

*(As we enter the sanctuary, let us quietly prepare our hearts and minds for worship. Please sign the attendance pads at the end of the pew and turn off/silence cell phones.)*

### **GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME**

#### **SOUNDING OF THE HOUR**

#### **WELCOME**

Ann Freeman

#### **GREETING**

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

#### **PRELUDE**

*“Apres un Reve”*

Gabriel Faure

#### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Psalm 121

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills —  
from where will my help come?  
People: **My help comes from the LORD,  
who made heaven and earth.**  
Leader: He will not let your foot be moved;  
he who keeps you will not slumber.  
People: **He who keeps Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.**  
Leader: The LORD is your keeper;  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.  
People: **The sun shall not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**  
Leader: The LORD will keep you from all evil;  
he will keep your life.  
People: **The LORD will keep  
your going out and your coming in  
from this time on and forevermore.**

#### **\*HYMN OF PRAISE # 1**

*“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!”*

#### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Leader: Merciful God,  
People: **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 and mind and strength.  
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
In your mercy 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,  
to the glory of your holy name.  
Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*(Few moments of silent prayer)*

#### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Response: **Thanks be to God.**

#### **\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 417, v. 1**

*“Lord Jesus, Think on Me”*

**Lord Jesus, think on me, and purge away my sin.  
From earthborn passions set me free, and make me pure within.**

#### **CHILDREN'S EARTHCARE MOMENT**

Betsy Hagelberg

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

### **HEARING THE WORD OF GOD**

#### **HEBREW BIBLE READING** *(p. 10—OT)*

Genesis 12:1-4a

#### **ANTHEM**

*“Speak, Lord, In the Stillness”*

Grimes

#### **EPISTLE READING** *(p. 154—NT)*

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

#### **GOSPEL READING** *(p. 93—NT)*

John 3:1-17

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

#### **SERMON**

Rev. Dr. Michael Phoenix

### **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

#### **\*HYMN OF CONTEMPLATION** *(see insert—v. 1, 2, 4 & 5)*

*“He Comes to Us As One Unknown”*

#### **\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Ephesians 4:4-6, NRSV

**There is one body and one Spirit,  
just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,  
one Lord, one faith, one baptism,  
one God and Father of all,  
who is above all and through all and in all.**

#### **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**

*“In the Garden”*

#### **\*Doxology # 606**

*“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

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

#### **\*Prayer of Dedication**

### **GOING OUT TO SERVE**

#### **\*HYMN OF SENDING # 630** *(v. 1, 2 & 3)*

*“Fairest Lord Jesus”*

#### **\*BENEDICTION**

#### **\*POSTLUDE**

\*Please rise, in body or spirit.

**Notes:** *All music reprinted under CCLI license*

**\*\*Gateway to Worship** is our worship program for 4-year-olds through second 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.

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

### **MONDAYS WITH MICHAEL (AND A SATURDAY)!**

Let's get to know Interim Pastor Michael Phoenix and let him get to know us! **Each Monday in March from 12:00–1:00pm** various groups are invited to gather for a brown bag lunch and conversation in the Fellowship Hall. The idea is for us to gather with small groups of people we regularly meet with (just because it's fun), but feel free to come to any Monday lunch that suits your schedule.

**March 9:** Issues & Discovery Adult Sunday School Classes. Estelle Armistead, hostess

**March 16:** Choir & Handbells. Ann Freeman, hostess

**March 23:** Other Adult Sunday School Class (meets in classroom off Fellowship Hall and searching for a name) and Local & Worldwide Missions Committee. Hal Hunter, host

**March 30:** Congregational Life Committee. Michele Hart, hostess

**Saturday, March 21, 5:30pm:** Anyone who wants to come! Potluck supper at the home of Gwen and Hal Hunter, 512 W. Maple St. Theme: Theological discussion of Michael's choosing.

### **JEWELRY SALE FOR THE RIVER: SUNDAY, MARCH 22**

Please join us for Cynthia Erdei's **Bi-Annual Jewelry Sale on Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> from 3—5 PM** (2503 Wynn Drive, J.C., 469-233-6469). There will be goodies, laughter, friends to visit, and lots of necklaces and earrings to pick from. As always, **all profits go to The River Ministry**, where women help women help themselves.

*The River provides women in poverty both a safe place to meet basic needs on a daily basis and additional support programs that educate and empower women for independent living while sharing loads of God's love.*

### **GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD OFFERING**

The **Good Sam Food Offering** will be received on **Sunday, March 22**. This month they need: **Canned Meats** (*Vienna Sausage, Beef Stew, Tuna, etc.*). Thank you, as always, for your generosity!

