

(As we enter the sanctuary, let us quietly 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

GREETING

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

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP AND CONGREGATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

PRELUDE "As the Deer" Fred Bock, arr.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, and worship! God is here. God is listening.

**People: We come to praise the Lord.
We are here, just as God has called us.**

Leader: God has commissioned us.
He commissions us to be his hands and his feet;
he commissions us to be his mouthpiece.

**People: God has called us to be merciful and compassionate;
forgiving and holy.**

Leader: God has called us to be just.

People: Let us learn and practice together what God calls us to do.

*OPENING PRAYER

***HYMN OF PRAISE # 220** "All People That on Earth Do Dwell"

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dear God,

You are a God of justice, yet we are a people of revenge.

You are a God of mercy, yet we are judgmental.

You are a God of compassion, yet we insist on self-indulgence.

You are a God of forgiveness, yet we hold grudges.

You have called us to be holy, yet we have fallen well short of holiness.

Forgive us. Help us forgive others. Help us forgive ourselves.

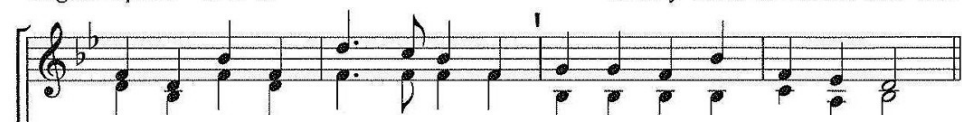
Teach us to be a holy people of justice, mercy, compassion and forgiveness.

Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Regent Square 87 87 87 Henry Thomas Smart, 1813-1879



Glo - ry be to God the Fath-er Glo - ry be to God the Son,



Glo - ry be to God the Spir - it; great Je- ho - vah, Three-in-One!



Glo - ry, glo-ry, glo-ry, glo-ry, while e-ter -nal a - ges run!

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READINGS Exodus 23: 1-9 pg. 69; Micah 6:6-8 pg. 866

GOSPEL READING pg. 9 Matthew 9: 9-13

MESSAGE Why Jesus is Not a Member of the Justice League Lynnea Hunter

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN # 209** "My Song Forever Shall Record"

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER pg. 16 (Traditional version)

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory "There Is a Balm in Gilead" Cindy Berry, arr.

***Doxology # 428** (v. 1) "We Give Thee but Thine Own"
We give Thee but Thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee.

***Prayer of Dedication**

GOING OUT TO SERVE

***HYMN # 386** "O for a World"

*BENEDICTION

***POSTLUDE** "Rejoice, the Lord Is King" Lloyd Larson, arr.

(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.

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Hearing devices and large-print Hymnals are available in the back of the sanctuary; and a limited number of large-print bulletins are on the table in the Narthex.

Please remember that the thermostat has been set to 68 degrees for the winter season. Lap blankets are available under the table in the Narthex for those who need them.

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.*

We thank the Covenant Youth Group for leading us in worship this morning.

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

The **February Courier** can be found on the table in the narthex. **Help us save postage!** Be sure to pick up your copy! (It is also posted on our website: www.covenantpresjc.org)

A Called Meeting of the Congregation will be held today following worship for the purpose of electing a Pastor Nominating Committee. The Congregational Nominating Committee is recommending the following seven (7) persons who have agreed to serve on this committee to conduct a search for a new pastor; Jane Deaton, Fred Dulin, Ann Freeman, Ellen Hagelberg, Hal Hunter, Erma Hyers and Harry Powell.

Nominations from the floor may be made, however, please do not nominate anyone who has not been contacted and is not present to consent to a nomination. Also please consider that this committee is required to be representational of the congregation and the committee has looked at the various demographics of Covenant in making this recommendation. It is also anticipated that all who serve on the PNC will approach this with an open mind for God's direction in leading this congregation.

