

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

SOUNDING OF THE HOUR

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP AND CONGREGATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

GREETING

This is the day the Lord has made!
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

PRELUDE *"The First Noel"* arr. John Carter

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
Nations shall come to your light
and rulers to the brightness of your rising.
Christ's light shines again to guide us to him.
**Come seeking and you shall find anew
the babe born in Bethlehem.**
**Come and Worship! Come and Worship!
Worship Christ the new born king!**

*OPENING PRAYER

***HYMN OF PRAISE** # 147 (vs. 1, 2, 3 & 6) *"The First Nowell"*

CALL TO CONFESSION

(Few moments of silent prayer)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

**Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.**

**O Divine Master, grant that I may not seek so much
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.**

**For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news!
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and made new.
Thanks be to God.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 152 (vs. 4)

"What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright"

O Jesus, while the star of grace impels us on to seek your face,
Let not our slothful hearts refuse the guidance of your light to use.

THE PEACE

Leader: As people forgiven by the abundant grace of God,
we are at peace with God,
and we are called to live in peace with one another.
The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Please take a moment to share the peace of Christ
with those near you.

****Gateway to Worship** (*Children can meet the Gateway leader in the back
of the sanctuary near the entrance doors.*)

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING (*p. 690—OT*) Isaiah 60:1-6

GOSPEL READING (*p. 2—NT*) Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON Bearing Gifts Rev. Paul Helphinstine

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN OF CONTEMPLATION** # 151 *"We Three Kings of Orient Are"*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and
earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived
by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under
Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into
hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into
heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the
communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the
body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

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.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"* J.S. Bach
piano arr.: Myra Hess

***DOXOLOGY** # 606 *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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 and praise to the Lord our God.

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

Leader: We thank you, God, for sending a star...
...loving power and powerful love, saying:

**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: In sending Christ, the light of the world, ...
Great is the mystery of faith:

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

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

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

GOING OUT TO SERVE

***HYMN OF SENDING** # 143 *"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"*

*BENEDICTION

***POSTLUDE** *"We Three Kings of Orient Are"* arr. Becki S. Mayo

*For those who are able, please stand.

NOTE: All music reprinted under CCLI license

****Gateway to Worship** is our worship program for 4-year olds through first graders. The Gateway leader will take the children to their classroom in the Fellowship Hall after the Congregational Response.

Large-print Hymnals are available in the back of the sanctuary; and **large-print bulletins** are on the table in the Narthex.

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. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to join with us in service to Christ.

Un-Greening of the Church will take place following worship.

*Please join us in the library immediately following worship
for a time of fellowship and refreshments.*

5 CENTS A MEAL OFFERING

Come forward with your Offering during the final hymn. You are asked to consider giving 5 cents for each meal you have eaten last month (or any amount you wish) to help feed those who are hungry. This offering supports both local and global hunger programs.

ARMCHAIR TRAVELERS

Gather with us from **3p—5p this afternoon** as we travel to Turkey with Rick Steves' Travelog from the comfort of the sofa and chairs in our Library.

PW CIRCLES IN JANUARY

- ◆ **The Friendship Circle** meets on the **2nd Tuesday of the month**. The next meeting will be on **Tues., January 8, at 1:30 PM in the Church Library**. (Contacts for this Circle are Sally Nagel and Pat Willard.)
- ◆ **The Joy Circle** now also meets on the **2nd Tuesday of the month**. The next meeting will be on **Tues., January 8, at 7:00 PM in the Bible Discovery classroom** in the hallway near the Sanctuary. (Contact for this Circle is Betsy Moakler.)
- ◆ **The Red Tent Circle** meets on the **2nd Thursday of the month**. The next meeting will be on **Thurs., January 10, at 7:00 PM at the home of BJ King, 8 Fox Run Lane**. (Contact for this Circle is BJ King.)

