

GREETING

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

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP AND CONGREGATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

GATHERING IN GOD’S NAME

SOUNDING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: As we are called into worship today,
it is sobering to remember
that when God appeared on earth in the person of Jesus,
most of the world did not recognize him
and therefore did not worship him.
Today we ask for the faith that will open our eyes
to see Jesus for who he is,
that we might worship him in truth.
People of God, behold your God!

**People: We open our eyes to see his glory.
We open our ears to hear his wisdom.
We open our hands to offer him gifts.
We open our mouths to sing his praise.
We open our hearts to offer him our love.
Let us worship the Lord our God!**

***OPENING PRAYER**

***HYMN OF PRAISE # 48** (red hymnal) *“Hear My Words, O Gracious Lord”*

***CALL TO CONFESSION** (based on Romans 5:8; Hebrews 4:16)

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

We pray to you each week asking for your mercy, Lord, and yet our first confession should be that we don’t always want your mercy.

Sometimes we are like the Pharisees, blind to our own sin and proud that we are not like the tax collectors or other crooked, violent, moral-less people out there. At other times we are so consumed by guilt and shame that we can’t believe you could possibly forgive us, and we cannot forgive ourselves.

Forgive us for our dishonesty with ourselves, and our failure to trust in your mercy. Help us to see the many ways we have failed to love you and our neighbor, but also help us to believe that nothing we do could ever separate us from your love and grace, for we ask it in the name of the savior.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The God who challenges us
is also the God who encourages us.
The God who confronts us
is also the God who accepts us.
Be assured that God is with us even now,
accepting, guiding, and forgiving.
Thanks be to God.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 579** *“Glory Be to the Father”*

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING pg. 328 1 Kings 21:1-21a

ANTHEM *“All Things Bright and Beautiful”* John Rutter
(text can be found in Hymn # 267)

CHILDREN’S MOMENTS

****Gateway to Worship**

NEW TESTAMENT READING pg. 66 Luke 7:36-8:3

SERMON When Pharisees Give Dinner Parties the Rev. Sharon Amstutz

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

***HYMN # 376** *“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”*

COMMISSIONING SERVICE

LITANY

Leader: The earth is the Lord’s
All: and all that is in it.
Leader: Jesus said, “I am the vine”
All: and we are the branches.
Leader: When we abide with Christ
All: we bear much fruit.

QUESTIONS TO THE PARTICIPANTS

QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

Leader: Together we are rooted and grounded in Christ’s love. Though spread far throughout the ground, we are connected to the vine, to the roots of God’s grace. As a congregation we have planted and watered seeds of faith in these young people, and now commission them to respond to God’s love for them in service. Will you promise to uphold them in your prayers?

All: We will.
Leader: Will you welcome them home and allow them to share their experience that we may all grow in faith?

All: We will.

PRAYER OF COMMISSIONING (in unison)

All: Loving God, you are able to accomplish far more than we can ask or imagine. Thank you for the Spirit’s power that is at work within us. We pray for these young people, that they will be strengthened in their inner being. We pray that Christ will dwell in their hearts through faith and that they will be rooted and grounded in your amazing love. As they travel, learn, play and worship with others, may they experience the fullness of your joy. May seeds that are planted in them and in those they minister to take root, grow and flourish.

SENDING

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 # 536** *“Lord, Make Us More Holy”*

***BENEDICTION**

***SENDING RESPONSE # 78** (red hymnal, stanza 1)
“God Be with You Till We Meet Again”

***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.

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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.

After Church Lunch – 12:30 p.m.

No need to go out after worship, join us in the Fellowship Hall for lunch! We look forward to sharing this fellowship opportunity with you! *(Please note: July’s Worship in the Park will take the place of July’s After Church Lunch.)*

Good Samaritan Food Offering

Next Sunday, June 20th, the Good Samaritan Food Offering will be received. This month they need: baby foods, finger foods, baby cookies, small cans of Spaghetti-o’s and soup, packages of macaroni and cheese, instant oatmeal, cereal, cream of wheat, peanut butter and jelly, pudding and Jell-o cups, fruit cups, juices, instant dry milk, and diapers.

Lake Days

Sign up now for Covenant's Days at the Lake! We will enjoy the great summer tradition of water sports and cooking out at the Hart's cabin with plenty of activities for all.

Youth Day at the Lake: Wednesday, June 23rd
(see Andy for details)

Men's Day at the Lake: Wednesday, June 30th
(sign up in Narthex)

Grilled meats and beverages will be provided, but please plan on bringing something to share. Please contact any member of the Congregational Life Committee with any questions.

4th of July Celebration

Covenant's 4th of July Celebration will be held on Saturday, July 3rd, to coincide with Johnson City's fireworks display. Details and sign-up sheets coming soon!

PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS

Rose Willis, Peter Block, Bob Sobol, Gary Smith, Chris Adler Hillhouse, the Hunter Family, Steve Bader, Roger Hecht, Pat Adams, Jean Freeman (Bill's mother), Helen Davis, Elva McCartt, Marvin Parker (Evelyn Kemp's cousin), 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.

TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:	Jim Starr
Liturgist:	Gwen Hunter
Acolytes:	Philip Hagelberg & Grace Madden
Chimer:	Julia Hagelberg
Gateway:	Andrea Sutter
Nursery:	Karen Mabe

CHURCH STAFF:

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

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Today, June 13

Youth Mission Trip – 13th thru 18th

9:00a

Chime Rehearsal

12:30p

After Church Lunch

Monday, June 14

7:00a

Old Timer's Hiking Club Breakfast

Tuesday, June 15

COURIER (FOR JULY) DEADLINE

7:00p

Property Committee Mtg.

7:30p

Al-Anon Meeting

Wednesday, June 16

7:30p

Choir Practice

Thursday, June 17

8:00a

Men's Bible Study

9:30a

Women in the Bible

Noon

Al-Anon Meeting

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

603 Sunset Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604
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Website: www.covenantpresjc.org

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time
June 13, 2010
Sunday, eleven o'clock

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name
through Christ, our Lord. Amen.