

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

SOUNDING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Gary Smith

GREETING

This is the day the Lord has made!
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Deut. 10:17-21, NRSV

Leader ...The LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing.”

People **We come to praise God who executes justice for children and poor families and loves the stranger.**

Leader “You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.”

People **We come to follow God, seeking justice and showing love as God does. We come to worship and hold fast to God who is our praise and has done for us great things.**

*OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN OF PRAISE # 719

“Come, Labor On”

CALL TO CONFESSION

(Few moments of silent prayer)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader Loving God,
People **who, though the words of the prophets and the Word of Jesus Christ, calls us to love God, to love ourselves, and to love our neighbor as ourselves, we confess that at times we struggle with each of these instructions.**

**Enlarge our hearts,
Strengthen our understanding,
Open our eyes to the beauty and the need in your created kingdom, our world, that we may live more fully engaged with that world, loving You, loving ourselves, loving others.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader Friends, believe the good news!
In Jesus Christ we are made free to love, forgiven and renewed.

People **Thanks be to God!**

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 695

“Change My Heart, O God”

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.
You are the Potter; I am the clay.
Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.
Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

*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

LEARNING FROM SCRIPTURE AND LIFE:

Kingdom Workers; Kingdom Stories

Gospel Reading (p. 76—NT) Luke 13:10-13

Mission Focus: *The River* Stacy Larsen

Gospel Reading (p. 21—NT) Matthew 19:13-14

Mission Focus: *Holston Presbytery Camp & Retreat Center* Jim Austin

Gospel Reading (p. 108—NT) John 13:34-35

Mission Focus: *World Missions* Matt & Kathy Cary

Bear Another's Burdens Ministry of Christ (BABMOC in Liberia)

Jon & Kathy Christiansen (Zimbabwe)

Bob & Kristi Rice (South Sudan)

Gospel Reading (p. 71—NT) Luke 9:58

Mission Focus: *Family Promise of Greater Johnson City* Bob Hall

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*HYMN OF CONTEMPLATION # 733

“We All Are One in Mission”

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. 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 *“Sing and Be Not Silent”* Mary McDonald

*Doxology # 647

“Give Thanks”

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One; give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.

And now let the weak say, “We are strong”;
let the poor say, “We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!”
Give thanks. Give thanks.

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING OUT TO SERVE

*HYMN OF SENDING # 738

“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

*Please rise, in body or spirit.

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.

*Coffee Fellowship will be served in the Fellowship Hall today.
Please join us immediately after worship for a time of fellowship and refreshments and to participate in the Alternative Gift Fair. (details on back)*

STEWARDSHIP 2020

We encourage all of our members and regular attenders to stand together and pledge your financial support for the work of Covenant Presbyterian Church for 2020. It is from these pledges that our Administration & Budget Committee and Session are able to develop our budget for the coming year.

The practice of generosity is a faith discipline. Growing in generosity is the mark of a developing faith and a deeper walk with Christ. As a congregation, we are seeking to be fed spiritually and to actively engage the world where its deepest needs meet our abilities and, with God's help, to be a difference for good.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to turn in your pledge card for 2020, you may leave it in the offering plate, bring it or mail it to the church office, or send an email with your intention to office@cpcjc.org. Pledge cards and envelopes are on in the pews in the Sanctuary and on the tables in the Narthex. Please prayerfully consider making your pledge to Covenant for 2020.

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.*

GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD OFFERING—NOV. 24

The **Good Sam Food Offering** will be received next **Sunday, Nov. 24**. This month they need: **Mac 'n Cheese and Peanut Butter & Jelly**. Thank you, as always, for your generosity to this vital local mission organization!

ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR – TODAY!

SERVE GOD – GIVE MORE – CONSUME LESS

Don't get us wrong. Mission Committee members still go Christmas shopping for our kids and grandkids like we always have. But when we draw up our own Christmas list, we think carefully and prayerfully about what we put on it and often we say to each other "I really don't need or want anything. Why don't we go to the Alternative Gift Fair after church this year and give to someone in real need?" Today, Covenant is sponsoring its 26th Alternative Christmas Gift Fair, a special opportunity to give to those in need.

The 2019 Alternative Christmas Giving Guide is in your bulletin and on the table in the Narthex. The mission organizations featured this year are **Family Promise of Greater Johnson City, The River, Holston Presbytery Camp, and World Missions: 1) Bear Another's Burdens Ministry of Christ (BABMOC), 2) Jon & Kathy Christiansen, and 3) Bob & Kristi Rice.**

You are invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall after today's worship service for refreshments and to meet representatives from these mission organizations who will answer questions and discuss the work in which they are involved. If you have a friend or family member who really doesn't need the latest widget, why not consider giving to one of these groups that need your help? Gift cards will be available to fill out, so that they will know what has been given in their names. We're sure they will appreciate your thoughtfulness. **Alternative Gift Fair Giving Forms** will be in your bulletins and on the table in the Narthex throughout the Advent season, so you will have ample time to participate.