### **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

In response to current health concerns, we are suspending the Passing of The Peace during our worship service. We urge you to wait until the service is over to greet each other, and then please do so in such a way as to respect each other's boundaries, wave, elbow-bump, verbally greet each other, rather than shaking hands or hugging. You will find **Purell hand sanitizers** located on the walls throughout the church, as well as bottles of hand sanitizers in various locations. The CDC recommendations include covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throwing the tissue away in the trash; avoiding touching your face, avoiding close contact with people who are sick, and staying home when you are sick. The CDC says that facemasks are not necessary unless you are showing symptoms of illness or caring for someone who is ill. Let's all follow the usual common-sense precautions to stay healthy.

### ONLINE GIVING!

Online Giving is available through our website at [www.cpcjc.org](http://www.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.*

### **ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER AT WATAUGA AVENUE PRES.**

#### TUESDAY, MARCH 17 AT 5:30 PM—FUNDRAISER

The community is invited to Watauga Avenue Presbyterian Church, 610 East Watauga Avenue in Johnson City for a special **St. Patrick's Day dinner on Tuesday, March 17, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.** A traditional Irish meal will be served, including corned beef, cabbage, potatoes and dessert, prepared by Chef David Ramquist, and Michelle Browning, Chef of Café Lola Bistro. There will also be musical entertainment for the whole family.

Watauga Avenue Presbyterian Church is hosting this **fundraising dinner** to help support the church's strong commitment to local mission. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 12, and are available at the church office at 610 E. Watauga Avenue. Advanced reservations are encouraged. For more information call (432) 926-7942, or go online to [www.wataugapc.org](http://www.wataugapc.org).

### THE LUNCH BUNCH IN MARCH

The next meeting of the Lunch Bunch will be on **Wednesday, March 18 at 12:30 PM** at Yum Sushi Burrito and Poke, 1735 W. State of Franklin. **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.

### WEEKLY PRAYER GROUP

Join us for prayer in the High School room. We meet to lift up to the Lord concerns of our church family, our community and our world. Sundays before Sunday School at 9:30 AM.

### CONTACT INFO FOR MICHAEL

Rev. Dr. Michael Phoenix (just call him Michael) will be in town from Saturday afternoon until Monday afternoon each week. Phone number: church office at 423-282-5324. If you call outside of office hours, please press "1" to leave him a voicemail. Email: [michael@cpcjc.org](mailto:michael@cpcjc.org).

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

**Monday: Thursday: 9:00a – 4:00p**

**The office is closed on Friday.**

Note that voicemail messages left for Tina (press "2") are forwarded to the church email, which she can access at any time, **so if you have an emergency, PLEASE leave a voicemail on her extension.** Tina will return your call as soon as possible. 423-282-5324.

### 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.

### TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:  
Liturgist:  
Section Leader:  
Violinist:  
Gateway:  
Nursery:

Jim Starr  
Ann Freeman  
Shawn Hale  
Catherine McGlasson  
Madden  
Pat Smith

### CHURCH STAFF

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

Rev. Dr. Michael Phoenix  
Jessica Siple  
Tina Simon  
Anne Webb  
Marie Britt  
Jeanne Gamble

### PRAYER CONCERNS

#### Week of March 8—14, 2020

The people affected by the tornados in Nashville.  
Suzanne Vesterfelt, who has esophageal cancer.  
Sharon Miller, who is recovering after knee replacement surgery.  
Sophie Miller, David & Sharon's granddaughter, who is still having some health problems.  
Dave & Julie Wood's grandson, Maximus, who is still recovering from pneumonia.  
Lori Simon, Tina's sister, who has to re-start her radiation treatments next week because of complications.  
Kristen Johnson, friend of Betsy Moakler, who has breast cancer.  
Jan Paveglio, who is recovering from knee surgery.  
Don Wolf, Julie Wood's father, as he continues to recover.  
Bob & Betty Thompson, Phyllis' parents.  
Linda Sisk, who is at Cornerstone in room 603. Visitors are welcome.  
Michael & Karen, missionaries who are stationed in Afghanistan.

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

Vi Block, Jeter Collins, Lattie Collins, Helen Davis, Mary Derouen, Helen Fletcher, Glay Hood, Barbara Quisenberry, Linda Sisk

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

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

***and Ministries of the Presbytery:***

UKirk ETSU (Pres. Campus Ministry)  
Holston Presbytery Camp

### NAME TAGS

Please wear your name tag 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!**



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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**MARCH 8, 2020**

**2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT**

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Eternal God,  
you have called us to be members of one body.  
Join us with those  
who in all times and places have praised your name,  
that, with one heart and mind,  
we may show the unity of your church,  
and bring honor to our Lord and Savior,  
Jesus Christ. Amen.

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

- **Joy Circle:** Tuesday, March 10, at 7:00 PM at the home of Anne Smith, 239 N. Gilmer Park. (Anne is the contact person for this Circle.)
- **Friendship Circle:** Wednesday, March 11, at 1:30 PM in the Church Library. (Contact for this Circle is Elaine Warehime.)
- **Red Tent Circle:** Thursday, March 12, at 7:00 PM at the home of BJ King, 8 Fox Run Lane. (Contact for this Circle is BJ King.)

