



# COVENANT

presbyterian church

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

Sunday, January 21, 2024  
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, January 21, 2024

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.*

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## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

*Prelude* . . . . . W. Harris

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

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE 619

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

### \*PRAYER OF ADORATION

### \*CALL TO CONFESSION

Silent Confession

Corporate Prayer of Confession

**Gracious and Loving God, we confess how hard it is to be your people. You have called us to be the church, to serve as your witnesses in a hurting and broken world. Yet we acknowledge that we are more apathetic than active, isolated than involved, callous than compassionate, obstinate than obedient. Gracious Lord, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins. Awaken our hearts to the promised gift of your indwelling Spirit. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*Congregational Response 587 (*choir and congregation*)

*Alleluia!* . . . . . CELTIC ALLELUIA<sup>1</sup>

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### \*PASSING THE PEACE

### COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

### 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.**

<sup>1</sup>\*You are invited to rise in body or spirit

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“If with All Your Hearts” from *Elijah*. . . . . F. Mendelssohn<sup>2</sup>  
“If with all your hearts you truly seek me, ye shall  
ever surely find me,” thus saith our God.  
Oh that I knew where I might find him, that I  
might even come before his presence.  
~ *Jordan Taylor, tenor* ~

THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Jonah 4:11 . . . . . Old Testament, p. 812  
Matthew 5:7 . . . . . New Testament, p. 4

SERMON

“Mercy” . . . . . Mary Kate Sykes  
Sermon Series: *Grounded & Growing*

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS

Constitutional Questions to Those to be Ordained/Installed  
Constitutional Questions to the Congregation  
Prayer of Ordination/Installation  
Charge to the Newly Ordained/Installed

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 436

*God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us*. . . . . O QUANTA QUALIA

SENDING

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*. . . . . P. Manz

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Notes:

# THE WORSHIP SERVICE

## Leading Worship this Morning

Katherine Kerr, senior associate minister, congregational life and care  
Mary Kate Sykes, pastoral resident, education  
Heather Potter, director of traditional music  
Mark Glaeser, organist

## Members of the Session Class of 2026

Bill Cathey\*, Janet Delery, Vince DiSandro, Jim Dobbins, David Frost, Jacquelyn McAbee, John McAlister\*, Payton Majors (youth elder), Preston Manning (youth elder), Teresa Moore, Lou Watson, Sarah Wilson

\*Installed only, having previously served as elder.

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

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 January 17*)**  
***Please keep the following individuals and families in your prayers:***

**CONGRATULATIONS TO**  
Liz and Kirk Ward on the baptism of their child Katherine  
Cole Ward on January 21, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

**PRAYERS FOR HEALING**

Deloris Davis  
Nathan Doty  
Don Moricle

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](mailto: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](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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