

## GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

SOUNDING OF THE HOUR

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP AND CONGREGATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Ellis Deaton

GREETING

Christ is risen!

**He is risen, indeed!**

PRELUDE

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Because you live, O Christ,

**the garden of the world has come to flower.**

The darkness of the tomb

**is flooded with your resurrection power.**

Because you live, O Christ,

**the spirit bird of hope is freed for flying.**

Our cages of despair

**no longer keep us closed and life denying.**

Because you live, O Christ,

**the rainbow of your peace will span creation.**

The colors of your love

**will draw all humankind to adoration.**

**Come and worship! Come and worship!**

**Worship Christ our risen Lord.**

\*OPENING PRAYER

\*HYMN OF PRAISE # 14

*“For the Beauty of the Earth”*

CALL TO CONFESSION

*(Few moments of silent prayer)*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen:

**You place us in your creation,**

**and you command us to care for it.**

**Your works declare glory and splendor,**

**and you call us to praise and reverence.**

**Where we have degraded or destroyed earth's bounty,**  
**forgive us.**

**Where we have taken beauty and majesty for granted,**  
**have mercy upon us.**

**Where we have become estranged from the creatures**  
**with whom we share this planet,**  
**grant us your peace.**

**Renew us in the waters of baptism,**  
**refresh us with the winds of your spirit,**  
**and sustain us with the bread of life.**

**In the name of Jesus Christ,**

**and for the sake of the new creation, we pray. Amen.**

*--Rev. Ken Carter, pastor of Providence United Methodist Church  
in Charlotte, North Carolina*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, Jesus Christ came that we might live more abundantly.

Believe the good news! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free.

**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.

CHILDREN'S EARTHCARE MOMENT

Ann Freeman

\*\***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. 136—NT*)

Acts 16:16-34

SERMON

Paul and Silas in Jail

Rev. Paul Helphinstine

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\*HYMN OF CONTEMPLATION # 738

*“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”*

\*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

*“How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place”*

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.

## GOING OUT TO SERVE

\*HYMN OF SENDING # 20

*“All Things Bright and Beautiful”*

\*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.

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

### SIGN UP NOW!!

**Deadline to Register is next Sunday, April 29**

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

**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.

### FROM THE CONGREGATIONAL LIFE COMMITTEE

**Grab your calendars and make a note:** The **May After Church Lunch** is being pushed back to the **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, May 20**, because Mother's Day falls on our usual 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday lunch day. **Always a favorite, the theme for May is Breakfast!** We all have our favorites, so let's share them as we gather around our fellowship tables with church family.

We need **help with cleaning** the kitchen afterward, as always. Please do pitch in. We need you and we'll be glad show you how to help.

**Please sign up for after church snacks.** We have several Sundays that need to be covered so please look at the signup sheet posted in the Narthex and help out.

### 2018 PENTECOST OFFERING

**The Pentecost Offering will be received on Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>.** A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church as a whole to encourage, develop and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Offering will remain with Covenant and will be given to a local mission project to make an impact in the lives of young people within our own community. Please give generously.

## PLEASE NOTE:

- The **Vision Roll-Out** originally set for April 29 will be delayed until June due to an unexpected scheduling conflict. We will let you know the new date soon.
- Tina will be visiting her sister in Arizona from April 20 to May 1. She will be back in the office on Wednesday, May 2. Shirley Barrett will be in the office during regular office hours.
- There will be **no May Courier**. All announcements will be in your bulletins and there will be a May calendar and a Refrigerator Page on the table in the Narthex next Sunday, April 29. Information will also be posted on our website at [www.cpcjc.org](http://www.cpcjc.org).
- Updated Ivory-colored Church Directories are on the table in the Narthex...**please take one!** Or two (keep one in your car)! If you would like to receive the directory electronically via e-mail, please let Tina know. The directory will NOT be available on our website. If you find any errors, please contact Tina and she will place the corrected information in an upcoming bulletin.
- 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!**

## A NEW GRANDDAUGHTER!

Congratulations to Ron & Shirley Hines on the birth of their granddaughter! Eva Leigh was born on Thursday, April 12 to Virginia and Chris Pfeifer. Eva Leigh joins Virginia, Chris and August.

