

*(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

### EARTH CARE MOMENT: TREE DAY

Ron Smith

### GREETING

Leader: The day has dawned, the morning star rises in our hearts.

People: **We witness the glory of Christ our Lord!**

### PRELUDE

*"O How I Love Jesus"*

Covenant Handbell Choir

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Psalm 99

Leader: The Lord reigns; let the nations tremble!  
God sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!  
The Lord is great in Zion, exalted above all the peoples.

People: **Let everyone praise the name of the Lord!  
Holy, great, and awesome is our God!**

Leader: Mighty is our God who loves justice,  
who is strong to establish honesty and righteousness in the land.

People: **Extol and exalt the Lord our God;  
worship at the feet of the Holy One of Israel!**

Leader: Moses and Aaron were among the priests;  
Samuel numbered among those who called upon the holy name.  
They cried to the Lord and were answered from a pillar of cloud.

People: **Let us worship on God's holy mountain  
and walk in the way of our Lord of love.**

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE # 666

*"O Splendor of God's Glory Bright"*

### CALL TO CONFESSION

*(Few moments of silent prayer)*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Magnificent God, we cannot stand before the glory of your presence.  
You shine with divine light, and we are overwhelmed by your  
goodness. Lift us in your mercy, release us from our fear, and fill us  
with your Spirit, so that we might reflect your light and share your  
love, for the sake of Jesus, our Savior, in whom we pray. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Children of God, hear the good news:  
in Christ we are forgiven, again and again,  
by a glorious, wonderful Lord.

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

### SHARING THE PEACE

Leader: May the light of Christ scatter the darkness from before your path.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

## HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

SPECIAL MUSIC "Down in the Valley to Pray" Katelyn & Jeremi

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON (p. 236—NT) 2 Peter 1:16-21

\*HYMNS OF INVITATION # 156 "Sing of God Made Manifest"

SECOND LESSON (p. 18—NT) Matthew 17:1-9

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 Confession of 1967

**God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful women and men as friends. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love.**

### INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

#### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is truly right and our greatest joy...

...forever sing to the glory of your name:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader: You are holy, God of majesty...

...the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

Leader: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit...

...almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**All: 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.**

### SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

## GOING OUT TO SERVE

\*HYMN OF BLESSING # 193

*"Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain"*

### \*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.

### **RISE & SHINE!**

**Join us after worship today 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!

February 27: Watauga

March 20: Covenant

March 6: Covenant

March 27: Watauga

March 13: Watauga

April 3: 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 on **Thursday, March 16** to sort seedlings according to individual orders, wrap roots with wet newspaper and bundle for distribution; and on **March 17 & 18** (see hours below) to hand out bundles.

Friday, March 17: 1:00 to 5:00

Saturday, March 18: 10:00a to 1:00p

**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.

## 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.

## 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 19

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>Coffee Tasting in Library</i>
7:00p	N.A. Mtg

### Monday, February 20

10a–3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
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### Tuesday, February 21

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

### Wednesday, February 22—Ash Wednesday

10a–3p	Good Sam Food Dropoff
Noon	Ash Wednesday Service
6:00p	Ash Wednesday Service at Watauga Avenue
6:00p	Handbell Choir
7:00p	Chancel Choir
7:00p	N.A. Mtg

### Thursday, February 23

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

### Friday, February 24

6:30p	Al-Anon Mtg
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### Saturday, February 25

7:00p	AA Mtg (Library)
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## TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:	Ron Smith
Liturgist:	Gwen Hunter
Accompanist:	Jeremi Lukanus
Nursery:	Victory Cooper & Patti Coble

## 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 19—25, 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 19, 2023**

**TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**

## 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.