

**MARCH 3, 2024**

**THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT**



# Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY**

## 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.



Covenant is proud to be an **Earth Care Congregation**, a **More Light Church** – supporting the LGBTQ+ community, and a **PC(USA) Matthew 25 Church** – committed to dismantling structural racism, eradicating systemic poverty, and building congregational vitality.

603 Sunset Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604

423-282-5324 ♦ office@cpcjc.org ♦ www.cpcjc.org

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

*(As you participate in worship today, you’re invited to rise in body or spirit at \* and read aloud the **bolded** responses together with the congregation.)*

### WELCOME

**MINUTE FOR MISSION:** One Great Hour of Sharing

Julie Wood

### PRELUDE

*What does worship mean to you? Is there anything you need to set aside to be fully present to God right now?*

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### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 100

**One:** Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!  
Worship and serve God with gladness!

**All:** **Enter into God’s presence with a joyful song!**

**One:** Know that the Lord is God, who created and loved us.

**All:** **We belong to God, we are the sheep of the Good Shepherd’s pasture.**

**One:** Come through God’s gate with thanksgiving!  
Enter the Lord’s house with praise!

**All:** **Give thanks to the Lord and bless God’s holy name!**  
**For the Lord is good; God’s steadfast love endures forever.**

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*This week, try writing your own ‘collect’ prayer using the form: you, who, do, in order to:*

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### \*HYMN OF PRAISE # 396

*“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. By your grace, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*If there’s any individual confession you’d like to offer, write, draw, or symbolize it here:*

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## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: The steadfast love of the Lord is everlasting and never fails.  
As far as the east is from the west,  
so far has God removed your sins from you;  
they are blotted out, erased, forgotten and remembered no more.  
Friends, in Christ we are forgiven.

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

## SHARING THE PEACE

One: The peace of God be in your heart and mind.  
The peace of Christ give you hope and courage.  
The peace of the Spirit make you whole and holy.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: **And also with you.**

## HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

### SPECIAL MUSIC

*“Create in Me A Clean Heart”*

Mary Lynn Lightfoot

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### FIRST LESSON (p. 375—OT)

1 Chronicles 16:1-13, 23-36

#### \*HYMN OF INVITATION # 297

*“In Christ Called to Baptize”*

#### SECOND LESSON (p. 5—NT)

Matthew 6:1-18

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

*What good word did you hear? What challenge might God be putting in front of you? How does this passage lead you into deeper discipleship? Who can you share good news with today?*

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## RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from *the Constitution of the PC(USA)*

**The great ends of the Church are:**

- the proclamation of the gospel for salvation;**
- the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God;**
- the maintenance of divine worship;**
- the promotion of social righteousness;**
- the preservation of the truth; and**
- the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.**

## OFFERTORY

*What do I have to offer to God today?*

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## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

One: Lord of all,

All: **help your servants.**

**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 # 546

*“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

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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. **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 and place it in the offering plate. If you are seeking a church home, you are welcome to join us in discipleship in our community of faith and service; Pastor Maggie would be happy to talk to you about your journey and church membership.

**Pastor Maggie is out of the office until March 6.** Please contact Tina in the church office with any pastoral concerns. 423-282-5324 or [office@pcjc.org](mailto:office@pcjc.org).

## SONGS OF HOPE – SUNDAY, MARCH 10

We are thrilled to be hosting the **Maryville College Choir** as part of their *Songs of Hope* tour on Sunday, March 10. We will have a **Soup Supper at 5pm** (instead of our regular 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Potluck) with the students and the **concert will follow at 6:30p**. Bring your favorite pot of soup to share with the choir and the congregation and join us for a great time of fellowship with 50 college students and a fabulous musical performance!

## TODAY AT COVENANT

Liturgists: Kathi Cary, Phyllis Thompson, Ron Smith

Accompanist: Jeremi Lukanus