## THANK YOU, CPC

With Mark's eye surgery on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and my father's death on the 20<sup>th</sup>, March was a rough month. But, with the outpouring of love, support, prayers, cards and food from our Covenant Family, we were able to move forward.

A BIG thank you and hug to each of you. We have felt truly loved!

God bless you.

Love,

*David, Melanie, Blake and Mark Jones*

## 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:  
Violinist:  
Nursery:

Jim Starr  
the Rev. Pat Willard  
Emily Helphinstine  
Catherine McGlasson  
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.*

## Week of April 22—28, 2018.

Beth DeTroyer, Shirley Barrett's daughter, who has health issues.

Glady Hood, who is back at home.

Bob Hart, who is in rehab at the hospital and expects to go home soon.

Butch Carr, who is awaiting further treatment but is back with us at church.

Mary Derouen, who continues to have 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.

***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.



## *Covenant Presbyterian Church*

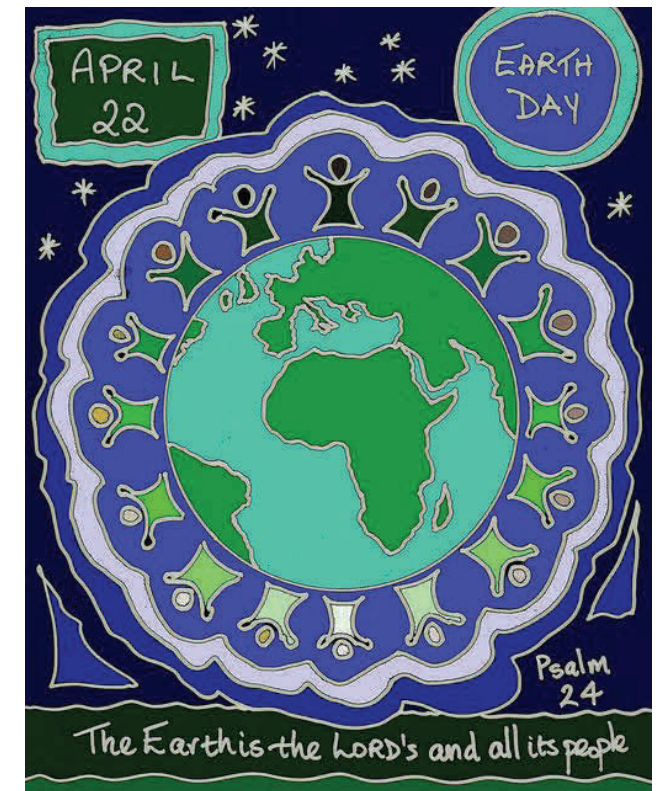
603 Sunset Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604

423-282-5324 ♦ fax 423-282-5346 ♦ [office@cpcjc.org](mailto:office@cpcjc.org) ♦ [www.cpcjc.org](http://www.cpcjc.org)

Facebook: "Covenant Presbyterian Church (Johnson City, TN.)"

Instagram: @covenantpcjohnsoncity

# COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Membership in the Church of Jesus Christ is a joy and a privilege... Such involvement includes:

proclaiming the good news in word and deed,

taking part in the common life and worship of a congregation,

lifting one another up in prayer, mutual concern, and active support,

studying Scripture and the issues of Christian faith and life

supporting the ministry of the church through the giving of money, time, and talents,

demonstrating a new quality of life within and through the church,

responding to God's activity in the world through service to others, living responsibly in the personal, family, vocational, political, cultural, and social relationships of life,

working in the world for peace, justice, freedom, and human fulfillment,

***caring for God's creation,***

participating in the governing responsibilities of the church, and

reviewing and evaluating regularly the integrity of one's membership, and considering ways in which one's participation in the worship and service of the church may be increased and made more meaningful.

—Book of Order 2017-2019: The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
Part II; G-1.0304 "The Ministry of Members"

**THIS WEEK AT COVENANT**

Today, April 22

9:45a Sunday School  
11:00a Worship Service  
12:30p Mission & Outreach Committee Meeting  
7:00p N.A. Meeting

Monday, April 23

7:00p NarAnon Meeting

Tuesday, April 24

9:00a – Noon Classroom reserved  
**11:00a Mom Power**  
6:30p Cub Scouts  
7:00p Al-Anon Meeting

Wednesday, April 25

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

Thursday, April 26

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

Friday, April 27

1:30p N.A. Meeting