



COVENANT

presbyterian church

To the Greater Glory of God

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Sunday, May 4, 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, May 4, 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

CENTERING PRAYER

Gracious God, we come to this time of worship fueled by both beauty and grief. Make your presence known to us in the grip of both joy and sadness. Silence the world around us and the noise within. Amen.

PRELUDE

Largo from "Xerxes"..... G.F. Handel

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP..... Katherine Kerr

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 36

For the Fruit of All Creation..... AR HYD Y NOS

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

PRACTICES OF DISCIPLESHIP

*CHORAL CALL TO CONFESSION

Search Me, O GodSURSUM 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 hope, God of joy, God of life, we come to you as a people hungry for good news. We have been so dead to miracles that we have missed the hope you have promised us. We have preoccupied ourselves with small things and have overlooked the true joy you offer each one of us. We have been so concerned with making a living that we miss the new life you have given to us. Forgive us, gracious God. Open our eyes and our minds to receive your promises, and open our hearts and hands to share them freely. We pray this in the name of Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

¹You are invited to rise in body or spirit

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** (*choir and congregation*)
God's Mercies Are New Every Day G. Murphy
Choir: Continuous love that will never fail
All: God's mercies are new ev'ry day.
Choir: With God in my life sin cannot prevail
All: God's mercies are new ev'ry day.
ALL (REFRAIN):
God is faithful, Like the morning sunrise;
God is faithful, God's mercies are new ev'ry day.
God's mercies are new ev'ry day. God's mercies are new ev'ry day.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Bob Henderson
Elizabeth Ann Zimmerman and Everett Hunt Zimmerman, daughter
and son of Catherine and Carl Zimmerman
Charlotte Grey Ichaso, daughter of Ashley and Mario Ichaso
Eden Adair Jayne, daughter of Helen King and David Jayne
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 Mary Kate Sykes
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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 2:1-10..... Old Testament p. 46

SERMON

"Engaging the Powers"Bob Henderson
Sermon Series— *Significant Others: Stories Worth Hearing*

***HYMN OF RESPONSE 731**

Give Thanks for Those Whose Faith is Firm.....REPTON

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.

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

A Song of CommunityJ, Ferguson²

I was glad when they said unto me, “Let us
go into the house of the Lord.”

The Church of Christ in every age beset by change but Spirit-led,
must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead.

Across the world, across the street, the victims of injustice cry
for shelter and for bread to eat, and never live until they die.

Then let the servant church arise, a caring church that longs to be
a partner in Christ’s sacrifice, and clothed in Christ’s humility.

We have no mission but to serve in full obedience to our Lord; to
care for all, without reserve, and spread Christ’s liberating word.

~ *Covenant Choir* ~

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GO IN GOD’S NAME

*RECESSIONAL HYMN 79

Light Dawns on a Weary World TEMPLE OF PEACE

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Recessional for a Joyous Day..... R. Haan

Notes:

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Leading Worship this Morning

Bob Henderson, senior minister

Mary Kate Sykes, pastoral resident, education

Katherine Kerr, senior associate minister, congregational life and care

Kenney Potter, choral conductor

Covenant Choir

Mark Glaeser, organist

Lorna Graves, carillon

Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism with the Ichaso Family

brother: Jack; grandparents: Maureen and Rob Lederer, and Sueli de Souza, all of Fairfax, VA; godparents: Brooke Lederer and Logan Cook of Charlotte, Caitlin and Alex Hammond of Arlington, VA. Abby Liu stands as Elder.

Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism with the King and Jayne Family

siblings: Noah, Natalie, Haley, Austin, and Blake; grandparents: Austin King of Abilene, TX and Susan King of Abilene, TX, Kathy and Luke Jayne of Branson, MS
Robin Goodson stands as Elder.

Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism with the Zimmerman Family

great grandmothers: Elizabeth Green of Atlantic Beach, NC and Joan Zimmerman of Charlotte, NC; great great aunt and uncles: Mary Whitehurst of Wilmington, NC, Nora and Alan Kuester of Charlotte, NC; great aunt: Lou Johnson of Atlantic Beach, NC; grandparents: Lib and Morrison Creech and Anja and David Zimmerman all of Charlotte, NC, Amy and Ron Nason of Gastonia, NC; aunt and uncle: Mackenzie and Charles Nason of Gastonia, NC; cousins: Molly Bourne and Anne and Jon Steppe of Charlotte, NC
Alan Kuester stands as Elder.

Flowers in the Sanctuary

Given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Alan Joyner Sykes.

WELCOME TO COVENANT

We are happy that you are worshiping with us today. 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 Rosie Strawn, Communications Manager, at Rosie.Strawn@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 April 30*)
Please keep the following individuals and families in your prayers:

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Jenna and Ruffin Sykes on the baptism of their daughter
Margaret Alan Sykes today at 8:45 a.m.

Claire and Allen Brown on the baptism of their daughter
Isabel Valencia Brown today at 9:30 a.m.

Mary Beth and Tim Eastridge on the baptism of their
son Ralph Turner Eastridge today at 9:30 a.m.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Stephanie and Robert Hines

Grace and Charlie Rogers (Adams)

Amy and Johnny Ruhl (Russell and Walker)

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Gloria Dalton

Donna Goodwin

Brenda Moricle

Mary Jane Ramsey

Dottie Stowe

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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 Michelle.Williamson@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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www.CovenantPresby.org