

**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: Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.  
**People: The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.**  
Leader: We desire to live in God’s house  
and to seek God in his holy temple.  
**People: We have come with shouts of joy,  
to sing and to make music to the Lord.**  
Leader: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.  
**People: Teach us your ways and make straight our paths  
in this hour of worship and always.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE # 49** “Once in Royal David’s City”

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Holy and merciful God,  
in your presence we confess  
our sinfulness, our shortcomings,  
and our offenses against you.**  
**You alone know how often we have sinned  
in wandering from your ways,  
in wasting your gifts,  
in forgetting your love.**  
**Have mercy on us, O Lord,  
for we are ashamed and sorry  
for all we have done to displease you.**  
**Forgive our sins,  
and help us to live in your light  
and walk in your ways,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON** from 1 John 1:5, 7

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 23 (refrain)** “Angels We Have Heard on High”

**HEARING THE WORD OF GOD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**READING FROM THE PSALMS** pg. 582 Psalm 147:12-20

**CHILDREN’S MOMENTS**

\*\*Gateway to Worship

**NEW TESTAMENT READING** pg. 192 Ephesians 1:3-14

**SERMON** Lavish Grace and Forgiveness Cheryl Rice

**RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** pg. 15 (Ecumenical version) The Nicene Creed

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER**

**\*COMMUNION HYMN # 57** “The Snow Lay on the Ground”

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER** Rev. Bill Hyers

Invitation to the Lord’s Table  
Offering  
Offertory # 22 (verse 4) “Angels, from the Realms of Glory”  
Prayer of Thanksgiving  
The Lord be with you  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord. God of power and might.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the Highest.**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Words of Institution  
Communion of the People  
Prayer after Communion

**GOING OUT TO SERVE**

**\*COMMITMENT HYMN # 29** “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*SENDING RESPONSE # 29 (refrain)** “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

**\*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.

**LARGE-PRINT BULLETINS** are available on the table in the Narthex.

**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.*

*The congregation expresses its deepest sympathy  
to the Hillhouse family in the death of Joel’s father, David L. Hillhouse  
and also to Jackie Bader in the death of her mother, Dorothy McPeck.*

This morning we welcome **Cheryl Rice** to the pulpit. Cheryl is a commissioned lay pastor in Holston Presbytery and an elder here at Covenant.

**5 CENTS A MEAL OFFERING**

The 5-Cents-a-Meal Offering will be received during the final hymn. You are asked to consider giving 5 cents for each meal you have eaten last month (or any amount you wish) to help feed those who are hungry. This offering supports both local and global hunger programs.

**NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR**

**Larry Brandenburg** will begin as Music Director at choir rehearsal on Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>. Please be sure to introduce yourself and welcome him to the family at Covenant Presbyterian Church! (Read the article in this month’s Courier to learn more about Larry.)

**OFFICE CLOSED**

The Church office will be closed on Monday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**THE MITTEN TREE**

The Mitten Tree is in the hallway across from the church office! Please bring hats, scarves and mittens for children in our area who need a little warmth.

**UN-GREENING OF THE CHURCH**

Please save Saturday morning, **January 8<sup>th</sup> (at 9:30)** for Un-decorating of the church. We need both men and women, several with strong backs – we will need to carry all those boxes back down to the basement! Many hands will make light work of this. Please come and help if you can!

**CORRECTION TO JANUARY REFRIGERATOR PAGE**

The birthdays listed are **JANUARY**, not December. (Sorry about that!)

**CORRECTION TO JANUARY CALENDAR**

**Melting Pot is at 9:30a**, not 10:30. (Sorry about that, too!)

**RECEPTION FOR JENNIFER PALMER – JANUARY 16<sup>TH</sup>**

Please join us for a reception after worship on Sunday, January 16<sup>th</sup> where we will be able to say farewell and express our appreciation to our pianist, Jennifer Palmer. We are asking each family to bring a finger-food type dish to share for this send-off celebration. (If you would like to contribute to a monetary gift for Jennifer, please write your check to Covenant and note “Jennifer” in the memo line.)

**REMINDER TO COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**2010 Committee Reports** for the Annual Report need to be e-mailed to Tina before **January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011**. Thank you!

**2011 STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES**

Your **2011 offering envelopes** are on the table in the Narthex. Please take yours. If you do not find a box of envelopes with your name, but wish to have one, please call Tina (282-5324) or send an e-mail to the office (office@covenantpresjc.org).

**SANCTUARY FLOWERS**

The **2011 Flower Chart** is on the bulletin board in the hall outside of the sanctuary. Please sign up if you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary to honor or remember someone or to mark a special occasion. Ordering instructions (if you wish to order from AnnaMarie’s Florist) are posted next to the chart.

**PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS**

Jackie & Steve Bader, Ted Bair (Lynnea Fisher’s father), the Hillhouse Family, Chris Adler Hillhouse, Arlene Wilkinson, Jack Fletcher, Agnes Plank, Lattie Collins, Jim Crandall, Bob & Estelle Armistead, Roger Hecht, Rose Willis, Hazel Hinkle (John Merriss’ sister-in-law), Patricia Chafin (former member of Covenant), John Brumit (Betsy Moakler’s brother), Max Wilson, Pat Adams, Vi Block, Elva McCartt, Arthur “Bud” & Eileen Kelsey (friends of Butch & Harriette Carr), Marvin Parker (Evelyn Kemp’s cousin), Ed & Marie Britt, Corrine Broyles, Julia Trifiletti, Aneita Carr  
*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: Blake Jones  
Acolytes: Philip Hagelberg & Sean Madden  
Chimer: Grace Madden  
Gateway: Cornelia Shelnut  
Nursery: Andrea Sutter  
Coffee Fellowship: The Sutter Family

**CHURCH STAFF:**

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

**THIS WEEK AT COVENANT :**

Today, January 2  
9:00a Chime Choir Practice  
Monday, January 3  
**Church Office Closed**  
9:30a Melting Pot  
Tuesday, January 4  
Noon Congregational Life Committee Meeting  
7:00p Mission & Outreach Committee Meeting  
7:00p Stewardship Committee Meeting  
7:00p Worship Committee Meeting  
7:30p Al-Anon Meeting  
Wednesday, January 5  
5:00p WNL!  
7:30p Choir Practice  
Thursday, January 6  
8:00a Men’s Bible Study  
9:30a Women in the Bible  
Noon Al-Anon Meeting  
Saturday, January 8  
9:30a Un-Greening of the Church

**YOU HAVE MAIL:**

Helen Davis Janet Powell

**LUNCH & DISCUSSION AT MAGILL MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN**

**Magill Memorial Presbyterian** in Roan Mountain will host a lunch and discussion on Sunday, **January 9** beginning at 12:30 with Joe and Kathy Angi, PCUSA missionaries serving in Budapest, Hungary. Point of interest will be a proposed water well project through Living Waters for the World to be located in the Ukraine. Everyone is invited to attend. For further information, contact Steve Rembert (rembert\_sb@juno.com), Erwin Presbyterian. Joe and Kathy Angi will also be available to talk in any church prior to their time at Magill Memorial. They will be in the area January 5-8.

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

**Friendship (Afternoon) Circle:**

**1:30 p.m.** at the home of Dot Carpenter (12 Sterling Circle, J.C., 283-9213).  
Lesson Five

**Joy (Evening) Circle:**

**7:00 p.m.** at the home of Betsy Hagelberg (2925 Antioch Road, J.C., 929-7940)  
Lessons Four and Five

**THIRD THURSDAY DINNERS**

The Congregational Life Committee invites you to join your fellow Covenant members as we resume our monthly Third Thursday Dinners. Our next dinner is scheduled for **January 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Mellow Mushroom**. Please contact Lauri Zembower (620-3625 or broncofan524@yahoo.com) if you think you’ll be attending so we can get a count for the tables. Hope to see you there!

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION**

The **Annual Meeting of the Congregation** will be held as part of our **After Church Lunch** (see below) on **Sunday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Highlights of 2010 will be reviewed, the 2011 budget will be presented, and we will elect members of the church Nominating Committee as well as officers of the corporation. Please plan to attend! It will be a wonderful opportunity to learn more about what’s happening at Covenant.

**AFTER CHURCH LUNCH – SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2011**

January’s After Church Lunch will be held following worship on **January 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Please bring a side dish, salad or dessert that you would like to share with the congregation. If your dish needs to be kept warm or even heated at the last minute, someone will be in the kitchen by 9:30 a.m. to receive your dish and your instructions. We look forward to sharing this fellowship opportunity with you! If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Sutter or Lauri Zembower.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

We’re about to begin a new year and with that comes the need for **ushers and for elders to volunteer to serve communion**. New calendars for the coming year are posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Please use them to let us know when you will be available to help out. Many thanks.

**COVENANT  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

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Website: [www.covenantpresjc.org](http://www.covenantpresjc.org)

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas Day  
January 2, 2011  
Sunday, eleven o’clock

**PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

O God,  
by your power may we, with all the saints,  
comprehend the breadth and length and height and depth  
of the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge,  
so that we may be filled with your fullness. Amen.

—based on Ephesians 3:18-19