

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

SOUNDING OF THE HOUR

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP AND CONGREGATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

GREETING

Christ is risen!
He is risen, indeed!

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is risen,
Christ is living,
Dry your tears, be unafraid!
Death and darkness could not hold him,
nor the tomb where he was laid.
Do not look among the dead
for one who lives forevermore;
Tell the world that Christ has risen,
make it known he goes before.
Come and worship! Come and worship!
Worship Christ our risen Lord.

*OPENING PRAYER

***HYMN OF PRAISE # 254** *“That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright”*

CALL TO CONFESSION

(Few moments of silent prayer)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Giving and loving God,
There is a song that you have placed within me,
but I do not sing very often.
There is joy in the world hidden for me,
but I seek other treasures that are empty and vain.
There are those who cry out for my help,
but I seek my own safety and comfort instead.
You have given me Christ as my Savior,
but I sometimes look to other gods.
Our notes are flat when there is not enough breath.
Our lives are empty until they are filled with the wind of the Spirit.
Our lives are self-centered until we reach out to others.
Our vision is dim until we see with the light of Christ.
Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy upon us.
Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Brothers and Sisters, the One who gave us Jesus Christ did so in order that we might turn and live. Believe the good news! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and awakened to new life.
Thanks be to God!

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 247 (Verse 3)** *“Now the Green Blade Rises”*

Forth he came at Easter lie the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;
love is come again like wheat arising green.

*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

NEW TESTAMENT READING (*pg. 122—NT*) Acts 4:32-35

GOSPEL READING (*pg. 115—NT*) John 20:19-31

SERMON Locks and Chains Rev. Dr. Barbara Edema

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN OF CONTEMPLATION # 250** *“In the Bulb There Is a Flower”*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God:
who welcomes our laughter
and moves us to wonder...

We believe in Christ:
who welcomes our questions
and loves us to trust...

We believe in Spirit:
who welcomes our doubts
and loves us to faith.
This we believe! Amen!

from Reformed Worship, written by Jeffery S. Gains

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 *“There Is A Fountain”* Everson

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 # 246** *“Christ Is Alive!”*

*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.

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.

The congregation expresses its deepest sympathy to Dustin Odom in the death of his grandmother, Inez Warfield.

This morning, the Rev. Dr. Barbara Edema joins Paul in the pulpit. Barb is an ordained minister in the Reformed Church in America (RCA). She has served churches in Pella, Iowa, and Grand Rapids & Chelsea in Michigan. She received her Doctor of Ministry degree from Western Theological Seminary in 2005. She is married to Dr. Doug Edema, is the mother of Elise, Lauren, Alana and Wes, and stepmother to Becky (husband, John), Todd (wife, Alli), and step-grandma to Mason, Addie, Sam & Matthew. Barb & Doug moved from Johnson City back to Michigan in November 2013.

AFTER CHURCH LUNCH – TODAY!

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall immediately after worship for After Church Lunch. We look forward to sharing this fellowship opportunity with you!

Blood Drive TODAY! Noon to 4:00 PM. Walk in's welcome. Eat lunch, then donate!

COLLEGE STUDENT FINAL EXAM CARE PACKAGES

The Mission & Outreach Committee is sponsoring “Final Exam” Care Packages to be mailed to all of our college students. (Drew Amstutz, Joseph Cary, Julia Hagelberg, Blake Jones, Mark Jones, and Shannon Moakler) The boxes are set up in the Fellowship Hall. If you have an item to contribute to one or all of the boxes, please do so. There is also a card beside each box, feel free to write a short note to our college students and sign. After the cards are signed and boxes are filled, M&O will make sure that each box has roughly the same amount of “good Covenant loving” inside and will mail boxes on Monday, April 9th.

NEWSLETTER

The APRIL COURIER is on the table in the Narthex – **PLEASE NOTE: MANY** of the announcements about upcoming events are in the April Courier, **NOT** in this week's bulletin, so **PLEASE** be sure to pick one up and read it if you have not already received it via e-mail. **You may also find the newsletter and April's calendar on our website: www.cpcjc.org.**

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Updated Ivory-colored Church Directories are on the table...**please take one!** Or two (keep one in your car)! If you would like me to send you the directory electronically via e-mail, please let me know. It will NOT be available on our website. If you find any errors, please contact me and I'll place the corrected information in the bulletin.

CHURCH SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY, APRIL 14

Please join the Property Committee on Saturday, April 14th for Church Spring Clean-Up Day! (rain date is April 21) Some of us will begin at 8:30 AM, others at 9:00 AM and continue until we are done or until everyone gets tired. The Committee will have some cleaning materials available, but everyone is encouraged to bring cleaning-type supplies and materials, such as cleaning cloths/buckets/brooms/step ladders etc. The work tasks will be split into groups such as window cleaning group, floor cleaning group, landscape bed cleaning, etc., so come prepared to work on a particular task, or several. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact a Property Committee member.

BABMOC NEWS—SUNDAY, APRIL 15

- **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 and founder of Bear Another's Burdens Ministry of Christ (BABMOC), will be visiting on that Sunday and plans to take the books with him to New Jersey for shipping to Monrovia, Liberia.
- **You're Invited to the BABMOC Open House on April 15th from 2—4 PM** at the Cary's home, 601 Douglas Drive in Johnson City.

Thanks, Matt Cary

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

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.

AWAKENING THE DREAMER SYMPOSIUM—APRIL 21

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 are in the April Courier.)

GOOD SAM OFFERING

Our next Good Samaritan Offering will be received **on Sunday, April 22**. This month they need: **Mac 'n Cheese**. Thank you for your continuing generosity!

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:
Clarinet:
Nursery:

Jim Starr
the Rev. Pat Willard
Paul Helphinstine
Grace Madden
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.

Week of April 8—14, 2018.

Glay Hood, who is at Quillen for rehab after a fall a couple of weeks ago.
Bob Hart, whose carotid artery surgery last week went very well.
Dwight Sherman, who had a pacemaker implanted last week.
Butch Carr, who had a procedure last week and is awaiting further treatment.
Mary Derouen, who is having numerous health issues.
Mary Lynn Moser, BJ King's sister, who is having radiation treatments again.
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@cpjcc.org ♦ www.cpcjc.org
Facebook: "Covenant Presbyterian Church (Johnson City, TN.)"
Instagram: @covenantpcjohnsoncity

April 8, 2018
2nd Sunday of Easter



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age, till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

~ ~ *Christ is Alive!* Brian Wren

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Today, April 8

9:45a Sunday School
11:00a Worship Service
Noon – 4:00p **Red Cross Blood Drive**
12:30p **After Church Lunch**
1:30p Session Meeting
7:00p N.A. Meeting

Monday, April 9

1:00p A Few Preachers Lunch
5:00p Stewardship Committee Meeting
6:00p **Black/White Dialogue at Carver Park**
7:00p NarAnon Meeting

Tuesday, April 10

11:00a **Mom Power**
1:30p **Friendship Circle**
6:30p Cub Scouts
6:30p BABMOC Meeting
7:00p Al-Anon Meeting

Wednesday, April 11

6:00p **GROW**
6:00p Handbell Choir
6:30p SAFG
7:00p Chancel Choir
7:00p N.A. Meeting

Thursday, April 12

8:00a Men's Bible Study
Noon Al-Anon Meeting
2:00p – 4:00p **Bridge/Other Games**
6:00p CoDA Meeting
6:00p "Hope Grows" Cancer Support Group
7:00p **Red Tent Circle**

Friday, April 13

1:30p N.A. Meeting

Saturday, April 14

8:30a (or so) **Church Spring Clean-Up Day!!**