## COLLECTION FOR J.C. SCHOOLS HOMELESS CHILDREN

There are at least 220 children in the Johnson City school system were considered homeless. The Local & World Missions Committee at Covenant, through communication with the Johnson City School System Homeless Coordinator, has been made aware that these children are in need of daily hygiene items. Therefore, our church is collecting the items listed below. There is a collection box in the narthex. *If you are unable to do the shopping, you may make a monetary donation and we will do the shopping for you. Please make your check payable to Covenant and note "homeless children" on the memo line.* We appreciate your generous support for this local need in the community.

### Full size only (no trail size) & unopened

- |                                      |               |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1) Shampoo                           | 5) Toothpaste |
| 2) Conditioner                       | 6) Bar soap   |
| 3) Deodorant                         | 7) Loofahs    |
| 4) Soft Toothbrush (kids and adults) |               |

## SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

Join us in the library on **March 21 at 7:00 PM** for Lawrence Kasdan's powerful and uplifting film, *Grand Canyon*. When a lawyer's car breaks down in a dangerous neighborhood, a tow-truck driver arrives just in time to save him. The two men forge a deep and lasting friendship that affects not only them, but their families and friends for years to come.

Starring Kevin Kline and Danny Glover; with Alfre Woodard, Mary McDonnell and Steve Martin. 1991, Rated R (language) running time: 137 minutes.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Come join us in Sunday School as we explore what a difference an honest, living, growing faith can make in our world today. We are using Brian McLaren's book We Make the Road by Walking. Email Dave Wood if you have any questions. [Woodfamily5@bellsouth.net](mailto:Woodfamily5@bellsouth.net). 10:00 AM. Classroom off the Fellowship Hall.

## SAVE THE DATE FOR THE FAITH BUILD AND

### GARAGE SALE TO BENEFIT HABITAT FAITH BUILD

Our pledge to Habitat for Humanity's upcoming Faith Build (marking their 300<sup>th</sup> home!) is to provide one week of labor and a monetary donation towards the completion of the home. Our volunteer week is May 27-30 and our task will be to paint the interior of the home. More details to come, but for now, please save these dates and plan to volunteer! In an effort to help lessen the financial burden on our congregation, we are sponsoring a "Garage Sale", with the proceeds going toward the upcoming Faith Build. **The dates of the sale will be Friday, May 1 & Saturday, May 2.** Thursday, April 30 has been designated as a set up day. The sale will take place in the Fellowship Hall. The committee needs your help in two areas:

1. Gather up all the saleable items you no longer need. The one thing we are **NOT** going to sell is clothing. Household items, toys, kitchen utensils, tools, books and pretty much anything else you can think of will be welcome. There is a room in the basement that we can use to temporarily store things if you need to get them out of your house. Any items that are not sold will be donated, probably to the Habitat ReStore.
2. We need some volunteers willing to help. We can use help on the days of the sale, with the set-up, with sorting and pricing items and with cleaning up afterwards. We could also use volunteers with trucks or large vehicles that would be willing to help transport items for those who need help.

Please keep this in mind as you are doing your Spring Cleaning and join with us in serving this wonderful mission.

## THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

### Today, March 8

**9:45a/10:45a**  
11:00a  
12:30p  
7:00p

**Special Sunday School** (*F'ship Hall*)  
Worship Service  
Session Meeting  
N.A. Meeting (*F'ship Hall*)

### Monday, March 9

9:00a  
**Noon**  
1:00p  
**6:00p – 8:00p**  
7:00p

Worship Committee Meeting  
**Mondays with Michael** (*F'ship Hall*)  
A Few Preachers Having Lunch (*library*)  
**Black/White Dialogue** (*Carver Park*)  
NarAnon Meeting (*library*)

### Tuesday, March 10

**2:00p – 4:00p**  
5:00p – 9:30p  
**7:00p**  
7:00p

**Games in Library/Bridge in Classroom**  
Foster Parent Training (*F'ship Hall*)  
**Joy Circle** (*at Anne's*)  
Al-Anon Meeting (*library*)

### Wednesday, March 11

**1:30p**  
6:00p  
7:00p  
7:00p

**Friendship Circle** (*library*)  
Handbell Practice  
Chancel Choir  
N.A. Meeting (*F'ship Hall*)

### Thursday, March 12

**8:00a**  
Noon  
5:30p  
**7:00p**

**Men's Bible Study** (*F'ship Hall*)  
Al-Anon Meeting (*library*)  
Cub Scouts (*F'ship Hall*)  
**Red Tent Circle** (*at BJ's*)

### Friday, March 13

**10:00a – 2:00p**  
Noon  
1:30p  
6:30p

**Mom Power**  
CoDA Meeting (*classroom*)  
N.A. Meeting (*F'ship Hall*)  
Al-Anon Meeting (*library*)

### Saturday, March 14

12:30p – 3:00p

CCL Meeting (*library*)