



COVENANT

presbyterian church

*To the Greater Glory of God*

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Sunday, August 3, 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, August 3, 2025

11:00 a.m.

*Welcome to Covenant; we are glad you are here. Children are always welcome in worship. Childcare is offered in the Education Wing for children 6 weeks to four years old. Infant soothing rooms with live video of the worship service are available in the balcony and parlor. See an usher for assistance.*

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## GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

### CENTERING PRAYER

Gracious God, in the stillness of this moment, quiet my heart and mind and turn my attention wholly to you. Let the distractions of the week fall away so that I might gain a deeper awareness of your presence and find my center in your truth, grace, and peace. Amen.

### PRELUDE

*Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* ..... arr. P. Manz

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP ..... Grace Lindvall

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE 619

*Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven.* ..... LAUDA ANIMA

## PRACTICES OF DISCIPLESHIP

### \*CHORAL CALL TO CONFESSION

*Search Me, O God* ..... SURSUM CORDA<sup>1</sup>

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)

Almighty God, we come before you this day with our confession:  
You stir this world with a mighty wind, but we ignore its force.  
You sweep over us with a balm like in Gilead, but we persist  
in trying to hold our lives together ourselves. We form quick  
judgements of others, keeping them at length from the grace  
we might extend. We ask your mercy, O God, for our failure to  
receive and expand your love. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

### \*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

### \*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'ryday.

\*PASSING THE PEACE

## ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD

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

Esther 4:12-17 ..... Old Testament, p. 425

SERMON

"For Such a Time as This?" ..... Bob Henderson  
Sermon Series: *Epic Tales*

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE 366

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* .....HYFRYDOL

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH ..... from "A Declaration of Faith"

God has not taken his people out of the world, but has sent them into the world to worship him there and serve all humankind. We worship God in the world by standing before the Lord in behalf of all people. Our cries for help and our songs of praise are never for ourselves alone. Worship is no retreat from the world; it is part of our mission. We serve humankind by discerning what God is doing in the world and joining him in his work. We risk disagreement and error when we try to say what God is doing here and now. But we find guidance in God's deeds in the past and his promises for the future, as they are witnessed to in Scripture. We affirm that the Lord is at work, especially in events and movements that free people by the gospel and advance justice, compassion and peace.

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

*Praise to God, Immortal Praise* ..... S. Tucker<sup>2</sup>  
Praise to God, immortal praise, for the love which crowns our days;  
bounteous source of every joy, let your praise our tongues employ;  
all to you our God we owe, source from whom our blessings flow.  
All the plenty summer pours; autumn's rich o'erflowing stores;  
flocks that whiten all the plain; yellow sheaves of grain;  
Lord, for these our souls shall raise grateful vows and solemn  
praise.  
As your tender hand has blessed, may we give you of our best;  
and with deeds of kindly love give our thanks for God above;  
singing thus through all our days praise to God, immortal praise.  
~ *Summer Choir* ~

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GO IN GOD'S NAME

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 450

*Be Thou My Vision*.....SLANE

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

*Recessional for Organ* .....A. Sherman

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Notes:

# THE WORSHIP SERVICE

## Leading Worship this Morning

Bob Henderson, senior minister

Grace Lindvall, associate minister, education

Mary Kate Sykes, pastoral resident, education

Mark Glaeser, interim director of traditional worship and organist

Lamar Davis, interim choral conductor

Summer Choir

Emily Reinicker, carillon

## WELCOME TO COVENANT

We are happy that you are worshipping 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](mailto:Lora.Borrelli@covenantpresby.org) for more information. We will gladly host meetings in the Welcome Center upon request.

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](mailto: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](http://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 July 30)

*Please keep the following individuals and families in your prayers:*

### CONGRATULATIONS TO

Judith and Justin Kanera on the birth of  
their son Caleb Miles on July 21.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Eva Bender

Caitlin Collins (Archer)

Michelle and Bryan Kraak

Helen Pan (Alexander and Penelope)

### IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Brenda Coffey Moricle

January 14, 1941 - July 30, 2025

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

### OUR SYMPATHY AND LOVE TO

Don Moricle, Dee Newton, Molli and Marty Bucher, and Julie  
Stanton-Ludden and their family on the death of Don's wife and  
Dee, Molli and Julie's mother Brenda Moricle on July 30.

### PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Edna Bacon

Donna Goodwin

Jim Leathers

Frank Mansfield

Dottie Stowe

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Stay up to date by visiting [covenantpresby.org/congregational-notes](https://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](https://www.CovenantPresby.org)