

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

All power, honor, glory be to you!
You...sometimes hidden, silent, absent, unresponsive.

**We are so privileged that we seldom sense you
hidden, silent, absent, unresponsive.**

But we know people who do,
we think of places where you do not appear.

**We imagine you defeated,
weak,
held captive.**

And we wait a day,
two days,
until the third day,

**And then, most often then,
quite reliably then,
you appear then in your full glory.**

This day we pray against your absence, silence and hiddenness.

**Come with full power into deathly places,
and we will praise you deep and full.**

Walter Bruegerman

*OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE # 610

"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

CALL TO CONFESSION

(Few moments of silent prayer)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God,
**Sometimes when I need to be kind, I am not.
Sometimes when I need to listen, I can't and I don't.
There are times when I need to express my love,
and I do so ineffectively.
When I need to be loved, I often do not seek it.
Help me to see others more clearly,
teach me to care for their needs;
Help me to know myself better,
encourage me to care for my own needs;
For it is in loving ourselves and our neighbors as ourselves
that we follow the wisdom of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, Believe the good news!
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and empowered for the Lenten journey.
Thanks be to God!

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 626

"As the Deer"

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

*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.

Leader: 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.

CHILDREN'S EARTHCARE MOMENT

Jerry Nagel

****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

SERMON TEXT (*pg. 104—NT*)

John 11:1-44

SERMON

Jesus Raises Lazarus

Rev. Paul Helphinstine

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN OF CONTEMPLATION # 522 (v. 1, 4, 5)

"I Am the Bread of Life"

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of the chosen people, during this time of preparation,
we remember with grateful hearts,
the life and work of your Son, Jesus the Messiah.

He came to teach us how to live life fully and faithfully.

He showed us that obedience to your will

does not always lead down painless paths,

but does end in rewards beyond our imagining.

Give us the courage to follow faithfully,

knowing that your steadfast love will be with us forever. Amen.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from *A 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, the
Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign
love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in
God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as
one community.**

**But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring
God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and
ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and
threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.**

**We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and
mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham
and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth.**

**Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the
house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of
the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful
still.**

**With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in
life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus
our Lord.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
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.**

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offering

Offertory Anthem

"Look to the Rose"

Joseph Martin

*Doxology # 712 (v. 1)

"As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought"

As those of old their firstfruits bought
of vineyard, flock, and field to God,

the giver of all good, the source of bounteous yield,

so we today our firstfruits bring, the wealth of this good land:
of farm and market, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING OUT TO SERVE

*HYMN OF SENDING # 494

"Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts"

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

*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.

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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.

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

(SIGN UP DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 19!)

ANNUAL BRUNCH—FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

The senior members of Covenant extend an invitation to **all members,
guests, and visitors** to join us at our **Annual Brunch on Friday, February
23, at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall.** We promise to offer you some of the
most mouthwatering food you will find anywhere prepared by some of the best
cooks in the area!! All you pay is \$4 each, payable at the door. **Please sign
up in the Narthex by Monday, February 19th.** You may also sign up by
contacting the church office at office@cpcjc.org or 282-5324. We hope you
will join us!

GOOD SAMARITAN OFFERING

Our next Good Samaritan Food Offering will be received **next Sunday,
February 25.** This month they need: **SOUP. Lots and lots of SOUP.**
Thank you for your continuing generosity!

HUMOR ME!

Please join us in the library this afternoon from 3 to 5 PM for **Humor Me!** (Bring a joke, a snack if you wish...oh, and of course, your sense of humor!)

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The **Joy Circle** will meet this Tuesday, Feb. 20, at 7:00 PM in the Bible Discovery Classroom. All are welcome!

BARB EDEMA'S NEW BOOK

If you wish to be part of our **ONE-TIME** group order of Barb Edema's new book, *For Richer or Poorer: Book Three in the Pastor Maggie Series*, please sign up in the Narthex or contact the church office. Our group discount price is \$14.75/each. **DEADLINE to sign up is next Sunday, February 25.**

CHASING SNAKES

The annual **Chasing Snakes 10K Road Race & 4K Family Walk** will be held on **Saturday, March 17th** in Johnson City. The race is sponsored by St. John's Episcopal Church with proceeds going to Family Promise. If you would like to participate watch the Johnson City Press for details or call Family Promise. Also, we need volunteers to assist St. John's in putting on the race. You should be available at 7:30 am on the 17th and you should be finished by 10:00 am. Volunteering basically involves being at different intersections to ensure the safety of participants. If you would like to help you may contact Mary Jane Kelley for specific details at 423-262-8135 or mjkkelley250@gmail.com.

SIGN UP FOR 2018 ALL CHURCH RETREAT

Sign-Ups Are Beginning for the 2018 All-Church Retreat: August 24—26, 2018! Covenant's All-Church Retreat will again take place at **Holston Presbytery Camp and Retreat Center**, a beautiful site surrounded by mountains, trees and two lakes. Biking, swimming, zip-lining, crafts, campfires, worship and fellowship with your church brothers and sisters will be on the agenda. **We know it's rather early in the year, but we want to see how many people are interested in attending.** Sign-ups and payments will be from **February 11—April 15.** You may turn in your registration form, which can be found on the table in the Narthex, to Tina in the church office. The cost this year will be \$125/person, children are still free. Questions about scholarships, transportation or accommodations? Call Tina in the office. (Betsy Moakler will be the official contact, but she is temporarily out of town.)

