

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

To you I lift up my eyes,
O you who are enthroned in the heavens!
As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master,
as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,
so our eyes look to the LORD our God,
until he has mercy upon us.
Have mercy upon us, O LORD,
have mercy upon us,
for we have had more than enough of contempt.
Our soul has had more than its fill of the scorn
of those who are at ease,
of the contempt of the proud.
Have mercy upon us, O LORD,
have mercy upon us.

*Psalm 123, one of the psalms of ascent
sung by the Israelites as they went up to Jerusalem*

*OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE # 804

"Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart"

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 made new for our Lenten journey.
Thanks be to God!

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 447

"We Are Forgiven"

We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

*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.

(continued)

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.

****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 (*pg. 685—OT*)

Isaiah 55:1-9

GOSPEL READING (*pg. 76—NT*)

Luke 13:1-9

SERMON

Repentance

Rev. Paul Helphinstine

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN OF CONTEMPLATION # 442

"Just As I Am, without One Plea"

*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 the Holy Spirit,

everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,

**sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

The same Spirit

who inspired the prophets and apostles

rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,

engages us through the Word proclaimed,

claims us in the waters of baptism,

**feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.**

In a broken and fearful world

the Spirit gives us courage

to pray without ceasing,

to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,

to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,

to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,

and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,

we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks

and to live holy and joyful lives,

even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,

praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

(continued)

**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 *"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"* arr. L. Larson

*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 # 816 *"If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee"*

*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.*

*The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given by Reg & Mildred Murphy to the
glory of God and in honor of their 68th wedding anniversary on March 29th.*

*The congregation also wishes a Happy 55th Anniversary to
Jerry & Sally Nagel, which is also on March 29th.*

SAVE THE DATE!

Blood Drive at Covenant on Sunday, April 28 from Noon—4:00 PM.

Contact Gwen Hunter to reserve your time to give.

Grhunter1951@gmail.com

WOMEN IN POLITICS CONVERSATION FORUM

SUNDAY, MARCH 31 FROM 3:00 – 5:00 PM

Three Johnson City women recently elected or re-elected to public office will headline a public conversation on the role of women in community service.

Jenny Brock, Johnson City Mayor; Jodi Jones, Washington County Commissioner; and Michelle Treece, Johnson City School Board will share their views on public service, leadership philosophies, and thoughts on the value of women in elected positions.

This free, non-partisan, and non-denominational event is open to the public on Sunday, March 31, from 3:00–5:00 PM at the Willow Tree Coffeehouse and Music Room, 216 E. Main St. in downtown Johnson City.

The event is hosted by Covenant Presbyterian Church which plans a series of public and educational events to provide opportunities for learning and growing together as a diverse community. For more information contact Gwen Hunter at grhunter1951@gmail.com or visit Covenant Presbyterian Church at www.cpcjc.org.

COLD & FLU SEASON

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!

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.*



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.



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.

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:
Liturgy written by:
Liturgist:
Nursery:

Jim Starr
the Rev. Pat Willard
Ron Smith
Gina Long

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 March 24—30, 2019.

Sally Nagel, who is in rehab for physical therapy after being in the hospital.
Bob Hart, who is at Princeton Transitional Care for rehab after spending a few days in the hospital.
Estelle Armistead, who is having severe pain in her feet.
Glady Hood, as he adjusts to his move into assisted living at Cornerstone.
Patti Coble, who is recovering after knee replacement surgery.
Emily Helphinstine, who is recovering after eye surgery.
Paul Helphinstine, who has been having back problems and may need surgery.
Ivy Finn, infant daughter of friends of Dave & Julie Wood: Please continue to pray for Ivy and her parents as she recovers from her heart surgery and they prepare to return home to Florida to brother Bear.
Butch Carr, who is under hospice care.
Jim Paveglio, who is suffering from cancer as well as stage 4 kidney failure.
Jan Paveglio, whose pain has been caused by a dilated bile duct, and who is looking at rotator cuff surgery or shoulder replacement in the near future.
Tracy Stanfiel, Sharon Miller's sister who is in rehab after having bilateral knee replacements.
Robbi Meluso, Tina's mom, who is home but is having a very difficult time. Please also pray for Tina's brother, Terrence, who is their mom's caregiver.
Kendall Harris, who continues treatment for his blood condition.
David DeWeese, who continues to recover from his hospitalization.
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 has spread.
Bonnie Mae Miller, Marie Britt's sister-in-law, who is in assisted living.
Betty Porter, Marie Britt's sister, who has been diagnosed with 3 aneurisms.

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

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

603 Sunset Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604
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Facebook: "Covenant Presbyterian Church (Johnson City, TN.)"
Instagram: @covenantpcjohnsoncity

March 24, 2019
3rd Sunday in Lent



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Eternal God,
your kingdom has broken into our troubled world
through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son.
Help us to hear your word and obey it,
that we may become instruments of your saving love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Today, March 24

9:00a Chancel Choir
9:30a – 9:55a Weekly Prayer Group
10:00a Sunday School
11:00a Worship Service
12:30p Local & World Mission Committee Meeting
7:00p N.A. Meeting

Monday, March 25

8:30a N.A. Meeting
4:30p Admin & Budget Committee Meeting
5:00p UKirk Meal
6:00p Outreach Committee Meeting
7:00p NarAnon Meeting

Tuesday, March 26

8:30a N.A. Meeting
11:30a – 4:30p Mom Power
6:30p Cub Scouts
7:00p Al-Anon Meeting

Wednesday, March 27

6:00p GROW
NO Handbell Choir
6:30p SAFG
NO Chancel Choir
7:00p N.A. Meeting

Thursday, March 28

8:00a Men's Bible Study
Noon Al-Anon Meeting
2:00p – 4:00p Bridge & Games in the Library

Friday, March 29

Noon CoDA Meeting
1:30p N.A. Meeting