



To the Greater Glory of God
A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Sunday, January 18, 2026

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, January 18, 2026

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 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.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music

Glorious Day K. Stanfill, S. Curran, J. Ingram, and J. Smith¹

I was buried beneath my shame
Who could carry that kind of weight
It was my tomb till I met You
Four on the floor
I was breathing but not alive
All my failures I tried to hide
It was my tomb till I met You
You called my name
And I ran out of that grave
Out of the darkness
Into Your glorious day
You called my name
And I ran out of that grave
Out of the darkness
Into Your glorious day
Now Your mercy has saved my soul
Now Your freedom is all I know
The old made new
Jesus when I met You
I needed rescue
My sin was heavy
But chains break at the weight of Your glory
I needed shelter
I was an orphan
But You call me a citizen of heaven
When I was broken
You were my healing
Your love is the air that I'm breathing
I have a future
My eyes are open

Welcome and Call to Worship Serenitye Taylor

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

**I Will Follow* C. Tomlin, J. Ingram, R. Morgan²
(worship team and congregation)

*Prayer of Adoration

PRACTICES OF DISCIPLESHIP

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Eagle's Wings..... R. Morgan³

(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

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.

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.

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

In These Times J. Armatrading
These are the times, tears fill the back of your eyes
These are the times, the birds migrate
Across the skies, these are the times
What hope you had you forget, these wicked times
You're bound to feel, all sanity is lost
In these times everyone needs love
In these times do you pray to God
In these times everyone needs comfort
And would welcome a hand to hold
Compassion is the fire, that burns the hurt
That pains the soul
And though my eyes are so polluted by the sight of lost desires
I can see you standing by, this is my fear
That distance will come between us
And it could mean nothing, nothing
To get from here to there
We own the world and everything that's in it
Let our love shine like glistening raindrops
Resting on a rose
In these times celebrate our love
In these times let's be thankful of
All the days we can spend together
And I'm happy to hold your hand
Your passion is the food
That feeds the hunger in my heart
And now my eyes are clearly open
No more longing for the past

Now I have you in these times
In these times everyone needs love
In these times do you pray to God
In these times everyone needs comfort
And would welcome a hand to hold
Your passion is the fire
That burns the hurt
That pains the soul
And though my eyes are so polluted
By the sight of lost desires
Good to have you in these times

ENCOUNTER GOD’S WORD

Scripture Reading

Mark 8: 27-37 New Testament, p. 41

Sermon

“Follow the Leader” Bob Henderson
Sermon Series: *Discern. Decide. Declare.*

*Song of Response

Lord I Need You Reeves, Stanfill, Maher, Nockels, Carson⁴
(worship team and congregation)

GO IN GOD’S NAME

*Invitation and Benediction

*Benediction Response

**For I Know* R. Muchow⁵

Notes:

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Leading Worship this Morning

Bob Henderson, senior minister
Serenity Taylor, associate minister, congregational life
Katherine Kerr, senior associate minister, congregational care
Ben Thomas, interim contemporary band leader
Tameka Thomas, interim contemporary worship leader

Sharing the Gifts of Music

Jackson Daisley (electric guitar), Paul Fisher (drums), Katrina Heath (vocals), Cheryl Hoover (bass guitar and vocals), Clark Humphries (vocals), Phil Koonce (electric guitar), Phil Lyew (saxophone), Ben Thomas (keys), Tameka Thomas (vocals).

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.

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 Lacy King, Communications Manager, at Lacy.King@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 January 14)
Please keep the following individuals and families in your prayers:

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Steven Buchanan Shockley
May 28, 1947 - January 10, 2026

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

OUR SYMPATHY AND LOVE TO

Lecia and Zane Shockley, Kohl Eisenschmidt and Mauryn Eisenschmidt and their family on the death of Lecia's husband, Zane's father and Kohl and Mauryn's stepfather Steve Shockley.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Candace Carter-Johnson

Deloris Davis

Murray Fadial

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@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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