Jane Deaton - Jane grew up in south Arkansas and has an engineering degree from the University of Arkansas. She and her husband John moved to Gray from Columbia, SC three years ago. While in Columbia, Jane worked for Eastman and the SC Bureau of Air Quality (but not at the same time!). She and John attended Union United Methodist Church where she helped with VBS and the soup kitchen. She stays home with their children Ellis and John Russell. It is her favorite job ever!

Fred Dulin - Fred grew up in the Lutheran Church in Charlotte, NC, where he had the privilege of serving as a youth representative on his first pastor search committee. Following his marriage to Linda, they moved to Pittsburgh, PA, in the mid-1980's where they first joined the Presbyterian Church. Over the years, Fred has served as an elder both at Waverly Road in Kingsport and here at Covenant. Fred has been a youth Sunday School teacher for the last 8 years and our Christian Education committee chair for the last 4 years. He is the proud dad of Kalli and the source of half of her somewhat twisted sense of humor.

Ann Freeman - Ann has been a member of Covenant Presbyterian Church since 1982 and a lifelong Presbyterian. She is married to Bill Freeman and has two children: James and Melissa, both now college students. She has participated in many youth and mission projects of the church – ski trips, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Habitat - is a member of the Issues Sunday School class, is an ordained elder and served two terms on Session. Ann has served on and chaired committees and was Clerk of Session. She has participated in various capacities with Wednesday Night Live! since its founding and is currently serving a second term as director. Ann is a member of the choir and a member of/and occasional leader of the chime choir. Ann is employed at Siemens Industry and enjoys contra dancing, hiking, skiing, attending music festivals, playing pickle ball, and reading for recreation.

Ellen Hagelberg - Ellen was born in Albany, New York and grew up in Jackson, Mississippi. She has lived in Johnson City and been a member of Covenant for the past five years. Ellen is involved in the youth group, WNL and has gone on a mission trip and the Montreat youth conference. She has served on the advent planning committee and the search committee for music directors. Ellen is a senior at Science Hill High School and will be attending ETSU next year. Ellen likes to read and play the violin which she has shared with the congregation.

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(A Called Meeting of the Congregation, continued)

Hal Hunter - Hal grew up in Western Pennsylvania and has lived in Johnson City since 1976. He taught for several years in high school and at ETSU before moving into private business. Hal and his wife Gwen have been members of Covenant since 1977 and their daughter was raised at Covenant. He is a member of the Vision Seekers class, has served on several committees of the church and Presbytery, was a member of the building committee, was youth leader, WNL director, elder, Clerk of Session and currently chairs the Board of Directors for Holston Camp.

Erma Hyers - Erma was born and grew up in East Tennessee. She attended Carson Newman College and received her graduate degree in special education from East Tennessee State University. She has taught at Colonial Heights Elementary School in Kingsport, along with other schools in Virginia and Elizabethton, TN. She has most enjoyed working with special needs children. She and Bill have one son and daughter-in-law who are both Presbyterian Ministers in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Erma is a long time member of Covenant Church and presently enjoys being a part of the Outreach Committee.

Harry Powell - Harry and Janet became members of Covenant in 1973, and their three children grew up here. He has served four terms on the Session, participating in several Session committees and serving as Clerk of Session. He was chair of the building committee that was responsible for construction of our sanctuary and chair of the Pastor Nominating Committee that nominated Sharon Amstutz. He is an enthusiastic member of the Issues Sunday School class. Harry retired in 2002 as Professor of Physics and Astronomy at ETSU.

The **2012 Theologian-in-Residence** series will celebrate its 21st year by exploring the “open source church,” in which the basic functions of mission and ministry are open to anyone. The series will be led by Rev. Landon Whitsitt, executive and stated clerk of the Synod of Mid-America. Sessions will be February 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th at Tusculum College. Brochures with more information can be found on the table in the narthex.

