 701 "Sanctuary"  
# 627 "I Love You, Lord"

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP based on Psalm 112

Leader: Alleluia! Happiness comes to those who revere the Lord,  
who revel in God's commands!  
People: **Their children will prosper;  
the descendants of the just will always be blessed.**  
Leader: For the just, God shines like a lamp in the dark.  
People: **God is merciful,  
illuminating the path of compassion and righteousness.**  
Leader: Those who love the Lord are generous  
and honest in all their dealings.  
They are not shaken, because they desire justice.  
People: **They never fear bad news, because they trust in God.  
They have peace in their hearts and will be remembered well.**  
Leader: Quick to be generous, they give to the poor,  
always doing justice. Their horn will be lifted up in honor.  
People: **Come let us worship the Lord together.  
Let us sing praises to God who blesses us.**

#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

\*HYMNS OF PRAISE (see insert) "You Are My All in All"  
"Lord I Lift Your Name on High"

#### CALL TO CONFESSION

*(Few moments of silent prayer)*

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Loving God, you call us to be the salt of the earth, but too often we consider your way to be bland and we disparage the delight of a life filled with the rich flavor of your blessings. You call us to be the light of the world, but too often our actions do not bring you praise, and we make choices that help us hide in the crowd rather than stand out as your people. Forgive us Lord and help us be more like Jesus. Make us merciful and humble; kindle in us a passion for righteousness and peace. Bless us as your children, so that we can share your blessings with the world. Amen.**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Beloved children of God, hear the words of Jesus:  
"Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."  
In Christ we are forgiven.  
People: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

#### SHARING THE PEACE

Leader: God, who has the power to give us peace  
and fill our lives with glory, is with us now.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
People: **And also with you.**

## HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON (p. 166—NT) 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

\*HYMNS OF INVITATION # 452 "Open the Eyes of My Heart"  
# 175 "Seek Ye First"

SECOND LESSON (p. 4—NT) Matthew 5:1-16

Leader: The Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON Rev. Maggie Rust

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

MISSION PRESENTATION: Holston Camp Madeline Horne

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE (see insert) "This Little Light of Mine"

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from the PCUSA Brief Statement of Faith

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human and fully divine, who proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to turn to God and believe the good news of the gospel.**

#### 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 # 80 "You Shall Go Out with Joy"

#### \*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (see insert) "Shalom Chaverim"

\*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.

**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 Fellowship Hall for After Church Lunch.**

Session is meeting this afternoon. Please be in prayer for our church leaders.

## BLACK/WHITE DIALOGUE ON ZOOM—FEB. 13 6P—8P

The February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting will be on Zoom as the presenter, Tiffany Boyd-Tipton, lives in Central Tennessee. The topic will discuss the biased treatment of Black men and women, including lengthy sentences, parole treatment, rehabilitation, and the difficulty of regaining voting rights. Contact Ed Wolff for the Zoom invitation.

## RISE & SHINE!

**Join us after worship on Transfiguration Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, for a special Coffee Tasting!** We will be sampling some of the options available from Café Justo before we place a group order from the congregation. Given all we learned from Mark & Miriam's visit last month about the important work Frontera de Cristo and Café Justo are doing, we are excited to expand this mission partnership.

## ASH WEDNESDAY—FEBRUARY 22, 2023

We will be having an Ash Wednesday service in the sanctuary on February 22 at noon. Watauga Avenue Presbyterian Church is holding an evening service at 6:00 PM.

## LENT STUDY WITH WATAUGA AVENUE

We will once again be doing a joint study with our neighbors at Watauga Avenue Presbyterian Church through the Lenten season. **Beginning on February 27, we will meet on Mondays at 6:00 PM**, alternating between Watauga and Covenant. The topic of the study is "Church & Community." Come and join us for fellowship and learning together!

