

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 *"Fairest Lord Jesus"* arr. Nancy L. Smith

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,
who was, who is, and who is to come.

The Lord is a great God who says:

I am the Alpha and Omega,
the first and the last,
the beginning and the end.

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,
who was, who is, and who is to come.

Jesus said, "My kingship is not of this world;
for this I was born,

and for this I have come into the world,
to bear witness to the truth."

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,
who was, who is, and who is to come.

Come and Worship! Worship Christ the King!

*OPENING PRAYER

***HYMN OF PRAISE** # 267 *"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"*

CALL TO CONFESSION

(Few moments of silent prayer)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Righteous God,

you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all.

We confess that we have not always bowed before him,
we are slow to acknowledge his rule.

We give our allegiance to the powers of this world,
and fail to be governed by justice and love.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Raise us to acclaim him as ruler of all,
that we may be loyal ambassadors,
obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, subjects of the King, believe the good news of the gospel,
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven and renewed!

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.
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

GOSPEL READING (*p. 113—NT*) John 18:33-37

SERMON Are You the King? Rev. Paul Helphinstine

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN OF CONTEMPLATION** # 724 *"O Jesus, I Have Promised"*

***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 *"From All That Dwell Below the Skies"* G. Young

***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** # 266 *"Joy to the World"*

*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.

GREENING OF THE CHURCH – NOV. 28 & DEC. 2

Do you love Christmas decorations? **This Wednesday, Nov. 28 at 5:30 PM** we will have a **"Greening of the Church" Service** to prepare the Sanctuary for Advent. Then, make plans now to help decorate the rest of the church after the worship service **on Sunday, Dec. 2!** (NOTE: UN-greening will be on January 6th.)

MESSAGE FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

We would like to thank everyone who turned in a **pledge card for 2019**. It is from your pledges that the Stewardship Committee and Session are able to develop our budget for the coming year. Our budget is more than numbers on a page, it is a mission document that states clearly what we plan to accomplish and who we, at Covenant, pledge to be in the year to come. Help us to continue doing the works of love and mercy in which we are currently involved. Help us to go further in expanding our work here and beyond. Help us to look to the future with the confidence to dream big for what God can do in and through Covenant Presbyterian Church. We're in this work together!

It is very important that we receive your pledge information soon to be able to complete the process of developing the budget for 2019. Pledge cards and envelopes can be found in the pews or on the table in the Narthex. You are invited to place your pledge card in the offering plate this morning, or you can bring it by the church office. (Remember that as year-end approaches, your tithes and offerings will be credited to your **2018 Statement of Giving if made before December 31st**. If you have questions, please contact Gary Smith or the church office.) Thank you for your commitment and generosity in all that we do together at Covenant.

PRISON FELLOWSHIP ANGEL TREE MINISTRY

At the Alternative Gift Fair last week we had the opportunity to choose an "angel" from the Christmas tree and help strengthen the relationship between children and their parent who is in prison by providing a gift of clothing and/or a toy in their parent's name. You can still put your faith into action by choosing a child's name from the Christmas tree that is set up in the Narthex. After you have chosen your "angel", **please bring your gifts to the church, wrapped and labeled, on or before Sunday, December 2nd**. Angel Tree Volunteers will deliver the gifts on Sunday, December 9th.

The December Courier will be mailed/e-mailed to you this week. Please read today's bulletin insert for a sneak peak of what's happening in December.

MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION—TODAY

There will be a **Meeting of the Congregation** immediately following worship **today** for the purpose of electing officers. The following are the nominees being presented by the Nominating Committee.

Don Hart: Don retired in early 2018, having practiced law in private practice in Tampa, Florida since 1974 and in Tennessee since 2004. He earned an undergraduate degree with high honors in history from Emory University, and a law degree from University of Florida College of Law, where he was a member of the law review. Between college and law school, Don served on active duty as a Naval Flight Officer in RA-5C “Vigilante” aircraft flying combat reconnaissance missions off the aircraft carrier USS Ranger (CVA-61) during the Vietnam War. Outside the practice of law, he served as Scoutmaster of a Boy Scout Troop, as a board member and officer of numerous civic and community organizations, and as an elder in the Presbyterian Church. He has served as a member of the Board of Trustees of Presbyterian College in Clinton, SC. He enjoys running, backpacking, golf, reading, and “shade-tree” carpentry for home projects and organizations such as Holston Camp, Habitat for Humanity, and Appalachian Service Project. Don is married to Mischele Hart. They have two married sons, Brian and Sherri Hart of Sunnyvale, CA, and Leighton and Mary Craig Hart of Johnson City, TN. They have six grandchildren.

