



COVENANT

presbyterian church

To the Greater Glory of God

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Sunday, October 12, 2025

11:00 a.m.

SANCTUARY

Covenant Presbyterian is a dynamic Christian community that gladly invites all people into a transformational experience of faith; boldly proclaims the gospel; bravely works toward a whole and just world; and passionately nurtures discipleship.

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Sunday, October 12, 2025

11:00 a.m.

Welcome to Covenant; we are glad you are here. Children are always welcome in worship. Childcare and children's programs (ages 6 weeks to fifth grade) are offered in the Education Wing. Infant soothing rooms with live video of the worship service are available in the balcony and parlor. See an usher for assistance.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

Holy, Holy, Holy..... arr. D. Forrest

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP..... Serenitye Taylor

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 475

Come Thou Fount..... NETTLETON

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

PRACTICES OF DISCIPLESHIP

CHORAL CALL TO CONFESSION

Search Me, O God SURSUM CORDA¹

Search me, O God; search me and know my heart;
try me, O God; my mind and spirit try;
keep me from any path that gives you pain,
and lead me in the everlasting way.

SILENT CONFESSION

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of grace, love, and communion, we confess that we have failed to love you with all our heart, soul, and mind; and to love our neighbor as ourselves. We ignore your commandments, stray from your way, and follow other gods. Have mercy on us. Forgive our sin and raise us to new life that we may serve you faithfully and give honor to your holy name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (*choir and congregation*)

Alleluia! CELTIC ALLELUIA²

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PASSING THE PEACE

ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM..... Serenitye Taylor

Caldwell Boyles Gibson, child of Sean and Andrew Gibson

¹You are invited to rise in body or spirit

Baptism Response (*choir and congregation*)

Children of the Heavenly Father. Swedish Folk Tune

**Children of the heavenly Father, safely in God's bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.**

**Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever;
Unto them God's grace he showeth and their sorrows all God knoweth.**

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Following Time with Young Disciples, children are invited to remain in worship with their families or go to Childcare. Children going to Childcare should be accompanied by a parent/guardian to the first floor of the Education Wing.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 3: 1-10. New Testament, p. 88

SERMON

"Begin Again" Bob Henderson
Sermon Series: *Discern. Decide. Declare.*

RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 24

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens. HOLY MANNA

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

MINUTE FOR MINISTRY My Heart Knows

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Do Not Be Afraid P. Stopford

Refrain:

*Do not be afraid, do not be afraid for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by your name; you are mine, you are mine.*

*When you walk through the waters, I'll be with
you; you will never sink beneath the waves.
When the fire is burning all around you, you
will never be consumed by the flames.*

Refrain

*When the fear of loneliness is looming,
then remember I am on your side.
When you dwell in the exile of a stranger,
remember you are precious in my eyes.*

Refrain

*You are mine, O my child, I am your Father,
and I love you, with a perfect love.*

Refrain

~ Covenant Choir ~

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GO IN GOD’S NAME

*RECESSIONAL HYMN 744

Arise, Your Light is Come!FESTAL SONG

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

Danish Amen Anon. Danish

*POSTLUDE

Praise Him! Praise Him! arr. B. Wolaver

Notes:

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Leading Worship this Morning

Bob Henderson, senior minister
Serenitye Taylor, pastoral resident, congregational life
Emily Floyd, director of traditional music
Suzanne Lowry, guest pianist
Covenant Choir
Emily Reinicker, carillon

Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism with the Gibson Family

Sister: Wyatt; grandparents: Denise and Richard Gibson; aunt: Mary Grace Gibson; uncle: Pierce Gibson; great-aunt and uncle: Mary and Ty Cobb III; godparents: Sammar Shahidi and Lawton Costello; Sarah and Jim Howell
Mary Grace Gibson stands as Elder with the Gibson family.

WELCOME TO COVENANT

We are happy that you are worshiping with us today. Please fill out one of the Worship Response Cards in the bulletin and place it in the offering plate when finished. All are welcome for fellowship and refreshments in the Circle where today's preaching minister will be glad to greet you.

Interested in joining Covenant? We welcome new members every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in the Parlor, located downstairs in the Sanctuary building. Feel free to contact our office at 704-333-9071 or email Lora.Borrelli@covenantpresby.org for more information.

Masks are optional in the sanctuary and assistive listening devices are available from the ushers. Audio-induction hearing loops are installed in the sanctuary for use with hearing aids.



Each Sunday, we offer educational and fellowship opportunities in the mornings and evenings for children, youth and adults in the Education Wing and Fellowship Hall. Please see the digital signs in each building for details.

Are you signed up to receive our weekly emails? If not, please contact Lacy King, Communications Manager, at Lacy.King@covenantpresby.org.



Giving a financial gift makes Covenant's programs and ministries possible. You are invited to give generously at www.covenantpresby.org/ways-to-give or by scanning the QR code to give online or by texting a dollar amount to 704-312-7616. We're grateful for your support.

CONGREGATIONAL NOTES (*As of October 8*)
Please keep the following individuals and families in your prayers:

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Claire and Allen Brown on the baptism of their child
Isabel Valencia Brown today at 9:30 a.m.
Vanessa and Dan O'Brien on the baptism of their child
Harriet Grace O'Brien today at 9:30 a.m.
Betsy Wetmore and Justin Cardone on the occasion
of their marriage on September 27.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Jane Crook Cunningham
Charter Member, Elder
December 4, 1931 - October 2, 2025

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, says the Spirit. - Revelation 14:13

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Donna Goodwin
Frank Mansfield
Walker Morrison
Dottie Stowe
Mary Ann Tilley

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Stay up to date by visiting covenantpresby.org/congregational-notes

We rely on members of the congregation, friends and relatives to keep us informed of hospitalizations, births and deaths. Please call the church office at 704-333-9071 or email Aisha.Council@CovenantPresby.org. Prayer requests may be submitted on your Worship Response Card, on the website at Connect and Grow > Congregational Care, or to Katherine.Kerr@CovenantPresby.org. A pastor remains on call for emergency situations (death, sudden hospitalizations, etc.). Please call 704-333-9071.

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2 © 1985 OCP

This service is being streamed live and recorded for online viewing at CovenantPresby.org/live.

If you would not like to keep this bulletin, please recycle it in the bins located in the narthex.



1000 E. Morehead Street | Charlotte, NC 28204 | 704-333-9071
www.CovenantPresby.org