



COVENANT

presbyterian church

To the Greater Glory of God

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Sunday, July 27, 2025

9:30 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, July 27, 2025

9:30 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 kindergarten) 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.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Centering Prayer

Behold, Lord, an empty vessel
that needs to be filled.

My Lord, fill it.

I am weak in the faith; strengthen me.

I am cold in love; warm me and make me fervent,
that my love may go out to my neighbor. Amen.

—Martin Luther (1483–1546)

Gathering Music

Mr. Magic G. Washington, Jr.

Welcome and Announcements Serenitye Taylor

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

**Firm Foundation (He Won't)* A. Davis, C. Moore, C. Carnes¹

**Holy Forever* Johnson, Tomlin, Ingram, Johnson, Wickham²
(worship team and congregation)

**Prayer of Adoration*

PRACTICES OF DISCIPLESHIP

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Eagle's Wings R. Morgan³

(worship team)

Here I am waiting

Abide in me I pray

Here I am longing for You

Hide me in Your love

Bring me to my knees

May I know Jesus

More and more

(worship team and congregation)

Come live in me

All my life take over

Come breathe in me

And I will rise

On eagle's wings

Assurance of Grace

**You are invited to rise in body or spirit*

Time with Young DisciplesKatherine Kerr

Following Time with Young Disciples, children are invited to remain in worship with their families or attend Sunday School. Children going to Sunday School can be escorted by a parent to the Education Wing where parents can pick them up after the service in EW207.

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

Let it Be. J. Lennon, P. McCartney⁴

When I find myself in times of trouble
Mother Mary comes to me
Speaking words of wisdom
Let it be
And in my hour of darkness
She is standing right in front of me
Speaking words of wisdom
Let it be
Let it be, let it be
Let it be, let it be
Whisper words of wisdom
Let it be
And when the broken-hearted people
Living in the world agree
There will be an answer
Let it be
For though they may be parted
There is still a chance that they will see
There will be an answer
Let it be
And when the night is cloudy
There is still a light that shines on me
Shine until tomorrow
Let it be
I wake up to the sound of music
Mother Mary comes to me
Speaking words of wisdom
Let it be, yeah
Let it be, let it be
Let it be, yeah, let it be
Oh, there will be an answer
Let it be

GOD’S WORD READ AND PROCLAIMED

Scripture Reading

Genesis 21:8-21Old Testament, p. 16

Sermon

“Ishmael: Inheritor of the Promise” Bob Henderson
Sermon Series: *Epic Tales*

*Song of Response

Goodness Of God E. Cash and J. Johnson⁵
(*worship team and congregation*)

GO IN GOD’S NAME

*Invitation and Benediction

**For I Know* R. Muchow⁶
(*worship team and congregation*)

Notes:

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Leading Worship this Morning

Bob Henderson, senior minister
Katherine Kerr, senior associate minister, congregational care
Serenitye Taylor, associate minister, congregational life
Ben Thomas, interim contemporary band leader
Tameka Thomas, interim contemporary worship leader
Ricko Hill, assistant director of contemporary worship and arts

Sharing the Gifts of Music

Paul Fisher (drums), Katrina Heath (vocals), Mollie James (vocals),
Phil Koonce (electric guitar and vocals), Zach Leitner (electric guitar),
Phil Lyew (saxophone), Jessica Moss (vocals), Ben Thomas (keys),
Tameka Thomas (vocals)

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 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.



Giving a financial gift makes Covenant's programs and ministries possible. You are invited to give generously at 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 23)

Please keep the following individuals and families in your prayers:

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Maggie and Josh Eidson

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Marilyn Turner Hedgpeth

December 24, 1953 - July 23, 2025

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

OUR SYMPATHY AND LOVE TO

Alexandra and Tyler Morton and their family on the death of her father Martin Carstarphen on July 13.

Mary Ellen Vernon and her family on the death of her mother Edith Shoffner Vernon on July 17.

Emily and Adam Schauer and their family on the death of her mother Marilyn T. Hedgpeth on July 23.

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

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@Covenant-Presby.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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www.CovenantPresby.org