

GREETING

This is the day the Lord has made!

Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP AND CONGREGATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

(Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Please sign the attendance pads at the end of the pew and turn off cell phones.)

GATHERING IN GOD’S NAME

SOUNDING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous!

People: Sing to the Lord a new song!

Leader: For the word of the Lord is upright,
and all God’s work is done in faithfulness.

**People: The Lord loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of God.**

***OPENING PRAYER**

***HYMN OF PRAISE # 119**

“The Strife Is O’er”

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Loving God, Source of all that is good and new,
we confess that we do not always acknowledge
and accept the new growth that is within us.**

**We often fail to see the beauty of the creation around us
and to recognize the love you offer to us day after day.**

**Obsessed with our own hopes and dreams and plans,
we turn our backs on your gracious presence within and among us.**

**Forgive us, O Lord,
and help us to receive and celebrate
the gift of lives made new and whole
by the power and promise of resurrection.
In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus,
we are assured that there is no sin so terrible
that God cannot forgive,
no hurt so terrible that God cannot heal.
God accepts, God forgives, and God sets free.
Receive the forgiving love of God.

Thanks be to God.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 106**

“Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READING FROM THE PSALMS pg. 505

Psalm 30

**ANTHEM “Leaning on the Everlasting Arms” Anthony J. Showalter
Choral Setting by Joel Raney**

O, I’m leaning, safe and secure from all alarms.

O, I’m leaning on the everlasting arms.

What a fellowship, what a joy divine;
leaning on the everlasting arms;

what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

O, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
leaning on the everlasting arms;

O, how bright the path grows from day to day,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

what have I to dread, what have I to fear,
leaning on the everlasting arms?

I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

O, I’m leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms,
O, I’m leaning on the everlasting arms!

CHILDREN’S MOMENTS

**Gateway to Worship

***HYMN OF PREPARATION # 106 “Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”**

NEW TESTAMENT READING pg. 127 Acts 9:1-20

SERMON The Eastering of Saul Rev. Allen Huff

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (pg. 14 – traditional version) The Apostles’ Creed**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

***Doxology # 592 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

***Prayer of Dedication**

GOING OUT TO SERVE

***HYMN OF CONSECRATION # 356 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”**

***BENEDICTION**

***SENDING RESPONSE # 341 (Stanza 3) “Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!”**

Perfect submission, all is at rest,

I in my Savior am happy and blest,

Watching and waiting, looking above,

Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

***POSTLUDE**

(For some, the Postlude serves as festive music to accompany their going back out into the world. Others prefer to remain seated and listen. Those departing can help those who listen by holding their joyful greeting of others until they reach the narthex.)

*For those who are able, please stand.

****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 Children’s Moments.

NOTE: All music reprinted under OneLicense.net License #A71439

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 after worship
for a time of fellowship and refreshments.*

*The flowers in the sanctuary today are given by Dana & Diana Hewitt
to the glory of God and in honor of Dot Carpenter’s birthday.*

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper will be celebrated next Sunday. Take time this week to prepare yourself in prayer and meditation.

The **May Courier** can be found on the table in the narthex. **Help us save postage!**
Be sure to pick up your copy!

~ ~ ~ ~

Senior Travelers’ Trip

The ETSU Bands will perform in concert at Seeger Hall at Milligan College **this afternoon** at 3:30. Dr. Christian Zembower will conduct. Admission is free. (Lunch at Friebergs after the concert if interested.) **Meet at the church at 3:00** and take van or carpool. Questions? Contact Gary Smith at 929-1604. Sign up in the Narthex.

Planning Worship Together

Tuesday, April 27, 2010 – 7:00 p.m.

Would you like to use your creative gifts to help the congregation lift up their voices in song, understand what God is saying to us in scripture, and joyfully respond to God in a deeper way? Do you love music, or writing, or have ideas for visual elements and symbols that might help us engage in worship more fully?

Liturgy, by definition, is the work of the people, not just the minister.

If you think you might enjoy being on a team that designs our worship services you are invited to come to an exploratory meeting on **Tuesday, April 27th at 7:00 p.m.** Older youth are welcome to come and share their gifts, too. No experience necessary!

