

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, those who went and those who stayed.
Come, all those who love the Lord.
The time has come to worship God.
The time has come to sing and praise.
Let us offer prayers and give thanks
for the Lord is good and we are God's people.
Let us declare that "as for me and my household,
We Will Serve the Lord."

*OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE # 821

"My Life Flows On"

CALL TO CONFESSION

(Few moments of silent prayer)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God who created us with minds to think,
**we confess that we like best to hear those ideas and thoughts
that mirror our own ideas and thoughts.**
**We tend to exalt those with whom we agree
and who can benefit us in some way,
and we tend to reject those with whom we don't agree
and whom, we perceive, do not have anything good to offer us.**
**Things are either good or bad,
acceptable or unacceptable.**
**Awaken our curiosity that we may be able to explore
new ideas, new thoughts, your ideas, your thoughts
so that like the disciples we may be able to say
"You have the words of eternal life.**
**We have come to believe and
know that you are the Holy One of God."**
**Help us to remember that while
our values are embedded in tradition,
our hopes are always located in change.**
This we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rest in God's glory and believe in Christ's love.
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. 215—OT) Joshua 24:1-2a; 14-18

GOSPEL READING (p. 98—NT) John 6:56-71

SERMON Abide Rev. Paul Helphinstine

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN OF CONTEMPLATION # 629 *"Jesus, the Very Thought of 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 *"This is My Father's World"*
*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 # 738 *"O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"*

*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.

*The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God
and in honor of Martha Robert's birthday by her daughter, Amy Kelley.*

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

Entered into the Church Triumphant: Rev. Conrad Crow—August 21, 2018.

*The congregation expresses its deepest sympathy to Shirley Barrett's
daughter, Kim Dierdorf, in the death of her husband, Ken, who had ALS;
and also to Pat Smith in the death of her Aunt Nita in Alabama.*

BOOK FOR CREED SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

If you are looking for a Sunday School class, join us for a discussion of the book, *The Bible Tells Me So* by Peter Enns. We will begin this study on September 9 at 10:00 in the Creed Sunday School classroom off of the Fellowship Hall. (a.k.a. Emily's Sunday School class)

You can purchase this book on **Amazon** or submit an order to Tina **by NOON on Wednesday, August 29**. Cost will be \$13.60 each. Kindle edition also available.

4TH TUESDAY COMMUNITY PRAYER GATHERINGS

Community Prayer Gatherings are being held at **The River, 125 W. Main Street**, on the **4th Tuesday of each month at 7 PM**. Men, women, and children are invited and a guest speaker will provide a message each time. Join us this **Tuesday, August 28!**

SPLENDOR CONTINUES: AUGUST 29

Watauga Ave. Presbyterian Church will have its last of 3 sessions of SPLENDOR, a GreenFaith program organized by their Green Team this Wednesday evening, **Aug. 29**, from **5:30 to 7:00**. Sign up in the Narthex or contact Tina in the church office to sign up for you. **Deadline to sign up is tomorrow, Monday, by mid-day.**

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S CIRCLES BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER

Covenant has three Presbyterian Women's Circle Study Groups. **All meet monthly from September through May or June.** All three use the same curriculum, which is available in the church office workroom. Please add your name to the list in the box when you pick up your book.

- ♦ **Friendship Circle:** first meeting will be on **Tuesday, September 11**. This group meets on 2nd Tuesdays at **1:30 PM** in the church library. Contacts are Sally Nagel and Pat Willard.
- ♦ **Joy Circle:** first meeting will be on **Tuesday, September 11**. This group meets on 2nd Tuesdays this year (new day!) at **7:00 PM** at the church in the Bible Discovery classroom. Contact is Betsy Moakler.
- ♦ **Red Tent Circle:** first meeting will be on **Thursday, September 13**. This group meets on 2nd Thursdays at **7:00 PM** at the home of BJ King. Contact is BJ King.

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.

MEN'S WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

All men of the church (and friends of the men in the church) are invited to the **Men's Bible Study on Thursday mornings from 8:00 to 9:00 AM**. We meet every week in the Fellowship Hall, rain or shine. We are currently in the book of Jeremiah, chapters 44 & 45. The coffee is hot and the discussion is lively. We'd love to have you join us, even if you aren't able to come every week. More participation equals more perspective, and more perspective can lead to a greater understanding of the Bible.

ARMCHAIR TRAVELERS—SUNDAY, SEPT. 2 FROM 3P—5P

Join us in the Library as we travel to faraway places from the comfort of our armchairs or the sofa! Bring a light snack to share.

THE LUNCH BUNCH—WED., SEPT. 5

The Lunch Bunch meets on the **first and third Wednesdays** of the month at 11:30 AM at various restaurants in the area. In September, we will meet on the 5th and the 19th. Locations to be announced.

AFTER CHURCH LUNCH – SEPTEMBER 9

Vegetarian! That's the theme for the **September 9th After Church Lunch**. What'll you bring? Whatever you come with will be a tasty addition to our table o' plenty.

AFTER CHURCH REFRESHMENTS

Here's another tickler to remind you to please sign up to provide (simple) Sunday fellowship snacks. We need YOU!

SAVE THE DATE!!

HOMEMADE CRAFT & GOODIES SALE AT THE RIVER

Friday, November 2, 2018 from 5p to 8p.

