

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

I was glad when they said unto me,
"Let us go into the house of the Lord."
We come from lives busy
**with many different activities,
to be as one body in this place at this time.**
We come to be renewed, refreshed,
enlightened, strengthened, encouraged.
We come seeking answers,
to questions we do not always even know.
We come to sit with friends and fellow Christians
and to welcome the stranger in our midst.
We come with joy and hope to worship our Lord.

*OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE # 35 *"Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"*

CALL TO CONFESSION

(Few moments of silent prayer)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,
we confess that we have not followed your way.
**You rain down mercy upon us,
yet we murmur in our discontent.**
**You cast out the evil within us,
yet we fling curses at others.**
Forgive us, God of grace.
**Call us home from our wandering,
deliver our souls from death,
and cover us with your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Brothers and sisters, believe the good news of the gospel!
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and made new.
Thanks be to God!

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 551 *"Lord, Have Mercy"*

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy upon us.

*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

PSALM RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 19:1-14

The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.
Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.
There is no speech,
nor are there words; their voice is not heard;
yet their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.
In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,
which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.
Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
and its circuit to the end of them;
and nothing is hid from its heat.

The law of the LORD is perfect,
reviving the soul;
the decrees of the LORD are sure,
making wise the simple;
the precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear,
enlightening the eyes;
the fear of the LORD is pure,
enduring forever;
the ordinances of the LORD are true
and righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey,
and drippings of the honeycomb.
Moreover by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.

But who can detect their errors?
Clear me from hidden faults.
Keep back your servant also from the insolent;
do not let them have dominion over me.
Then I shall be blameless,
and innocent of great transgression.

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

GOSPEL READING *(p. 45—NT)*

Mark 9:38-50

SERMON Jesus Followers Have Jesus Priorities Rev. Paul Helphinstine

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN OF CONTEMPLATION # 432 *"How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord"*

*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 Anthem *"Jewels"* George F. Root

*Doxology # 609 *"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise god, in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING OUT TO SERVE

*HYMN OF SENDING # 24 *"God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens"*

*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 special time of fellowship and refreshments.

The congregation expresses its deepest sympathy to the Moakler family in the death of Betsy's father, Ken Brumit, on Monday, Sept. 24.

The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning are given to the glory of God and in heartfelt thanks by Heidi Ehle for the use of a wheelchair to help with her recovery from foot surgery. "It was a true blessing."

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.

NEWSLETTER

The **OCTOBER COURIER** is on the table in the Narthex, so if you have not already received it via email, please pick up your copy. There are extra copies on the table if you want a printed one, but **first look to see if there's one with your name on it.** You will also find the newsletter and October's calendar on our website: www.cpcjc.org.

NOTE: You will want to read your October Courier for full details regarding events scheduled during the month. Included will be:

The Gathering	Armchair Travelers
After Church Lunch	PW Circles
Church Cleanup Day	Black/White Dialogue
Saturday Night at the Movies	Nursery Volunteer schedule
Gateway field trip	Carpool Driver schedule
The Lunch Bunch	Melting Pot schedule

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) urges your support for those affected by Hurricane Florence. PDA is delivering immediate aid to those impacted by Hurricane Florence. Initial assessments suggest catastrophic destruction, but the full scope of the damage will not be known for many months. The storm's path has cut across areas still recovering from Hurricane Matthew (2016). While these winds and waters have meant loss and destruction, the work of PDA might become, as the Psalmist says, "a river whose streams make glad the city of God."

PDA has deployed teams to affected presbyteries to meet with Presbyterian and community leadership to assist in coordinating relief efforts and mucking out homes and churches. After initial needs are addressed, PDA will remain—providing spiritual emotional care and Long Term Recovery to address unmet needs of those impacted. Through your prayerful gifts we draw hope out of the chaos. If you wish to make a donation to this effort through the church, please make your checks payable to Covenant and note "PDA" on the memo line. You may also give online through the church website. See Online Giving on the back of the bulletin. Thank you for your support.

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
Cynthia Erdei
Philip Hagelberg

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 Sept. 30—October 6, 2018.

Mary Lynn Moser, BJ King's sister, who went for her third gamma knife treatment for lesions on her brain in August. Four additional lesions were discovered and all five were treated. She has a follow-up appointment in October.

Pat Guffee, Helen Davis' brother, who is home from the hospital recovering from a toxic liver.

Jan Paveglio, who is still having severe stomach pains.

Carrie Beth Swanay, Betsy Moakler's cousin, who has been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer that has spread to her lungs and spine. She is only 55 years old and is a professor at Milligan.

Ann Freeman, who is recovering from back surgery.

Butch Carr, who is doing well after his recent treatment.

Butch Carr's cousin, Nattie Jane Young, whose husband, David Langsan, is in an acute care facility in Nashville with throat and esophagus cancer.

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.

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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Instagram: @covenantpcjohnsoncity

SEPTEMBER 30, 2018
19TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

(inspired by Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48)

For whoever is not against us is for us. Mark 9:40

Who is for us?

Jesus' answer:

anyone

who extends a helping hand,

who shelters the homeless,

who cares for the earth,

who feeds the hungry,

teaches the ignorant,

stands for justice,

gives

a cup of water

in my name

is all for us,

and belongs to me.

Jesus,

all we want

is to belong to you.

-written by Anne Osdieck, and posted on
The Center for Liturgy Sunday Website of Saint Louis University.

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!**

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] and click our Online Giving link. There is also a box you can check (optional) if you wish to help the church offset the cost of providing online giving. *If you have any questions, please contact Tina in the church office.*

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Today, Sept. 30

9:30a – 9:55a

10:00a

11:00a

7:00p

Weekly Prayer Group

Sunday School

Worship Service

N.A. Meeting

Monday, October 1

8:30a

10:30a

7:00p

N.A. Meeting

Melting Pot

NarAnon Meeting

Tuesday, October 2

8:30a

1:00p

5:30p

6:30p

7:00p

7:00p

N.A. Meeting

Congregational Life Committee Meeting

Worship Committee Meeting

Cub Scouts

Property Committee Meeting

Al-Anon Meeting

Wednesday, October 3

11:30a

6:00p

6:00p

6:30p

7:00p

7:00p

The Lunch Bunch at Moe's BBQ

GROW

Handbell Choir

SAFG

Chancel Choir

N.A. Meeting

Thursday, October 4

8:00a

Noon

2:00p – 4:00p

Men's Bible Study

Al-Anon Meeting

Bridge/Other Games

Friday, October 5

Noon

1:30p

CoDA Meeting

N.A. Meeting