

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 "Give Me a Song" Pepper Choplin

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.
**Worship the LORD with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.**
Know that the LORD is God.
**It is he that made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**
Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him, bless his name.
For the LORD is good;
**his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.**
Let us worship God together.

*OPENING PRAYER

***HYMN OF PRAISE # 41** "O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!"

CALL TO CONFESSION

(Few moments of silent prayer)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and merciful God,
**in your presence we confess
our sinfulness, our shortcomings,
and our offenses against you and against each other.**
**You alone know how often we have sinned,
in wandering from your ways,
in failing to use your gifts,
in forgetting your love.**
**Have mercy on us, O Lord,
for we are ashamed and sorry
for the times we have disappointed you,**
**Forgive our sins,
and help us to live in your light
and walk in your ways
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news:
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven and made new!
Thanks be to God!

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 581** "Glory Be to the Father"

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.

*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

OLD TESTAMENT READING (p. 326—OT) 1 Kings 19:4-8

GOSPEL READING (p. 14—NT) Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

SERMON More Than We Know Rev. Patricia Healy Locke

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN OF CONTEMPLATION # 450** "Be Thou My Vision"

***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 "L'Agreable" Marais

***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 # 366** "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

***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.

Paul Helphinstine and Pat Locke are doing a pulpit swap. Paul is preaching today at Watauga Avenue Presbyterian Church.

This morning we welcome to the pulpit the Rev. Patricia Healy Locke, pastor of Watauga Avenue Presbyterian Church. Pat is a native of Chicago and was a professional writer for most of her career. She graduated from McCormick Theological Seminary in 2007 with a Masters of Divinity. Pat served for five years as Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care and Christian Education at First Presbyterian in Grand Haven, Michigan. In 2015, she accepted the call as Pastor for Watauga Avenue Presbyterian Church.

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!

BLACK/WHITE DIALOGUE

Black/White Dialogue: Monday, August 13, from 6p—8p at Carver Park. Topic this month is: **Implicit Bias: Where does it come from? How can we mitigate its effects?** Come, join the discussion.

INTRODUCTION TO HANDBELL RINGING—AUGUST 15

Learn to Ring! Jessica Siple will be presenting a **Beginning Handbell Ringing class on Wednesday, August 15, from 6:00—6:50 PM.** This will be a fun, no pressure introduction to handbell ringing technique geared to those who have never, or rarely, played handbells and want to learn.

The ability to read music is not necessary, and there is no commitment beyond the August 15th class. We have room for 8 players. If you are interested, email Jessica at jsiple@earthlink.net or speak with her after the service today. You can also let Tina know. **Come join us for this easy introduction to Handbell Ringing, you'll enjoy it!**

SHARING A VISION FOR COVENANT—AUGUST 19 AT 9:30 AM

Please make plans to join us **next Sunday morning at 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall** for a morning of sharing a vision for Covenant Presbyterian Church. (*This will take the place of Sunday School.*)

(continued on back)

For over a year now, a **Vision Task Force** (appointed by the Session) has met to discuss setting a vision for the future of Covenant, and we'd like to share that vision with you! The Task Force presented its findings and recommendations to the session of Covenant at the regular stated meeting on March 11. The report and its recommendations were adopted by the session, and now it's time to share them with you.

That morning we will share with the congregation the process, challenges and opportunities identified, and what the Task Force sees as a path forward to help ensure the success and growth of Covenant Presbyterian Church for years to come. We will have time for conversation with task force members, and, as always, snacks and coffee.

The Vision Task Force was asked to help craft a map. Moving forward is something we do together.

SPLENDOR: AUGUST 15, 22 & 29

Watauga Ave. Presbyterian Church presents **SPLENDOR**, a GreenFaith program organized by their Green Team. Three consecutive Wednesdays evenings from **5:30 to 7:00. Aug. 15, 22 & 29.** Sign up in the Narthex or contact Tina in the church office to sign up for you. **Deadlines to sign up are the Mondays prior to that week's program.**

CHURCH RETREAT AT HOLSTON CAMP: AUGUST 24 – 26

Covenant's All Church Retreat is fast approaching! If you haven't submitted your payment or filled out and turned in your Registration Form, please do so as soon as possible! The cost this year is \$125/person, children are still free. Betsy Moakler is setting up room assignments and making carpool arrangements. Please call her at 423-314-7143 if you need a ride up to camp or if you have any other questions.