BLOOD DRIVE

Save the Date: Blood Drive at Covenant, Sunday, April 8, from Noon – 4:00. The American Red Cross will park the bloodmobile bus in the front driveway and accept donations from 12:00 – 4:00pm. Appointments are encouraged so it goes faster for you. For more information or to set an appointment contact Gwen Hunter grhunter1951@gmail.com 423-612-6559, or go to www.RedCrossBlood.org and reserve your time.

NAME TAGS

If you are a member or a regular visitor, or even if you have just started coming to Covenant, you **most likely** have a name badge hanging on the wall in the Narthex. We're asking **everyone** to wear their name tags while at the church to make it easier to get to know each other. **If you don't find one with your name on it, please let us know!**

TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:
Liturgy written by:
Liturgist:
Nursery:

Jim Starr
the Rev. Pat Willard
Betsy Hagelberg
Erma Hyers

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. Updates can be submitted on a weekly basis or, 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. Thank you.

Week of February 18—24, 2018.

Butch Carr, who is meeting with doctors at Vanderbilt on March 1. Surgery is tentatively scheduled for the first week in April.
Mary Lynn Moser, BJ King's sister. Scans have revealed new spots on her brain requiring radiation treatment, which is scheduled for March 12-18.
Ken Brumit, Betsy Moakler's father, who is very ill.
Mark Jones, who is waiting on another appointment at Duke for his eye.
Barbara Kirkpatrick, Frankie Wolff's sister, diagnosed with Alzheimer's.
Virginia McGuire, Lucy Terry's sister, who has stage 4 cancer.

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

Vi Block; Jeter Collins, Helen Fletcher

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).

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



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

603 Sunset Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604
423-282-5324 ♦ fax 423-282-5346 ♦ office@cpcjc.org ♦ www.cpcjc.org
Facebook: "Covenant Presbyterian Church (Johnson City, TN.)"
Instagram: @covenantpcjohnsoncity

February 18, 2018
1st Sunday in Lent



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

God of new life,
As Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead,
renew and restore us to new life,
leaving in the grave all that prevents us
from loving you fully. Amen.

THE LUNCH BUNCH – WED., FEB. 21

The next gathering of The Lunch Bunch will be this **Wednesday, February 21, at 11:30 AM, at Sabores**, 202 E. Main St. (Cuban food.) **Please RSVP to Victory Cooper** at 423-282-4641 so that she can make the appropriate number of reservations.

EASTER LILIES

The Worship Committee will be placing lilies in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 1. They will be de-pollen-ed and hypoallergenic for the comfort of our members who have allergies. The lilies will cost \$10 each. Order forms are in your bulletin and on the table in the Narthex; the lilies may be gifted to the church in honor of or in memory of family or loved ones. **Deadline for placing an order is Sunday, March 18.** Lily donations will be noted with a special insert on Easter Sunday.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILD – MARCH 21 – 24

There are still openings available for **volunteers** to help build a new home for a local family! Find Tony Madden or another member of the Mission & Outreach Committee at the Habitat display table in the Narthex after worship for details or you can sign up online at: <http://donate.holstonhabitat.org/campaigns/5621-ryan-olivia-s-build/join> or call Mandy at Holston Habitat at 423-239-7689, ext. 0. **If you wish to donate monetarily to this project, please do so through the church so that your donation will count towards Covenant's commitment.** You may make your check payable to "Covenant Presbyterian Church" and note "Habitat" on the memo line. Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Today, February 18 – 1st Sunday in Lent

9:45a	Sunday School
11:00a	Worship Service
9:30a	Confirmation Class
1:00p – 6:00p	N.A. Regional Meetings (F'ship Hall)
3:00 – 5:00p	Humor Me! (Library)
7:00p	N.A. Meeting

Monday, February 19

DEADLINE to sign up for ANNUAL BRUNCH!

7:00p	NarAnon Meeting
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Tuesday, February 20

10:00	Theologian-in-Residence at Tusculum
11:00a – 4:00p	Mom Power
6:30p	Cub Scouts
7:00p	Joy Circle
7:00p	AI-Anon Meeting

Wednesday, February 21

11:30a	The Lunch Bunch at Sabores
6:00p	GROW
6:00p	Handbell Choir
6:30p	SAFG
7:00p	Chancel Choir
7:00p	N.A. Meeting

Thursday, February 22

8:00a	Men's Bible Study
Noon	AI-Anon Meeting
2:00p – 4:00p	Bridge/Other Games
6:00p	CoDA Meeting
6:00p	"Hope Grows" Cancer Support Group

Friday, February 23

9:30a	Annual Brunch (F'ship Hall)
1:30p	N.A. Meeting
6:00p	Set-up for Derby (F'ship Hall)

Saturday, February 24

A.M.	Cub Scout Pinewood Derby (F'ship Hall)
1:00p	Recital (Sanctuary)