(see insert for more information.)

ONLINE GIVING!

Did you know that you can now make your contributions to the church online? You may also give to Special Offerings, such as 5 Cents a Meal, BABMOC, Good Samaritan, The River, as well as pay for your Fair Trade coffee or give a memorial gift or other contribution online. This is a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or recurring donation. Getting started is easy—just visit the church website, [\[www.cpcjc.org\]](http://www.cpcjc.org) and click our Online Giving link. There is also a box you can check (optional) if you wish to help the church offset the online giving fees. *If you have any questions, please contact Tina in the church office.*

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:
Nursery:

Jim Starr
the Rev. Pat Willard
David Miller
Julie Wood

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 August 26—September 1, 2018.

Ann Freeman, who is having back surgery on Monday.
Glay Hood, who is recovering at home after being in the hospital with pancreatitis.
Mary Lynn Moser, BJ King's sister, who will have her third gamma knife procedure this month for new lesions found on her brain.
Renee McCandless, Shirley Barrett's daughter, who had surgery on Friday.
Lori Simon, Tina's sister, whose latest MRI showed the tumor in her brain has shrunk since her cyberknife surgery 3 months ago! We are thankful.
Stacy Larsen's sister, Shelly, who fell and broke her back, and their mother, Charlan, who is waiting to have spinal surgery.
Jeanne Gamble, our Nursery Worker, who is recovering from shoulder and rotator cuff surgery.
Linda Sisk, who is suffering from a severe case of shingles.
Carol, a friend of Susan Clark, who is recovering from hip surgery.
Butch Carr, who is doing well after his recent treatment.
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.



NAME TAGS

Please wear your name tag 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

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.)"

Instagram: @covenantpcjohnsoncity

AUGUST 26, 2018

14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Startle us, O God, with your truth,
and open our minds to your Spirit,
that we may be one with Christ our Lord,
and serve as faithful disciples,
through Jesus Christ. Amen.

SEPTEMBER COURIER

Due to Tina's crowded schedule at the end of this month, there will not be a September newsletter. There WILL be a calendar and a Refrigerator Page, which will be e-mailed during the week and printed copies will be available next Sunday. Be sure to read your bulletins and inserts and check your e-mail on a regular basis so you don't miss any announcements.

New Mailing Address for Tina Simon:

P.O. Box 921

Johnson City, TN 37605

(She is moving back to her house in Elizabethton, but hoping it is only temporary as she has put it on the market.)

ITEMS NEEDED FOR OPEN HOUSE AT THE RIVER

Every year The River ministry for women holds an Open House and Craft Sale on the First Friday in November. Every penny raised goes toward our mission— helping women to help themselves. The River provides a safe place to meet basic needs and additional support programs that educate and empower women for independent living. Since opening our doors in 2004, The River has served over 1,000 women and children in need in our community. Core services include a safe haven Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 3 PM, laundry services, a shower, daily devotions, feminine hygiene products, resource referrals, snacks and beverages, and a supportive and loving presence. Our motto is "Sharing loads of God's Love!" Support programs include free hair cut days, the J. Walter Brown Changing Lives From The Bottom Up diaper subsidy distribution program, pet therapy, life skill classes, job search assistance, mail and telephone support, special events, and life celebrations. We believe all women have gifts and strengths that can be built on to be successful. Through non-judgmental support, respect, and love, The River brings hope to the women we serve and helps to change lives.

We need your help to make this year's Homemade Craft & Goodies Sale on November 2, 2018, from 5—8 PM a huge success! **Please consider sharing your talents** by donating a piece (or more) of your artwork, pottery, photographs, embroidery, sculptures, quilting, wood work, macramé, crafts, hand-made goodies, baked goods, hand-sewn wonders, and one-of-a-kind items to The River to be sold at this year's fundraiser. We offer items that range in cost from \$5—\$500 dollars (and sometimes more). Please make sure to "sign" your pieces and if possible include your suggested prices.

The River will need to have all items by Thursday, November 1, 2018 by 12 noon to provide time for pricing and display. We are a non-profit ministry and donated items are tax-deductible. Please let us know if you need a receipt for your donation and if you would like your item back if by chance it does not sell. We also invite you to include your business cards to help promote your talents with the several hundreds of guests who attend the sale and social media.

Thank you for your consideration of our special request. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact Stacy Larsen at 423-926-8111 or stacyllarsen@gmail.com.

Blessings, *Stacy Larsen*

Founding Executive Director

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Today, August 26

9:45a

11:00a

7:00p

Monday, August 27

8:30a

5:30p

7:00p

Tuesday, August 28

8:30a

5:00p

7:00p

7:00p

Wednesday, August 29

5:30p

6:00p

6:30p

NO Chancel Choir

7:00p

Thursday, August 30

8:00a

Noon

2:00p – 4:00p

6:00p

Friday, August 31

1:30p

Sunday School

Worship Service

N.A. Meeting

N.A. Meeting

U-Kirk Meal

NarAnon Meeting

N.A. Meeting

Christian Education Committee Meeting

4th Tuesday Prayer at The River

Al-Anon Meeting

SPLENDOR at Watauga Ave. Pres.

GROW

SAFG

N.A. Meeting

Men's Bible Study

Al-Anon Meeting

Bridge/Other Games

CoDA Meeting

N.A. Meeting