Bud King: Bud is a husband, father and grandfather. Bud and BJ have been married nearly 35 years. They have 5 children combined including hers, his and theirs. They also have 10 grandchildren. Pastor Paul was the youth minister for their youngest daughter at a different Presbyterian Church in town, so they have known Paul for quite a while. Bud and BJ have lived in Johnson City for about 28 years. They grew up in the area and attended the same PC(USA) church in their hometown and both have served as Elders previously in the Presbyterian Church. Like Paul, Bud attended Milligan College and holds undergraduate degrees in both business and psychology from Milligan. He attended ETSU for graduate school and received a MBA degree from there. Professionally he is a CPA, now retired and inactive. Most of his working career he spent either as a chief financial officer or controller for public, private or not-for-profit businesses. The nature of the businesses included manufacturing, distribution, recycling, higher education and the Federal Government. On a personal level, the majority of their children and grandchildren are girls. With that in mind, unlike some other denominations, religions and even other versions of the Presbyterian Church they feel the PC(USA) treats women on a more equal basis. Even as Paul recently noted in a sermon, it took him a while to figure out it is ok to have a woman minister. Using these references as examples, Bud and BJ have seen the denomination become more open-minded and inclusive. They feel Covenant is responsive to the needs of others: red, yellow, black or white. Those are some of the reasons they are members of this church and why they have been willing to serve as officers of the church.

Pat Smith: Pat grew up in several small towns in Alabama as the daughter of a Methodist minister. She received her BS degree in Secondary Education from Auburn University and taught high school Spanish for 14 years. In 1980 she married Ron Smith and he became an instant dad to her daughter Stacey from her first marriage. In 1983 they adopted their son, Nick. They lived in Georgia for 18 years before moving to Kansas City, KS, and then Denton, TX. While there, Pat worked in the corporate office of a chemical company. She retired in 2012 and she and Ron moved to Johnson City three years ago to be near their three grandsons. Pat has been a member of the Presbyterian USA church since she and Ron married and they have been members here for just over a year. She is humbled and honored to be nominated for elder.

(continued)

Frankie Wolff: Frankie and Ed have a blended family with his 2 children (son Mark in Oneonta, NY and daughter Lynne in Fayetteville, AR) and her two sons (Rick in Marietta, GA and Scott in Seattle, WA). Between them they have 7 grandchildren, 5 boys and 2 girls. In college, Frankie majored in English, and received an MA in Community Education. Most of her working life, she was in some form of adult education, in Charlotte, NC, her home until 1997. From 1997-2001, Frankie was one of three women who ran a spiritual retreat center in Saluda, NC, called The Snail’s Pace, which is where she met Ed Wolff, who went there for his spiritual retreats. They were married at The Snail’s Pace in 2001. At First United Methodist Church in Charlotte, Frankie was involved in all aspects of church life: choir, bells, chair of church council, for example. Since moving to Jonesborough, she spent 5 years volunteering with CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate), representing children in court cases; serving on the Friends of the Washington County Library board; volunteering at the Jonesborough Library; volunteering at the International Storytelling Center; involved in efforts to dismantle racism; and being an activist in many social justice issues.

TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:
Liturgy written by:
Liturgist:
Nursery:

Jim Starr
the Rev. Pat Willard
Cynthia Erdei
Emily Helphinstine

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 November 25—December 1, 2018.

CB Willis, who was scheduled to be moved to NHC for rehab.
Bob Hart, who has been ill and is asking for prayer to regain his energy.
Dwight Sherman, who is home recovering from a severe reaction to a biopsy that required hospitalization.
Helen Davis, who is being treated for cellulitis in her legs.
Kendall Harris, who has been diagnosed with a second malignant clone of blood cells. He will have another evaluation at the Mayo Clinic.
Irene Sanchez, who has a severe ear infection not responding to medicine.
Austin Smith, Gary & Anne’s 9-yr.-old grandson, who is being treated for 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, whose latest tests show no new brain lesions.
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.
Stacy Larsen’s sister, Shelly, who fell and broke her back, and their mother, Charlan, who had spinal surgery.
Lori Simon, Tina’s sister, who had a follow-up brain and body scan scheduled for Nov. 21 to be sure tumors are not active.

