

GATHERING IN GOD’S NAME

SOUNDING OF THE HOUR

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP AND CONGREGATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

GREETING

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!

PRELUDE “All Glory, Laud and Honor” L. Larson

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Psalm 132:13-18

For the LORD has chosen Zion;
he has desired it for his habitation:
“This is my resting place forever;
here I will reside, for I have desired it.

I will abundantly bless its provisions;
I will satisfy its poor with bread.

Its priests I will clothe with salvation,
and its faithful will shout for joy.

There I will cause a horn to sprout up for David;
I have prepared a lamp for my anointed one.
His enemies I will clothe with disgrace,
but on him, his crown will gleam.”

*Psalm 132, one of the ‘songs of ascent’ sung by the Israelites
on their way up to Jerusalem*

*OPENING PRAYER

***HYMN OF PRAISE # 197** “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

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 comforted
as we near the end of our Lenten journey.
Thanks be to God!

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 629, v.1** “Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee”

Jesus, the very thought of thee
with sweetness fills my breast.
But sweeter far thy face to see,
and in thy presence rest.

*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.

****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

SCRIPTURE READING (*pg. 106—NT*) John 12:12-27; 19:16b-22

SERMON What a Week Rev. Paul Helphinstine

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

***HYMN OF CONTEMPLATION # 215** “What Wondrous Love Is This”

*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, 11.2*

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:

preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,

teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,

healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,

eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,

and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,

Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain

and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,

breaking the power of sin and evil,

delivering us from death to life eternal. 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 “He Was Wounded” Craig Courtney

He was wounded for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities.
The punishment that brought us peace was upon Him.
And with His wounds, we are healed.

He was despised, He was rejected, one from whom men hide their faces.

Man of sorrows, with grief acquainted we esteemed Him not.

All we like sheep have gone astray, each of us turned to his own way.

And the Lord has laid on Him all.

Surely He took up all of our suffering. Surely He carried our sorrows.

Yet we considered Him afflicted, smitten, stricken by God.

He was wounded for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities.

The punishment that brought us peace was upon Him.

And with His wounds, we are healed.

***DOXOLOGY # 697** (vs. 6) “Take My Life”

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;

take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee,

ever, only, all for thee

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOING OUT TO SERVE

***HYMN OF SENDING # 223** “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

*BENEDICTION

*Lent is a season of quiet reflection. As an act of corporate fasting,
our service will end without a 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.

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 67th wedding anniversary.*

*The congregation expresses its deepest sympathy to the Jones family
in the death of Melanie’s father, Frank Gammo, on Wednesday.*

COMMUNION NEXT SUNDAY

The **SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER** will be celebrated next Sunday. Take time this week to prepare yourself in prayer and meditation.

MAUNDY THURSDAY SEDER MEAL & SERVICE

You are invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall at **6:00 PM on Maundy Thursday, March 29, for a Passover meal (Seder)**. For meal preparation purposes, we need to know how many people will be coming so **please sign up TODAY in the Narthex!! (Deadline to sign up is tomorrow, March 26.)**

HOLY WEEK

Wednesday, March 28 at 5:30p
in place of GROW:

Movie: Celui Qui Doit Mourir (He Who Must Die)
March 28, 5:30 PM in the Library. (See article below.)

MAUNDY THURSDAY

March 29, 6:00 PM

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for a Passover meal (Seder).
Watauga Avenue Presbyterian Church has been invited to join us.
Please sign up in the Narthex TODAY.

GOOD FRIDAY

March 30, 6:00 PM

There will be a Tenebrae Service/Service of Shadows
at Watauga Avenue Presbyterian Church beginning at 6:00 PM.
(610 E. Watauga Ave., J.C.) We encourage everyone to attend.

EASTER SUNDAY

April 1

Sunrise Service at 7:00 AM

This will be a brief service. Meet in the Narthex.

Traditional Service at 11 AM in the Sanctuary.



Wednesday, March 28 at 5:30p

In place of GROW during Holy Week, the following movie will be shown
in the Library:

Celui Qui Doit Mourir (HE WHO MUST DIE) is arguably the best
'Christ Story' ever filmed. This French movie was produced in 1957 and
released in this country in 1958. It is black and white with English
subtitles and is approximately 122 minutes long.

