

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

SOUNDING OF THE HOUR

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP AND CONGREGATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Lynnea Hunter

GREETING

Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed!

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is alive! No longer bound

to distant years in Palestine,

But saving, healing, here and now,

and touching every place and time.

In every insult, rift, and war

where color, scorn, or wealth divide,

Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,

and lives, where even hope has died.

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.

Come and worship! Come and worship!

Worship Christ our risen Lord.

*OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE # 393

“O Day of Rest and Gladness”

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

Friends, Believe the good news!

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and united with our risen Lord.

Thanks be to God!

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #733 (verse 2)

“We All Are One in Mission”

We all are called for service to witness in God's name.

Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same:

to touch the lives of others by God's surprising grace,

so every folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace.

*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

SERMON TEXT (*pg. 197—NT*)

Philippians 2:1-13

SERMON Downward is Upward

Rev. Edward Wolff

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN OF CONTEMPLATION # 726

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

*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

“The Gift of Love”

H. Hopson

*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 # 727

“Will You Let Me Be Your Servant”

*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.

ENTERED INTO THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT:

Janet Powell—May 9, 2018

*The congregation expresses its deepest sympathy
to Harry Powell in the death of his wife, Janet Powell.*

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

We welcome the Rev. Edward Wolff to the pulpit this morning.

BLACK/WHITE DIALOGUE

Monday, May 14 from 6–8 PM at Carver Park Center, 322 W. Watauga Avenue. This month's focus will be on comments and questions from last month's meeting with mayoral candidates. You do not have to have been at that meeting to attend this one. Everyone is invited – bring a friend!!

AFTER CHURCH LUNCH, CLEAN-UP, & SNACKS

Please join us **next Sunday, May 20**, for our **After Church Lunch**. Always a favorite, **the theme for May is Breakfast Foods!** We all have our favorites, so let's share them as we gather around our Fellowship tables with our church family.

We will need help with **cleaning the kitchen afterwards**. Please do pitch in. We need you and we'll be GLAD to show you how to help.

Thank you to those who have signed up to bring snacks for **After Church Refreshments**. We still have several Sundays that need to be covered so please take a look at the sign-up sheet posted in the Narthex, maybe talk to a friend, and sign up together!

2018 PENTECOST OFFERING

The Pentecost Offering will be received next Sunday, May 20th. 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.

THE LUNCH BUNCH—MAY 16

The next gathering of “The Lunch Bunch” will be on **Wednesday, May 16, at 11:30 AM at Main Street Pizza, downtown Johnson City.** **Contact Victory Cooper at 282-4641** to let her know if you plan to come so she can make the appropriate number of reservations.

HUMOR ME! – MAY 20 FROM 3—5 PM

HUMOR ME! meets on the 3rd Sunday of the month from 3—5 PM in the **Library at Covenant**. Laughing is good for your health, so the idea behind this group is to laugh, have fun and feel better! We are using a variety of humor resources and we look forward to laughing with you! (Consistent attendance is not required—drop-in's are welcome!!)

GOOD SAM OFFERING—MAY 27

Our next Good Samaritan Offering will be received on **Sunday, May 27**. This month they need: **Fruit Cups and Canned Fruit**. Thank you for your continuing generosity!

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CIRCLES (ALL ARE WELCOME!)

The **Joy Circle** meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be on **Tues., May 15, at 7:00 PM in the Bible Discovery classroom** in the hallway near the Sanctuary. (Contact for this Circle is Betsy Moakler: 423-314-7143.) (NOTE: *I got this wrong on the May calendar!!*)

This month, the **Red Tent Circle** will meet on **Thurs., May 17, at 7:00 PM at the home of BJ King, 8 Fox Run Lane**. (Contact for this Circle is BJ King: 423-791-0254.)

DID YOU SIGN UP?? IT'S NOT TOO LATE!!

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

50 people (adults and kids) are signed up to attend this year's Retreat! There is still time to join them. **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. Just fill out and turn in a **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.

THANK YOU

I want to express my sincere appreciation to those of you who expressed your love and concern for me and my grandson, Carson Cox. I have missed a lot lately because of my own illness which I can't seem to shake.

You may remember that Carson was injured in a soccer game about two weeks ago. He had facial surgery and is doing well. Needless to say his injury was a frightening experience but we both felt your prayers and were most appreciative of the phone calls, cards, and many acts of kindness.

I've always known that all of you are very special but "your little light" certainly shines brightly when people truly need help.

In Christian love,

Helen Davis and Carson Cox

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!**

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.



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).

TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:
Liturgy written by:
Liturgist:
Nursery:

Jim Starr
the Rev. Pat Willard
Hal Hunter
Emily Helphinstine

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 May 13—19, 2018.

Nina Cockerham, Donna Bridwell's mother, who has been, and still is, in the hospital with pneumonia and heart issues. A large cancerous tumor was found on Tuesday on one of her lungs and colon cancer is also suspected. No invasive procedures are planned due to her age, her heart problems, and her wishes. Her 90th birthday is June 20. The family is working with Hospice.

C.B. Willis, who fell and broke his hip and had surgery on Thursday.

Beth DeTroyer and Renee McCandless, Shirley Barrett's daughters, both of whom have health issues.

Lori Simon, Tina's sister, who found out that her cancer spread to her brain. She will have surgery using cyberknife ASAP. Lori is specifically asking for prayer that her side effects are minimal this time.

Richard McCray, Ruth Laster's father, who is recovering well at Quillen after surgery for 2 femur and 2 hip fractures.

Sue Thompson, a friend of Patti Coble, who was just diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

Carson Cox, Helen Davis' grandson, who is recovering from surgery after a soccer injury.

Glady Hood, who continues to recover.

Bob Hart, as he continues to recover.

Butch Carr, who is awaiting further treatment.

Mary Derouen, who is having numerous health issues.

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

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

May 13, 2018
7th Sunday of Easter



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

God of Love,

With praise we celebrate Jesus, who humbled himself so that every knee should bend and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. Amen.

GRADUATIONS??

If your child or grandchild is graduating from high school or college, please let Tina know! We would like to acknowledge and honor them in both the newsletter and during a worship service. Please contact the church office and let Tina know their **name, when they graduate, what school** they're graduating from, what their major is/was, and **any plans** they may have for continuing their education or going to work or moving away or whatever! Please include their **mailing address**, too.

COURIER DEADLINE

The deadline for the June Courier is Tuesday, May 15. Please send Tina **ALL** Committee meeting and other event dates for the June calendar, even if they are regularly-scheduled meetings. **Also**, please write up all announcements so that they are ready for the newsletter. Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Today, May 13

9:45a	Sunday School
11:00a	Worship Service
7:00p	N.A. Meeting

Monday, May 14

1:00p	A Few Preachers Having Lunch
6:00p	Black/White Dialogue at Carver Park
7:00p	NarAnon Meeting

Tuesday, May 15 – COURIER DEADLINE

6:30p	Cub Scouts
7:00p	AI-Anon Meeting

Wednesday, May 16

11:30a	The Lunch Bunch at Main St. Pizza
6:00p	GROW
6:00p	Handbell Choir
6:30p	SAFG
7:00p	Chancel Choir
7:00p	N.A. Meeting

Thursday, May 17

8:00a	Men's Bible Study
Noon	AI-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, May 18

1:30p	N.A. Meeting
4:00p	Recital rehearsal

Saturday, May 19

3:00p	Recital
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