BLACK/WHITE DIALOGUE—MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2019

The next Black/White Dialogue meeting is on January 14, from 6—8:00 PM, at the Carver Center, 322 W. Watauga Ave., JC. Details in Courier.

CONGRATULATIONS...

...to **Dana & Diana Hewitt** on the birth of a new granddaughter! Nora Jean Hewitt, at 7 lbs., 1 oz., 19" long, was born to their youngest son, Daryl, and his wife, Eve, on December 28th in Mt. Pleasant, SC. Nora Jean joins big brother, Tyler, who just turned 3 a few weeks ago.

...to **David & Lynnea Salinas** on their marriage on December 29th!

THE LUNCH BUNCH

The next gathering of "The Lunch Bunch" will be on **Wednesday, January 16th, at 11:30 AM at Moto's Japanese Restaurant**, 2607 N. Roan St. **Contact Victory Cooper at 282-4641** for more information and to let her know if you plan to come so she can make the appropriate number of reservations.

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

JANUARY 19 AT 7:00 PM IN THE LIBRARY

To welcome the New Year, join us for **Calendar Girls** on Saturday, January 19 at 7:00 PM. After the death of her best friend's husband, Yorkshire housewife Chris Harper (Helen Mirren) hatches a scheme to raise money for a memorial in his honor. Utilizing a tradition from the Woman's Institute Association, Chris encourages Annie (Julie Walters) and their friends to create a calendar -- with a novel twist. Based on a true story. Calendar Girls is rated PG-13 and contains suggested nudity, British humor, and thick Yorkshire accents! We'll see you at the movies!

From the staff at Covenant,

We would like to express our gratitude to all of you for your kindness and awesome generosity at Christmas time. It is our pleasure to serve such a selfless and generous congregation. Your concern for us and your respect of our work, our time, and our lives is much appreciated, all throughout the year. Peace and Blessings to you all,

Paul, Marie, Jeanne, Shirley, Tina, & Jessica



Members & Regular Visitors: Your **2019 Offering Envelopes** are on the table in the Narthex. If you would like a box of envelopes for 2019, but don't see your name, please call or e-mail Tina in the church office! (Several of you have told me that you don't need envelopes this year. If they are on the table, I apologize. Please mark an "X" through your name and I will remove them. Thanks, Tina.)

ONLINE GIVING!

Online Giving is available through our website at **cpcjc.org**. Getting started is easy—just click on the **Online Giving** link. This is a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or recurring donation. *If you have any questions, please contact Tina in the church office.*

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 1:00p – 4:00p, Tuesday – Thursday: 9:00a – 4:00p

The office is closed on Friday.

Messages may be left on the church voicemail at any time, 423-282-5324. Press "2" to leave a message for Tina; press "1" for Paul.

Covenant Presbyterian Church has been certified as a **Recovery Congregation** by the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.



TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:
Liturgy written by:
Liturgist:
Nursery:

Jim Starr
the Rev. Pat Willard
Don Hart
Madden Family

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor:
Music Director:
Office Administrator:
Administrative Assistant:
Custodian:
Nursery Worker:

Rev. Paul Helphinstine
Jessica Siple
Tina Simon
Shirley Barrett
Marie Britt
Jeanne Gamble

PRAYER CONCERNS

*If you have placed someone on the prayer list, please contact the office with a brief update regarding the name you submitted or let us know that it's ok to remove that name from the list. **If the need is singular and temporary, the name and the concern will remain on the list for four (4) weeks.** This will help us pray more specifically and be more intentional in our prayers for one another.*

Week of Jan. 6—12, 2019.

Ivy Finn, infant daughter of friends of Dave & Julie Wood, who has a severe heart condition and has had 3 surgeries so far. UPDATE: Ivy's doctors are very happy with her progress. She is alert and smiling!
Lori Simon, Tina's sister, who is recovering from pneumonia.
Charlan Freundl, Stacy Larsen's mother, who has been diagnosed with ALS.
Vi Block, who has been in rehab for blood clots in her legs.
Carrie Beth Swanay, Betsy Moakler's cousin, whose cancer is spreading. At only 55 years old, she had to retire from her position as a professor at Milligan.
Bob Hart, who has been ill and is asking for prayer to regain his energy.
Kendall Harris, who is continues treatment for his blood condition.

