

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.)

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Gwen Hunter

GATHERING IN GOD’S NAME

SOUNDING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” arr.: M. Sherrill Kelsey

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We come to worship God in our need,
People: bringing with us the needs of the world.
Leader: We come to God, who comes to us in Jesus,
People: and who knows by experience what human life is like.
Leader: We come with our faith and with our doubts,
People: we come with our hopes and with our fears.
Leader: We come as we are because it is God who invites us to come,
People: and God has promised never to turn us away.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Leader: Lord God,
we have come to worship you
as sinners in need of your forgiveness.
**People: We come tired from our work,
in need of refreshment and re-creation.**
Leader: We come with worries,
in need of your guidance.
**People: But first, please lift us
out of our preoccupation
with our own needs.**
Leader: Allow us to see you with the eyes of faith,
and to hear with the ears of understanding
what you say to us.
**People: Make us thankful for all the good
we have received from you.**
Leader: Awaken in us a longing to do what is right.
**People: And make us aware of the great company,
past, present, and to come,
with whom we join to worship you. Amen.**

***HYMN OF PRAISE # 466** “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

***CALL TO CONFESSION** based on Matthew 22:37-40, NRSV

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Leader: God of everlasting love,
we confess that we have been unfaithful
to our covenant with you and with one another.
We have worshiped other gods:
money, power, greed, and convenience.
We have served our own self-interest
instead of serving only you and your people.
We have not loved our neighbor as you have commanded,
nor have we rightly loved ourselves.
**People: Forgive us, gracious God,
and bring us back into the fullness
of our covenant with you and one another.
Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Take comfort in the assurance
that even those things that are hidden from memory,
or are too deep for our words,
are not beyond God’s forgiving love.
God, who knows us completely,
bestows pardon and peace.
Thanks be to God.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 106** “Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks”

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING pg. 111 John 17:20-26

ANTHEM “Come, Christ of God” John Parker & Stan Pethel

Come, Christ of God, come today to wipe our tears of pain away.
In compassion, Lord, send your Son.
Come, Christ of God, O come.
Come Christ of God, come and heal the hidden scars our souls conceal.
Mend us in heart undone.
Come, Christ of God, O come.
Hope for the hopeless, rest for the weary, our Savior will soon be at hand.
Yet as he tarries, Lord, we are praying, send down your Christ to heal our land!
O come, O come Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
Come, Christ of God, come and shine your light of hope, for we are blind.
Open eyes to see the shining sun.
Come, Christ of God, O come.

CHILDREN’S MOMENTS

****Gateway to Worship**

***HYMN OF PREPARATION # 69** “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”

NEW TESTAMENT READING pg. 136 Acts 16:16-34

SERMON An Alternative to Whining Rev. Sharon Amstutz

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 “My Faith Looks Up to Thee” arr.: Chris Rice

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

***Prayer of Dedication**

GOING OUT TO SERVE

***HYMN OF CONSECRATION # 112** (Red Hymnal)
“God Moves in a Mysterious Way”

***BENEDICTION**

***SENDING RESPONSE # 535** “Go with Us, Lord”

***POSTLUDE** “All That Thrills My Soul is Jesus” arr.: Marilyn Ham
(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.

*Please join us in the library immediately after worship
for a time of fellowship and refreshments.*

Congratulations to our Spring Graduates: Adam Sutter, Patrick Charade, Matt Slawson, and Jaime Abbott, all graduating from Science Hill High School on May 29, 2010.

The pastor will be out on medical leave for the next 4-6 weeks following surgery this week. If you have an emergency, please call the church office (282-5324) or Andrea Sutter at 773-5602 if the office is closed.

PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS

Rose Willis, Chris Adler Hillhouse, the Hunter Family, Steve Bader, Roger Hecht, Pat Adams, Jean Freeman (Bill's mother), Helen Davis, Elva McCartt, Peter Block, 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: George Carroll
Acolytes: Blake Jones & Sean Madden
Chimer: Grace Madden
Gateway: Kathi Cary
Nursery: Andrea Sutter
Coffee Hosts: Joseph Cary, Cameron Hopkins, Mark Jones

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, May 16
9:00a Chime Rehearsal
10:00a Inquirer/New Member Class
Monday, May 17
COURIER DEADLINE
Tuesday, May 18
7:00p Property Comm. Mtg.
7:30p Al-Anon Meeting
Wednesday, May 19
7:30p Choir Practice
Thursday, May 20
8:00a Men's Bible Study
9:30a Women in the Bible
Noon Al-Anon Meeting

YOU HAVE MAIL:

Lattie Collins

Pentecost Offering 2010

I will sing praises to my God all my life long. Psalm 146:1

The **Pentecost Offering** will be received next Sunday, May 23rd. This offering supports missions with children at risk, youth, and young adults through the following PC(USA) ministries: General Assembly ministries with youth and young adults (25%); advocacy at the denominational level on behalf of children at risk (10%); Young Adult Volunteer opportunities (25%); and Congregational ministries on behalf of children at risk (40%). This year, Covenant Presbyterian Church's 40% of the offering will be given to Interfaith Hospitality Network for their work with homeless families in Johnson City.

Coalition for Appalachian Ministry (CAM)

Please see the **yellow insert** in your bulletin for information on these special collections. Donated items may be placed in the pink collection bins located in the Narthex until May 23rd.

Lake Days

Join us for Covenant's **Days at the Lake** events for the great summer tradition of water sports and cooking out. We will be graciously hosted at the Hart's cabin as usual, with plenty of activities for all.

Women's' Day at the Lake: Wednesday, June 9th
Youth Day at the Lake: Wednesday, June 23rd
Men's Day at the Lake: Wednesday, June 30th
(no rain dates)

Grilled meats and beverages will be provided, but please plan on bringing something to share. Sign-up sheets for the Women's' and Men's Days are posted in the Narthex.

Please contact any member of the Congregational Life Committee with any questions.

A Note From Holston Presbytery Camp

Holston Presbytery Camp is getting ready for a great **Summer Camp** season for children 8-17. If you've been here before, you probably can't wait to hang out with friends, enjoy campfires, play games and swim at Lake Lyons! If you haven't been, come enjoy a week of Summer fun by checking out the zipline, hiking trails, and caring staff! We're taking registrations by phone or online at www.holstoncamp.org! Sign up soon to get the camp you want!

(Check out the **bulletin board** in the hallway outside of the Fellowship Hall for **Camp Schedules/Registration forms** and other camp information!)

**COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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E-Mail: cpcjctn@mounet.com
Website: www.covenantpresjc.org

7th Sunday of Easter
May 16, 2010
Sunday, eleven o'clock

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

O God,
you pour out the Spirit
of grace and love.
Deliver us from cold hearts
and wandering thoughts,
that with steady minds
and burning zeal
we may worship you
in spirit and truth. Amen.