The story is set in a small Greek village during the 1920s when Greece
was occupied by the Turks. There is conflict between the Turks and the
Greeks and conflict between the intact, but occupied, village and the
villagers from a burned out village trying to relocate nearby.

Easter is approaching and the village is preparing for its annual
passion play. Starring Jean Servais, Pierre Vanneck, and Melina
Mercouri, this movie was part of the 1957 Cannes Film Festival.

BOOKS FOR THE CHILDREN IN LIBERIA

BABMOC's school in Liberia needs books for its library. If you have any
books—fiction or non-fiction—that are appropriate for children and teens,
please bring them **by Sunday, April 15th**. There is a bin in the Narthex.
Isaac Mayon, our school director, will be visiting on that Sunday and plans
to take the books with him to New Jersey for shipping to Monrovia, Liberia.
Thanks, Matt Cary

www.isaacsdream.org, Facebook: *Isaac's Dream for Liberian Kids*

NOTES:

- ◆ Armchair Travelers and Humor Me! **will not** meet in April.
- ◆ Barb Edema will be at Covenant on **April 8!**
- ◆ **Church Spring Clean-Up Day** is Saturday, April 15.

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
Hal Hunter
David Miller

Covenant Handbell Choir

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.*

Week of March 25—31, 2018.

Mary Derouen, who is having numerous health issues.
Corrina Casson, Linda Sisk's daughter and wife of Pastor Casson at Wesley
UMC. Tests for cancer were negative. She does have autoimmune issues.
Butch Carr, who is scheduled for a procedure the first week in April.
Mary Lynn Moser, BJ King's sister, who is having radiation treatments
again.
Ken Brumit, Betsy Moakler's father, who is very ill.
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.)"

March 25, 2018
Passion/Palm Sunday



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Lord Jesus Christ,
on the first Palm Sunday
you entered the rebellious city
where you were to die.
Enter our hearts, we pray,
and subdue them to yourself.
And as your disciples blessed your coming
and spread garments and branches
in your way,
make us ready to lay at your feet
all that we have and are,
that we too may bless your coming.
In the name of the Lord. Amen.

SIGN UP NOW!!

Deadline to Register is Sunday, April 29

Holston Camp and Retreat Center: August 24 – 26, 2018

Sure it's early, but it's time to **SIGN UP** for this year's retreat so we can confirm our reservation at Camp! **Holston Presbytery Camp and Retreat Center** is 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. You may turn your **registration form**, which can be found on the table in the Narthex, along with your payment, in the offering plate or to Tina in the church office. The cost this year will be \$125/person, children are still free. Questions? Call Betsy Moakler at 423-314-7143.

Save the Date: Blood Drive at Covenant, Sunday, April 8. The American Red Cross will park the bloodmobile bus in the front driveway and accept donations from **Noon–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.

Mark Your Calendars: April 21, 2018

In celebration of Earth Day 2018, you are invited to attend the **Awakening the Dreamer; Changing the Dream Symposium** on Saturday, April 21, 1:00–5:00 PM at First Presbyterian Church, Elizabethton, 119 West F Street. There is no charge to attend. (Further details will be in the April Courier.)

Thank You from Mark Jones

Dear Covenant Congregation,

Thank you all for your thoughts and prayers the past couple of weeks. They have greatly lifted my spirits and helped my recovery immensely. I love you all.

Sincerely,

Mark

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Today, March 25 – Palm Sunday

9:30a Chancel Choir
9:45a Sunday School
10:00a Handbell Choir
11:00a Worship Service
12:30p Mission & Outreach Committee Meeting
12:30p Confirmation Class
7:00p N.A. Meeting

Monday, March 26

7:00p NarAnon Meeting

Tuesday, March 27

11:00a Mom Power
6:30p Cub Scouts
6:30p BABMOC Meeting
7:00p Al-Anon Meeting

Wednesday, March 28

5:30p Movie in Library
6:00p Handbell Choir
6:30p SAFG
7:00p Chancel Choir
7:00p N.A. Meeting

Thursday, March 29 – Maundy Thursday

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

Friday, March 30 – Good Friday

1:30p N.A. Meeting
6:00p Tenebrae Service at Watauga Ave. Pres.

Saturday, March 31

4:00p – 6:00p Confirmation Class Cook-Out