



*To the Greater Glory of God*  
A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Sunday, September 21, 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, September 21, 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.*

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## GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

### PRELUDE

*Theme and Variations on "Azmon" . . . . . R. Hobby*

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP . . . . . Mary Kate Sykes

### \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 63

*The Lord is God . . . . . AMAZON*

### \*PRAYER OF ADORATION

## PRACTICES OF DISCIPLESHIP

### \*CHORAL CALL TO CONFESSION

*For the Troubles and the Sufferings . . PELAS DORES DESTE MUNDO<sup>1</sup>*

For the troubles and the sufferings of the world, God, we call  
upon your mercy; the whole creation's laboring in pain!

Lend an ear to the rising cry for help from oppressed and  
hopeless people; Come! Hasten your salvation, healing love!

We pray for peace, the blessed peace that comes from making  
justice, to cover and embrace us. Have mercy, Lord!

We pray for power, the power that will sustain your people's  
witness; until your Kingdom come, Kyrie Eleison.

### \*SILENT CONFESSION

### \*CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, trusting in your tender mercy, we confess with one  
another our sin to you. We confess that we forget you. We are so  
concerned for our own comfort that we forget our neighbors. We  
are so attached to our own will that we forget yours.

We are so aware of our need that we forget our calling. We are so  
pleased with our possessions that we forget that they are yours.  
Bring us back to mindfulness, God. Forgive us, and be generous  
with your grace. Amen.

### \*ASSURANCE OF GRACE

<sup>1</sup>You 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**

**TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES** ..... Katherine Kerr  
*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**

Exodus 16:9-15. ....Old Testament p. 60-61  
Matthew 6:25-30 .....New Testament, p. 6

**SERMON**

“Default Perspective” .....Bob Henderson  
Sermon Series: *Discern. Decide. Declare.*

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE 39**

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness* .....FAITHFULNESS

**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**

*Roof Above* .....Liz Clasen-Kelly

**OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*Speak, Lord* ..... T. Trenney  
You are the way, the truth, and the life.  
You are the hope, our vict’ry o’er the strife.  
You are our peace, our calm upon the sea.  
Bringing good news to the oppressed,  
you call us to set the captive free!

*Refrain:*

*Speak, Lord, for your servants are listening.*

*Speak, Lord, how we need to hear from you.*

*Give us courage to speak, Lord,*

*till injustice is silent.*

*Speak your words in all we say and do.*

*You come to heal our broken heart,*

*to comfort as we mourn,*

*just mercy to impart.*

*You call us to preach the Gospel,*

*dream the dream till justice rolls down like water,*

*righteousness like a mighty stream.*

*Refrain*

*Give us sight to see the world through the eyes of a stranger.*

*Help us to hear the beauty of a language not our own.*

*Set our hearts to beat with compassion for our neighbor.*

*When we love each other, you are seen and known.*

*Refrain*

*Be our strength to love in all we say and do.*

*Speak, O Lord, teach us to live and love like you.*

*~ Covenant Choir; Jordan Taylor, tenor ~*

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**GO IN GOD'S NAME**

**\*RECESSIONAL HYMN 65**

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* ..... CWM RHONDDA

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL BENEDICTION**

*The Lord Bless You* ..... D. Wagner

**\*POSTLUDE**

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* ..... T. Albrecht

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Notes:

# THE WORSHIP SERVICE

## Leading Worship this Morning

Bob Henderson, senior minister  
Katherine Kerr, senior associate minister, congregational care  
Mary Kate Sykes, pastoral resident, education  
Emily Floyd, director of traditional music  
Mark Glaeser, organist  
Covenant Choir  
Ben Unger, carillon

## 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](mailto: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](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 September 17*)  
*Please keep the following individuals and families in your prayers:*

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Susan and Kevin McCarter

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Donna Goodwin

Frank Mansfield

Walker Morrison

Dottie Stowe

Mary Anne Tilley

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Stay up to date by visiting [covenantpresby.org/congregational-notes](http://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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If you would not like to keep this bulletin, please recycle it in the bins located in the narthex.



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[www.CovenantPresby.org](http://www.CovenantPresby.org)