THE LUNCH BUNCH

The next **Lunch Bunch: Wed., August 15** at **Yamato's Japanese Steakhouse & Seafood**, 509 N. State of Franklin. Please contact Victory Cooper at 423-282-4641 to let her know if you plan to come so that she can make the appropriate number of reservations.

GOOD SAMARITAN

Our next **Good Samaritan Food Offering** will be received on **Sunday, August 26.** This month they need: **Spaghetti Sauce!**

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CIRCLES

Covenant has three Presbyterian Women's Circle Study Groups. **All meet monthly from September through May or June.** All three use the same curriculum. The schedule will be in the **September Courier.**

- ◆ **Friendship Circle** meets on 2nd Tuesdays at 1:30 PM in the church library. Contacts are Sally Nagel and Pat Willard.
- ◆ **Red Tent Circle** meets on 2nd Thursdays at 7:00 PM at the home of BJ King. Contact is BJ King.
- ◆ **Joy Circle will meet on 2nd Tuesdays this year (new day!)** at 7:00 PM at the church in the Bible Discovery classroom. Contact is Betsy Moakler.

If you are attending any of these Circles, **the books are here!** You may pick yours up in the church office workroom. Please add your name to the list when you pick it up.

ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE!

Covenant now provides **online giving.** This is a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or recurring donation. Getting started is easy—just visit the church website, [www.epcjc.org] and click our online giving link. Gone are the days of remembering your checkbook on Sunday (or ever!). *If you have any questions, please contact Tina in the church office.*

TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter: Jim Starr
Liturgy written by: the Rev. Pat Willard
Liturgist: Jon Fales
Viola: Laura Harrington
Offertory Accompanist: Melodye Sparks
Nursery: Chris Harrington

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Paul Helphinstine
Music Director: Jessica Siple
Office Administrator: Tina Simon
Administrative Assistant: Shirley Barrett
Custodian: Marie Britt
Nursery Worker: 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 August 12—18, 2018.

Mary Lynn Moser, BJ King's sister, who will have her third gamma knife procedure this month for new lesions found on her brain.
Jeanne Gamble, our Nursery Worker, who is recovering from shoulder and rotator cuff surgery.
Stacy Larsen's sister, Shelly, who fell and broke her back, and their mother, Charlan, who is waiting to have spinal surgery.
Linda Sisk, who is suffering from a severe case of shingles.
Carol, a friend of Susan Clark, who fell last weekend, broke her hip, and is recovering from surgery.
Butch Carr, who is doing well after his recent treatment.
Jan & Jim Paveglio, who are both recovering from health issues.
Renee McCandless, Shirley Barrett's daughter, who has some health issues and will be having surgery at the end of this month.
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, Barbara Quisenberry

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

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

AUGUST 12, 2018
12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

We live in a world divided. Yet know that God dwells even there, in all places, in this time. And also know that there is no real division for everything is in God and God is with all. We are one in God's oneness. Be aware of that sacred presence. Let it strengthen you. Let it transform you.

Build shalom. Love with abandon. Abide in peace.

(Diana Butler Bass)

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Today, August 12

9:45a In the Fellowship Hall with Pat Locke
11:00a Worship Service
12:30p After Church Lunch
1:30p Session Meeting
7:00p N.A. Meeting

Monday, August 13

8:30a N.A. Meeting
1:00p A Few Preachers Having Lunch
6:00 – 8:00p Black/White Dialogue at Carver Park
7:00p NarAnon Meeting

Tuesday, August 14

8:30a N.A. Meeting
7:00p Al-Anon Meeting

Wednesday, August 15 – COURIER DEADLINE

11:30a The Lunch Bunch at Yamato's
5:30p SPLENDOR at Watauga Ave. Pres.
6:00p GROW
6:00p Basic Handbells w/Jessica
6:30p SAFG
7:00p Chancel Choir
7:00p N.A. Meeting

Thursday, August 16

8:00a Men's Bible Study
Noon Al-Anon Meeting
2:00p – 4:00p Bridge/Other Games
6:00p CoDA Meeting

Friday, August 17

1:30p N.A. Meeting