PRISON FELLOWSHIP ANGEL TREE MINISTRY

Today, at the Alternative Gift Fair, we again have the opportunity to help strengthen the relationship between children and their parent who is in prison. We do what an incarcerated parent cannot do by providing a gift of clothing and/or a toy in their parent's name. **You can put your faith into action by choosing a child's name from the Christmas tree that is set up in the Fellowship Hall.** Your gifts can be brought to the church, wrapped and labeled, **on or before Sunday, December 1st.** Angel Tree Volunteers will deliver the gifts on Sunday, December 8th.

POINSETTIAS—ORDER DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 24

If you would like to place a poinsettia in the sanctuary for the Christmas season, please fill out the enclosed order form and place it, along with your payment, in the offering plate. **Cost for the poinsettias is \$10 each.** (Please make checks payable to *Covenant* and note "poinsettia" in the memo line.)

THE MITTEN TREE IS UP!

The Mitten Tree is a tradition here at Covenant. Every year we collect hats, scarves, and mittens for children in our area who need a little warmth during the winter. The tree is set up in the hallway across from the church office. **Please bring hats, scarves and mittens to hang on the tree by Sunday, November 24.** The committee will distribute the items after Thanksgiving.

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:
Liturgist:
Section Leader:
Nursery:
Gateway:

Jim Starr
Pat Smith
Shawn Hale
Jane Deaton
Gina Long

CHURCH STAFF

Music Director:
Office Administrator:
Administrative Assistant:
Custodian:
Nursery Worker:

Jessica Siple
Tina Simon
Anne Webb
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. **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.*

Week of November 17—23, 2019.

CB Willis, who is in room 141 at NHC for rehab. Visitors welcome.
Betty Maletich, who is recovering well from heart surgery.
Liz Kuehling, Lauri Zembower's mother in Colorado, who will be having back surgery soon.
Steve Jones, a dear friend of Sharon Fuhrman, who is having biopsies of masses on both kidneys and an adrenal gland. Steve, who now lives in AZ, drove Sharon and her brood from CA to TN 13 years ago.
Bob & Betty Thompson, Phyllis' parents.
Michael & Karen, missionaries who are stationed in Afghanistan.

Please remember those in our congregation who are homebound and unable to join us regularly in worship:

Vi Block, Jeter Collins, Lattie Collins, Mary Derouen,
Helen Fletcher, Glay Hood, Barbara Quisenberry

Join us in continually lifting up in prayer our mission co-workers:

Bob & Kristi Rice: South Sudan
Jon & Kathy Christiansen: Zimbabwe

and Ministries of the Presbytery:

UKirk ETSU (Pres. Campus Ministry)
Holston Presbytery Camp



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

NOVEMBER 17, 2019

23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Artwork by Lynnea Salinas

SAVE THE DATES:

(details will be in your December Courier)

• **Christmas Cantata:** Sunday, Dec. 15th during the worship service.

• **Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols:** Tues., Dec. 24th

THE LUNCH BUNCH IN NOVEMBER

The next Lunch Bunch gathering will be on **Wed., Nov. 20 at 12:30 PM at Applebee's**, 2100 N. Roan St. **Please contact Victory Cooper at 423-282-4641** for more info and to let her know if you plan to come so she can make the appropriate number of reservations.

WEEKLY PRAYER GROUP

Please join us as we lift up our church, community and world missions at our weekly time of intercessory prayer. We meet before the Sunday School hour at 9:30 AM in the High School Classroom next to the Fellowship Hall entrance from the office.

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Today, November 17

9:30a – 9:55a	Weekly Prayer Group
9:45a/10:00a	Sunday School
9:45a/10:00a	Chancel Choir/Ensemble Practice
11:00a	Worship Service
<i>following worship</i>	Alternative Gift Fair (Fellowship Hall)
7:00p	N.A. Meeting

Monday, November 18

Covenant at Family Promise

7:00p	NarAnon Meeting
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Tuesday, November 19

Covenant at Family Promise

2:00p – 4:00p	Bridge & Games in the Library
7:00p	Al-Anon Meeting

Wednesday, November 20

12:30p	The Lunch Bunch at Applebee's
6:00p	“Gospel of Mark” Bible Study (Library)
6:00p	Handbell Choir Practice
7:00p	Chancel Choir
7:00p	N.A. Meeting

Thursday, November 21

8:00a	Men's Bible Study
Noon	Al-Anon Meeting
6:30p	Cub Scouts

Friday, November 22

Noon	CoDA Meeting
1:30p	N.A. Meeting
6:30p	Al-Anon Meeting

Saturday, November 23

4:00p – 7:00p	Fellowship Hall reserved
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