Inquirer/New Member Class

A class for people interested in learning more about Covenant is being offered **through May 16th** during the Sunday School hour. If you would like to find out how you can serve God, worship, engage in meaningful fellowship and grow spiritually here at Covenant, come join us! We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. If you have questions, please call Sharon.

Young Adults

Would you be interested in being a part of a Young Adult Sunday School class, or a small group that meets at some other time during the week (or month)? If so, give Sharon a call at the church @ 282-5324 or find her on Facebook.

PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS

Rose Willis, Steve Bader, Pat Adams, Jean Freeman (Bill's mother), Helen Davis, Elva McCartt, Roger Hecht, Peter Block, Marvin Parker (Evelyn Kemp's cousin), Bob Hunter (Hal's brother), Ed & Marie Britt, Corrine Broyles, Julia Trifiletti, Aneita Carr, Agnes Plank, Helene Herbert
If you know of other reasons for rejoicing or concerns you would like to share with others please complete a prayer card with your requests.

Everyone is Invited!!

Painting Party for the interior of the Youth & Young Adult Ministry Campus House
Saturday, May 1st, beginning at 8:00 a.m.
Lunch will be provided!
(Contact Andrea Sutter for details.)

COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter: Jim Starr
Liturgist: Rev. Sharon Amstutz
Acolytes: Drew Amstutz & Cameron Hopkins
Chimer: Sean Madden
Gateway: Karen Mabe
Coffee Hosts: Bible Discovery Class
Nursery: Kathi Cary
Covenant Chimes

CHURCH STAFF:

Pastor: Rev. Sharon H. Amstutz
Director of Youth Ministry: Andy Irvin
Choir Director: Randy Adams
Secretary: Tina Simon
Custodian: Marie Britt
Pianist: Jennifer Palmer

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Today, April 25
9:00a Chime Rehearsal
10:00a Inquirer/New Member Class
Tuesday, April 27
7:00p Planning Worship Together: Informational Mtg.
7:30p AI-Anon Meeting
Wednesday, April 28
4:45p WNL!
7:30p Choir Practice
Thursday, April 29
8:00a Men's Bible Study
9:30a Women in the Bible
Noon AI-Anon Meeting

Youth Ministry Events. 2010

- **Montreat Youth Conference – June 13-19 Into These Waters**, a great week for high school students; two scholarships available; Contact: Rev. Kyle Schmidt (First, Morristown – 423.586.4281)
- **Triennium - July 19-25 For Such A Time As This** - the Cadillac of youth events comes around every three years using the best leadership available and is the most talked about event! Contact: Rev. Brian Wyatt 2010 Triennium brochure
- **Youth Rally - August 15** at First, Greeneville from 2:30-5:30p.m.; this event gets the year started for many youth groups as a time to connect and celebrate faith; Contact: Alan Kobs (First, Greeneville, 423.638.4533)
- **Middler Retreat - November** at Holston Camp; Contact Russ Pearson (First, Kingsport/ 423.245.0104)
For more information on Youth & Young Adult Ministry and these events, call Andrea at 423-926-2522 or go to www.holstonyouth.org or HolstonYYAM@gmail.com.

The Presbyterian Voice

The Presbyterian Voice is now available online. Current news from around the Synod of Living Waters can now be found at www.presbyvoice.org. You may also subscribe to email updates by going to the website. Once subscribed, you will begin receiving every other week updates of news from around the Synod. The printed edition of the Presbyterian Voice will now be published twice a year. Your presbytery page will be included, as will news pages and columnists. Not receiving the Voice by traditional mail? You may subscribe by emailing the editor, Janet Tuck, at voiceeditor@bellsouth.net

Holston Presbytery Weekly Update

You may also wish to subscribe to the Weekly (e-mail) Update from Holston Presbytery! Just go to holstonpresbytery.org and enter your e-mail address.

603 Sunset Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604
Phone: (423) 282-5324
E-Mail: cpcjctn@mounet.com
Website: www.covenantpresjc.org

4th Sunday of Easter
April 25, 2010
Sunday, eleven o'clock

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
In an age of change and doubt
Keep us faithful to the gospel,
Help us work Your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
All we have to give, receive:
We, who cannot live without You,
We adore You! We believe!

From Hymn #461, "God Is Here!"

YOU HAVE MAIL:

Chris Adler Hillhouse