REMINDER: Please remember to sign up to attend the **Senior Brunch** to be held on **Tuesday, February 21 at 9:00 in the Fellowship Hall**. Cost is only \$3.50 per person for a scrumptious meal and lots of good fellowship. Guests are always welcome, even if you haven't reached senior status yet! Come and see for yourself that becoming a senior **does** have its good points! **The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.** Contact Helen Davis for additional information.

Presbyterian Women – February Meetings

Friendship (Afternoon) Circle:

Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 1:30 p.m.
Hostess: Amy Hecht
1817 Galen Drive, J.C. 929-2609
Lesson 6 Leader: Betty Maletich

Jov (Evening) Circle:

Tuesday, Feb. 28 at 7:00 p.m.
Contact: Anne Smith (929-1604)
Meeting will be at the church.
Lesson 6 Leader: Anne Smith

After Church Lunch: Sunday, Feb. 12. Please bring your favorite “comfort foods” to share.

Third Thursday Dinner: Thursday, Feb. 16 at Sahib.

Save the Date! Saturday, Feb. 25th – Shepherd’s Luncheon. Details in Courier!

PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS

Audrey Thompson; Barbara Ladich; Mary Bowman; Rose Willis; Eileen Madden; Jan Paveglio’s granddaughter, Nina; Doris Sanders; Tom Marshall (Tina’s fiancé); Mary Bell Orr (the Underwood’s daughter’s mother-in-law); Bill Hagood (Sharon Amstutz’ father); Arlene Wilkinson; Chris Adler Hillhouse; Pat Wiley; Betty Maletich; Peggy & Hugh Underwood; Everrette Dale Thompson (Phyllis Thompson’s uncle); Jon Christiansen (missionary); Bob Rice (missionary); Eric Smith (son of former members Keith & Pam Smith); Jack Fletcher; Corrine Broyles; Elva McCartt; Marie Britt; Hazel Hinkle (John Merriss’ sister-in-law); Patsy Young (Butch Carr’s cousin); families of Boge Dyer and Catherine Cox; Arthur “Bud” & Eileen Kelsey; Tim Jones; Joyce Ford & her family (all friends of Butch & Harriette Carr), Sharon Hatcher (friend of Victory Cooper)

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
Nursery: Jan Paveglio
Coffee Hosts: The Madden Family

This Week at Covenant:

Today, Jan. 29
9:45a Sunday School
11:00a Youth-led Worship Service
Noon Called Meeting of the Congregation
Monday, Jan. 30
7:00a AA Meeting
Tuesday, Jan. 31
7:00p AI-Anon Meeting
Wednesday, Feb. 1
7:00a AA Meeting
5:00p WNL!
7:15p Choir Practice
Thursday, Feb. 2
8:00a Men’s Bible Study
9:30a Women in the Bible
Noon AI-Anon Meeting
6:00p Franklin Sq. Condo Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Friday, Feb. 3
7:00a AA Meeting

Church Staff:

Director of Youth Ministry: Lynnea Hunter
Music Director: R. Sherrill Gibson
Accompanist: Melodye Sparks
Secretary: Tina Simon
Financial Secretary: Anne Webb
Custodian: Marie Britt
Nursery Worker: Jeanne Gamble

Mission Statement

Covenant Presbyterian Church exists to glorify and enjoy God. We live knowing that God calls us to be a place of love, support, hope and acceptance regardless of earthly labels; Jesus Christ commissions us to make disciples and passionately share our gifts with the world through prayer, teaching, and service; the Holy Spirit allows us to determine and carry out Christ’s will for our lives and the life of our church, and empowers us to seek out and respond to the needs of our local and global community.

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – January 29, 2012

603 Sunset Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604
(423) 282-5324

E-Mail: office@covenantpresjc.org

Website: www.covenantpresjc.org



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Dear God,
silence all voices within our minds but your own.
Help us to seek and be able to follow your will.
May our prayers be joined
with those of our sisters and brothers in the faith,
that together we may glorify your name
and enjoy your fellowship forever.
In Jesus’ name, Amen.*