



# COVENANT

presbyterian church

*To the Greater Glory of God*

## A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Sunday, September 28, 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 28, 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

*Pastoral Air with Variations* . . . . . F. A. Murschhauser

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

### \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 20

*All Things Bright and Beautiful* . . . . . ROYAL OAK

### \*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)

Merciful God, so often our priorities are misaligned and our  
praise misdirected. We seek first ourselves, rather than you, and  
we chase after idols of our own making. We allow worry, rather  
than trust, to govern our days and decisions, and we fail to ground  
ourselves in your grace.

Forgive us, we pray, and help us to see with fresh eyes your  
presence among us and your care for us. Grant us the wisdom and  
discernment to make faithful decisions about our priorities and  
praise as we seek to bring glory to you. Through Christ we pray.  
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'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**

*Caleb Miles Kanera, son of Judith Crews and Justin Kanera  
Margaret Henson Kyger, daughter of Evelyn and Johnny Kyger*

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**

Philippians 4:1-9 ..... New Testament, p. 187

**SERMON**

"Decide and Declare" ..... Mary Kate Sykes  
Sermon Series: *Discern. Decide. Declare.*

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE 463**

*How Firm a Foundation..... FOUNDATION*

**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**

Avery County ..... Ruth Shirley

**OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*The Heavens Are Telling from The Creation.....F.J. Haydn<sup>2</sup>  
The heavens are telling the glory of God.*

The wonder of His work displays the firmament.

The day that is coming speaks to the day,

The night that is gone to following night.

The heavens are telling the glory of God.

The wonder of His work displays the firmament.

In all the lands, resounds the word,

never unperceived, ever understood.

The heaven are telling the glory of God.

The wonder of His work displays the firmament.

~ Covenant Choir, Trio: Lauren Russell, Lamar Davis, Andrew  
Peters ~

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## GO IN GOD'S NAME

### \*RECESSIONAL HYMN 327

*From All That Dwell Below The Skies . . . .* LASST UNS ERFREUEN

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*POSTLUDE

*From All that Dwell Below the Skies . . . . .* arr. Paul Manz

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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  
Emily Floyd, director of traditional music  
Mark Glaeser, organist  
Covenant Choir  
Sherry Ward, carillon

## Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism with the Crews/Kanera Family

grandparents: Alan & Marcia Crews of Dayton, TN, Jenny Kanera of Columbia, MD; uncle: Josh Kanera of Indian Land, NC;  
cousins: Hayley Kanera and Ashton Kanera of Indian Land, NC  
Ashley Friello stands as Elder with the Crews/Kanera family.

## Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism with the Kyger Family

grandparents: Ken and Chris Henson of Columbus, GA and John and Denise Kyger of Salisbury NC; aunts and uncles: Jackie Henson of Durham NC, James and Carter Kyger of Charleston SC, and WB Rodman Davis of Greensboro NC.; godparents: Andrew Zoeller of Wayne, PA and Jackie Henson of Durham, NC  
Elizabeth Cooper stands as Elder with the Kyger family.

## Flowers in the Sanctuary

Given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Sarah Lenox McKee and John Manchester.

## 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 24*)  
*Please keep the following individuals and families in your prayers:*

CONGRATULATIONS TO  
Mary Clare and Alex Chinery on the birth of their  
child, Imogene Hart Chinery on September 18.

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](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)