

MARCH 31, 2024

EASTER SUNDAY



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.

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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

GREETING

One: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

All: Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!

PRELUDE

"All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

arr. Barbara Kinyon

***LITANY OF EASTER**

One: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

All: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

One: This is the good news that we have received,
in which we stand, by which we are saved:

All: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

One: That Christ died for our sins, and was buried, and rose again of the third day.

All: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

One: He appeared to Mary, to Peter and the twelve, and to many faithful witnesses.

All: Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

One: And he has come to us by the Spirit,
that we might believe and proclaim this good news to all the world.

All: Alleluia! Christ is risen! Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

***HYMN OF PRAISE # 232**

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, you raised Christ from the tomb and shattered the powers of evil and death; raise us from the depths of our sin, O Lord, and bring us to new life in you. You bring us good news of Easter joy; forgive us when we cannot hear it. You send us out to share your love; forgive us when we cannot carry it. You cast a vision for justice and peace; forgive us when we cannot imagine it. Forgive us and transform us, that in every way our work and prayer will make whole what is broken and show forth your new life of resurrection and redemption. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God has been gracious to us and has raised us up.
The Spirit upholds us and keeps us forever in God's holy presence.
Friends, in Christ we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

One: Christ is the Lord of life, the King of glory,
the lamb of God who triumphs over death.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: **And also with you.**

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Sunrise Resurrection”

by Joseph M. Martin

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON (*p. 176—NT*)

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

*HYMN OF INVITATION # 237

“Christ Jesus Lay in Death’s Strong Bonds”

SECOND LESSON (*p. 54—NT*)

Mark 16:1-8

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. Maggie Rust

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord’s Prayer

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

One: 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.**

One: You are holy, O God of majesty...

...the mystery of faith:

All: **Dying you destroyed our death.**

Rising you restore our life.

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

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

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

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 # 511

“Come, Behold! the Feast of Heaven”

*CHARGE AND BEDICTION

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.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING

In a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression, millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity. The three programs supported by the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering—Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People—all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Please plan to make a contribution to our One Great Hour of Sharing as part of your Easter celebration.

The **April Courier** has been emailed to you. There are printed copies on the table in the Narthex.

TODAY AT COVENANT

Liturgist: Ron Smith

Accompanist: Jeremi Lukanus

Covenant Handbell Choir

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Maggie Rust

Music Director: Katelyn Gabler

Office Administrator: Tina Simon