



COVENANT

presbyterian church

To the Greater Glory of God

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Sunday, September 28, 2025

8:45 a.m.

CHAPEL

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

8:45 a.m.

Welcome to Covenant; we are glad you are here. Children are always welcome in worship. Childcare (ages 6 weeks to Kindergarten) is offered in the Education Wing. See an usher for assistance.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

Pastoral Air with Variations F. A. Murschhauser

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP Grace Lindvall

*HYMN OF PRAISE 327

From All That Dwell Below The Skies LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

PRACTICES OF DISCIPLESHIP

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*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 587 (*choir and congregation*)

Alleluia! CELTIC ALLELUIA¹

**Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*PASSING THE PEACE

COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

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.

¹*You are invited to rise in body or spirit

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

God of the Deep D. Forrest

Each time I stand and wonder at the vastness of the sea,
I know that there are mysteries too great and deep for me.
The wide expanse of water reaches far beyond my sight,
and yet I know the One to whom its depths are full of light.
The wide expanse of water reaches far beyond my sight,
and yet I know the One to whom its depths are full of light.
The mighty waves roll in to shore and break upon the sand,
compelled by unseen forces that I cannot understand.
The currents run beneath the waves in perfect, charted paths;
A skillful hand directs their courses, as it ever has.
The wide expanse of water reaches far beyond my sight,
and yet I know the One to whom its depths are full of light.
The ocean teems with living things who never see the sun,
and yet there is an eye who sees and knows them, ev'ry one;
and that same eye has fathomed all the mysteries of my days,
when tears have dimmed my sight,
a heart of Love still charts my ways.
When simple explanations lie too deep for me to find,
I rest in God who holds the whole creation in His mind.
I hope in Him whose skill and wisdom far exceed my own.
The secrets of the hidden depths belong to God alone.
I hope in Him whose skill and wisdom far exceed my own,
the secrets of the hidden depths belong to God alone.

~ Lauren Russell, soprano ~

ENCOUNTER GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

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

SERMON

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

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 463

How Firm a Foundation FOUNDATION

GO IN GOD’S NAME

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Postlude on “Foundation” R. Hobby

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Leading Worship this Morning

Katherine Kerr, senior associate minister, congregational care
Mary Kate Sykes, pastoral resident, education
Emily Floyd, director of traditional music
Mark Glaeser, organist

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. We will gladly host meetings in the Welcome Center upon request.

Assistive listening devices are available from the ushers.
Audio-induction hearing loops are installed in the chapel 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 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.
Judith Crews and Justin Kanera on the occasion of the baptism of their son Caleb Miles Kanera today at 11:00 a.m.
Evelyn and Johnny Kyger on the occasion of the baptism of their daughter Margaret Henson Kyger today at 11:00 a.m.

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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