Please remember those in our congregation who are homebound and unable to join us regularly in worship:

Vi Block, Butch Carr, Jeter Collins, Lattie Collins,
Mary Derouen, Helen Fletcher, Barbara Quisenberry, CB Willis

Join us in continually lifting up in prayer our mission co-workers:

Bob & Kristi Rice: South Sudan
Jon & Kathy Christiansen: Zimbabwe



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).

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 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

JANUARY 6, 2019 EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Everlasting God,
the radiance of faithful souls,
who brought the nations to your light
and kings to the brightness of your rising:
Fill the world with your glory,
and show yourself to all the nations;
through him who is the true light
and the bright morning star,
Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S EARTH CARE MOMENTS: Covenant Presbyterian Church is a certified Earth Care Congregation. As part of our certification, we provide Earth Care Children's Moments once a month during worship. If you are interested in offering a small Earth Care moment to our young ones in 2019, please contact the church office at office@cpjc.org, or speak to Ann Freeman.

AFTER CHURCH FELLOWSHIP SNACKS: 2019 is a brand new year that offers up many opportunities for you to be of service to your church family. Won't you start the year off right by signing up to bring After Church Snacks for our important fellowship time as we greet visitors and spend time with one another? There's a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

USHERS: The Worship Committee is looking for a Few Good Men – and Women! **Ushers** are needed for 2019. The job is easy – passing the offering plate. You can assist in two ways. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for specific dates. Or you can let it be known that you'd be glad to serve on an as-needed basis, which means that Jim Starr will draft you into service if we need someone that day. If you would like to usher on an as-needed basis, please let Jim Starr know.

COMMUNION SERVERS: Are you an elder of the church and are you available and willing to help serve communion during 2019? There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

The **2019 FLOWER CHART** is on the bulletin board in the hall outside the sanctuary. Please sign up if you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary to honor or remember someone or a special occasion. (*Ordering instructions are posted next to the calendar. Contact Tina in the office if you need assistance.*)

Coffee Lovers! Don't forget that we have **EQUAL EXCHANGE COFFEE** for sale on the cart outside the office, including whole bean for the purists in our midst! Also **K-Cups, hot Cocoa, and organic chocolate bars!** Pricing is on the cart.

There are **PURELL HAND SANITIZERS** located throughout the building. These were given to the church as a donation to help reduce the spread of illness during cold and flu season. So shake hands (or "fist bump") all you like, just stop by one of the hand sanitizers on your way out!

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Today, Jan. 6

9:30a – 9:55a

10:00a

11:00a

following worship:

3:00p – 5:00p

7:00p

Monday, Jan. 7

8:30a

10:30a

7:00p

Tuesday, Jan. 8

8:30a

1:30p

6:30p

7:00p

7:00p

7:00p

Wednesday, Jan. 9

6:00p

6:30p

7:00p

7:00p

Thursday, Jan. 10

8:00a

Noon

2:00p – 4:00p

7:00p

Friday, Jan. 11

Noon

1:30p

Saturday, Jan. 12

9:00a

12:30p

Weekly Prayer Group

Sunday School

Worship Service

Un-Greening of the Church

Armchair Travelers

N.A. Meeting

N.A. Meeting

Melting Pot

NarAnon Meeting

N.A. Meeting

Friendship Circle

Cub Scouts

Joy Circle

Property Committee Meeting

Al-Anon Meeting

Handbell Choir

SAFG

Chancel Choir

N.A. Meeting

Men's Bible Study this week

Al-Anon Meeting

Bridge & Games in the Library

Red Tent Circle

CoDA Meeting

N.A. Meeting

LEAD Meeting (Library)

CCL Meeting (Library)