



# Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**CHRIST • PEOPLE • COMMUNITY**

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**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2020**

**24<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**

*"Be Thou My Vision"*

Dale Wood

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**HYMN # 620**

*"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"*

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to his feet your tribute bring;  
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favor to his people in distress;  
praise him still the same as ever, slow to chide, and swift to bless:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness.

Fatherlike, he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows;  
in his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him; you behold him face to face.  
Sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Psalm 114

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

Romans 14:1-12

**GOSPEL READING**

Matthew 18:21-35

**SERMON**

“How to Forgive”

Rev. Dr. Barbara Edema

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**CLOSING HYMN # 445**

*“God, How Can We Forgive”*

God, how can we forgive when bonds of love are torn?  
How can we rise and start anew, our trust reborn?  
When human loving fails and every hope is gone,  
your love give strength beyond our own to face the dawn.

When we have missed the mark, and tears of anguish flow,  
how can you still release our guilt, the debt we owe?

The ocean depth of grace surpasses all our needs.  
A priest who shares our human pain, Christ intercedes.

Who dares to throw the stone to damn another's sin,  
when you, while knowing all our past, forgive again?  
No more we play the judge, for by your grace we live.  
As you, O God, forgive our sin, may we forgive.

**POSTLUDE**

*“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”*

Alice Jordan

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**This morning we again welcome the Rev. Dr. Barbara Edema to the virtual pulpit.** Barb is an ordained minister in the Reformed Church in America (RCA). She has served churches in the RCA, UCC, and PC(USA). She is married to Dr. Doug Edema. Barb & Doug moved from Johnson City back to Michigan in November 2013. They enjoy visiting and staying connected with the people of Covenant!

**TODAY AT COVENANT:**

In the Pulpit:  
Organ/piano:  
Liturgist:

Rev. Dr. Barbara Edema  
Jessica Siple, Music Director  
Ann Freeman

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