<u>February 27:</u> Watauga	<u>March 20:</u> Covenant
<u>March 6:</u> Covenant	<u>March 27:</u> Watauga
<u>March 13:</u> Watauga	<u>April 3:</u> Covenant

## TREE DAY AT COVENANT—VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Covenant's role in the Tennessee Environmental Council's (TEC) Tree Day is to serve as a distribution site for seedlings. The Earth Care Team is looking for volunteers to:

- **Rustle up** 5-gallon buckets for keeping the seedlings' roots wet. (5–10 buckets)
- **Sort** seedlings according to individual orders, wrap roots with wet newspaper and bundle for distribution on March 16 (4–6 people, depending on number of orders)
- **Hand out** bundles on March 17 from 1–5p and March 18 from 10a–1p (4 people each day but the more the merrier!)

**If you are able to help**, contact Laura Phillips at lauralivep@gmail.com or text her at 304-546-7831.

If you're interested in getting seedlings **for yourself**, you can order from the TEC website for a suggested donation starting at \$1.99/tree from a selection of 10 varieties. **Deadline for ordering is February 26.** To order, go to <https://www.tectn.org/tennesseetreeday.html> where you will find a map of the distribution sites.

### MARCH COURIER DEADLINE

The deadline to send Tina articles, blurbs, meetings/events dates, or any other information you would like printed in the **March Courier** and **listed on the March calendar is Wednesday, February 15**. Please send your information via email to [office@cpcjc.org](mailto:office@cpcjc.org). Thanks!

### GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD OFFERING

We are collecting the following items: **Canned foods with pop-tops** that are ready to eat “as is” for folks without resources to cook. Foods that do not require adding water or other ingredients would be ideal. Chef Boyardee canned foods, Vienna Sausages, Beenie Weenie, Soup, Fruit, Vegetable cups, etc. As always, if you wish to make a monetary donation, we will pass it along.

### 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, February 12

8:30a	Issues Class–Zoom
9:30a	Sojourner’s Class w/Zoom option
9:45a	Bible Discovery Class
11:00a	Worship Service
<i>Following worship</i>	<i>After Church Lunch</i>
1:00p	Session Mtg
7:00p	N.A. Mtg

#### Monday, February 13

10a–3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
6p–8p	Black/White Dialogue on Zoom

#### Tuesday, February 14

10:00a	Worship Committee Mtg
10a–3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
10:00a	Al-Anon Mtg
Noon	Tree Day Mtg w/Zoom option
7:00p	Al-Anon Mtg

#### Wednesday, February 15—COURIER DEADLINE

10a–3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
7:00p	N.A. Mtg

#### Thursday, February 16

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

#### Friday, February 17

6:30p	Al-Anon Mtg
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#### Saturday, February 18

7:00p	AA Mtg (Library)
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### 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.

### TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:	Ron Smith
Liturgist:	Kathi Cary
Accompanist:	Jeremi Lukanus
Nursery:	Pat Smith, Betsy Moakler, Julie Wood

### 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 February 12—18, 2023

Sharon Fuhrman; Vickie Koppel, friend of Don & Patti Coble; Allen White, Maggie’s uncle; Cathy Eades, Jim Starr’s cousin; Charlotte Brumit, Betsy Moakler’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  
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.

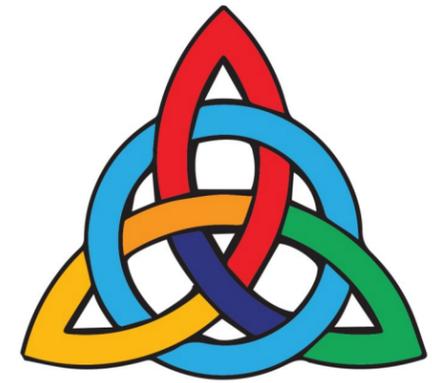


### *Covenant Presbyterian Church*

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



# Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY**

**FEBRUARY 12, 2023**

**6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

**CAMP & RETREAT 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.