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

Vi Block, Butch Carr, Jeter Collins, Lattie Collins,
Mary Derouen, 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

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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NOVEMBER 25, 2018

CHRIST
THE KING

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Eternal God,
you set Jesus Christ to rule over all things,
you made us servants in your kingdom.
By your Spirit empower us to love the unloved,
and to minister to all in need.
Then at the last bring us to your eternal realm
where we may worship and adore you
and be welcomed into your everlasting joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS FOR THE WINTER SEASON

Monday: 1:00p – 4:00p

Tuesday – Thursday: 9:00a – 4:00p

The office is closed on Friday.

Messages may be left on the church voicemail at any time, 423-282-5324. Press “2” to leave a message for Tina; press “1” for Paul.

2018 ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR

For many of us, Christmas has become commercialized to the point that we feel pressure to buy and consume. But what do we buy a friend or loved one who has few needs or wants? Last week, Covenant sponsored its **25th Alternative Christmas Gift Fair**. The *2018 Alternative Christmas Giving Guide* can be found on the table in the Narthex and gives you a chance to learn more about worthy organizations and how we as a Christian community can become partners in the work of the church. The five mission organizations featured this year are **Family Promise of Greater Johnson City, The River, Holston Presbytery Camp, Bear Another’s Burdens Ministry of Christ (BABMOC), and Frontera de Cristo**. If you missed the Alternative Gift Fair, you can still participate throughout Advent by filling out the enclosed **Giving Form** and dropping it in the offering plate along with your check (*made out to “Covenant Presbyterian Church”*).

THE MITTEN TREE

Today is the deadline to bring 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. The Mission committee will distribute the items after Thanksgiving. (You may continue to “decorate” the Mitten Tree throughout the Advent season. These additional items will be distributed before the end of the year.)

INVITATION TO AN OPEN HOUSE:

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8 FROM 6—9 PM

To show our appreciation of your support for the BABMOC elementary school in Liberia, **Bear Another’s Burdens Ministry of Christ (BABMOC)** would like to invite all our Covenant Brothers and Sisters to a **Christmas Open House**. It will be held at the home of Matt & Kathi Cary, 601 Douglas Drive on Saturday, December 8 from 6-9 PM.

GET YOUR HABITAT T-SHIRT!

As a gesture of thanks and recognition, Holston Habitat for Humanity has provided **free T-shirts** for everyone who supported (both physically **and** financially) the “Harrison Build”. T-shirts can be found 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.

SNEAK-PEAK INTO DECEMBER AT COVENANT

- ♦ Greening of the Church (part 2), following worship on Dec. 2
- ♦ Armchair Travelers, Sunday, Dec. 2 from 3 to 5 in the Library
- ♦ The Lunch Bunch, Wednesday, Dec. 5, 11:30a at Wellington’s
- ♦ After Church Lunch, Dec. 9, theme is Feliz Navidad!
- ♦ Black/White Dialogue, Monday, Dec. 10 at Carver Park
- ♦ Circle Meetings, see Courier for schedule
- ♦ Saturday Night at the Movies, Dec. 15 at 7:00p in the Library
- ♦ Lessons & Carols at St. John’s, Dec. 23 at 5:00p
- ♦ Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Dec. 24 at 5:30p

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Today, Nov. 25

9:30a – 9:55a

10:00a

11:00a

7:00p

Monday, Nov. 26

8:30a

5:00p

7:00p

Tuesday, Nov. 27

8:30a

6:30p

7:00p

Wednesday, Nov. 28

5:30p

6:30p

6:30p

7:00p

7:15p

Thursday, Nov. 29

8:00a

Noon

2:00p – 4:00p

Friday, Nov. 30

Noon

1:30p

Weekly Prayer Group

Sunday School

Worship Service

N.A. Meeting

N.A. Meeting

U-Kirk Meal

NarAnon Meeting

N.A. Meeting

Cub Scouts

Al-Anon Meeting

Greening of the Sanctuary Service

Handbell Practice

SAFG

N.A. Meeting

Chancel Choir

Men’s Bible Study

Al-Anon Meeting

Bridge & Games in the Library

CoDA Meeting

N.A. Meeting



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.

