

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

Take heart, Christ is calling us.
He beckons us to come...

Come near to him.

Stand before Christ.

“What do you want me to do?” he asks.

We have come here.

We're drawn here.

We desire to be here.

To have our sight restored.

Worship the Lord.

Hallelujah!

Look to the Lord.

Hallelujah!

*From the Abingdon Worship Annual 2012 Edition.
Copyright © 2011 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.*

*OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE # 634

“To God Be the Glory”

CALL TO CONFESSION

(Few moments of silent prayer)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God,

in whom we live and move and have our being,

whose face is hidden from us by our sins,

and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts:

Cleanse us from all our offenses,

and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires,

that with reverent and humble hearts

we may draw near to you,

confessing our faults,

confiding in your grace,

and finding in you our refuge and our strength;

through Jesus Christ your Son. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, through the love of Christ,

we are forgiven and welcomed into our spiritual home.

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

OLD TESTAMENT READING (*p. 734—OT*)

Jeremiah 31:7-9

GOSPEL READING (*p. 47—NT*)

Mark 10:46-52

SERMON

Seeing Clearly

Rev. Paul Helphinstine

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN OF CONTEMPLATION** # 793

“O Christ, the Healer”

***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 *“Open My Eyes That I May See”* Clara Scott

***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** # 463

“How Firm a Foundation”

***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.*

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.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Next Sunday, November 4 will be **All Saints Sunday** at Covenant. As part of the service, we are going to read and remember the names of those saints who have died since last year, both in our church and in our lives. In order to do that well we need your help. If you have a saint that you would like to include in our time of remembrance, please contact Tina in the church office by **Tuesday, Oct. 30** with the name of your loved one.

HOMEMADE CRAFTS & GOODIES SALE AT THE RIVER

Join us at The River, 125 West Main Street, on **Friday, November 2 from 5 to 8 PM** for the annual Homemade Craft & Goodies Sale! All proceeds support The River's mission to serve women and children in our community. We hope to see you there!

SONGFEST 2018, AN APPALACHIAN MUSIC EXPERIENCE

Sunday, November 4 at 3:00 PM at University Parkway Baptist Church
Plan to join Family Promise for a great afternoon of music! Come out to see: Carson Peters & Iron Mountain, Ed Snodderly and Friends, ETSU Rambling Serenaders. This event is free to the public, donations are welcomed. **Donations will support Family Promise of Greater Johnson City.**

AFTER CHURCH LUNCH—SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11

The theme for our November After Church Lunch is **“Your Favorite Winter Comfort Food”**. There's a category that is wide open. It leaves room for all sorts of choices. What'll it be? Macaroni and cheese? Meatloaf? Chili? Beef stew? Sweet potato casserole? Pound cake? Soup beans and cornbread? Yum! Whatever you bring will be joyfully shared at our fellowship tables.

GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRIES HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS



There will be "peas in the valley". Not just in the valley. In Johnson City, too. This year Covenant will be contributing cans of peas to Good Samaritan's Thanksgiving baskets.

They have asked us to help by collecting 600 cans of peas by November 11th. [It sounds like a lot, but we've done it before!] There are purple Good Sam collection bins in the Narthex; however, we ask that you please place cans in the TUBS NEXT TO THE BINS so that we can keep track of our count.

Monetary donations are welcome. Please make your checks payable to Covenant and note "Good Sam Peas" on the memo line.

"Peas" be with you!!

NEWSLETTER

The **NOVEMBER 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 November's calendar on our website: www.cpcjc.org.

NOTE: Please read your November Courier for full details regarding upcoming events.

ARMCHAIR TRAVELERS—SUNDAY, NOV. 4 FROM 3P—5P

Join us in the Library as we travel to Greece with Rick Steves' Travelog from the comfort of our armchairs or the sofa! Bring a light snack to share.

THE LUNCH BUNCH—WED., NOVEMBER 7

The Lunch Bunch will meet on **Wednesday, November 7 at 11:30 AM at Korean Taco House**, 101 Buffalo St. Please contact Victory Cooper ahead of time so that she can make the appropriate number of reservations. (We will not meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in November or December because of the holidays.)

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Give, Act, Pray. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) responds to disasters in the U.S. and internationally. Please visit <http://pda.pcusa.org> for details. 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. Thank you for your support.

AFTER CHURCH REFRESHMENTS

Won't you sign up to provide (simple) Sunday after church fellowship snacks? **Sundays in November & December are still available.** Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

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!**

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
Liz Dollar
Jane Deaton

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 October 28—November 3, 2018.

Austin Smith, Gary & Anne's 9-yr.-old grandson, who has a problem with his thyroid.

Bill O'Keeffe, Mary's brother, who has been diagnosed with prostate cancer.
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 this month.

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.

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 and is expected to be back soon.

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; Butch Carr, 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

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

OCTOBER 28, 2018

23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

O Jesus Christ, teacher and healer,
you heard the cry of the blind beggar
when others would have silenced him.
Teach us to be attentive
to the voices others ignore,
that we might respond
through the power of the Spirit
to heal the afflicted
and to welcome the abandoned
for your sake and the sake of the gospel. Amen.

*-from Revised Common Lectionary Prayers copyright © 2002
Consultation on Common Texts admin. Augsburg Fortress.*

ONLINE GIVING!

Online Giving is available through our website at cpcjc.org. Getting started is easy—just click on the **Online Giving** link. This is a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or recurring donation. *If you have any questions, please contact Tina in the church office.*

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Today, Oct. 28

9:30a – 9:55a

10:00a

11:00a

12:30p

7:00p

Weekly Prayer Group
Sunday School
Worship Service
Mission Committee Meeting
N.A. Meeting

Monday, Oct. 29

8:30a

7:00p

N.A. Meeting
NarAnon Meeting

Tuesday, Oct. 30

8:30a

6:30p

7:00p

N.A. Meeting
Cub Scouts
Al-Anon Meeting

Wednesday, Oct. 31

6:00p

6:00p

6:30p

7:00p

7:00p

GROW
Handbell Choir
SAFG
Chancel Choir
N.A. Meeting

Thursday, Nov. 1

8:00a

Noon

2:00p – 4:00p

Men's Bible Study
Al-Anon Meeting
Bridge/Other Games

Friday, Nov. 2

Noon

1:30p

5:00p – 8:00p

CoDA Meeting
N.A. Meeting
The River Homemade Crafts & Goodies Sale