



COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8:30 & 11:00 am

ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 25, 2010

4th Sunday of Easter

- Covenant Church welcomes children in worship. There is a nursery for infants through age two in Room 101 of the Educational wing of the church. Worship bags full of quiet activities for children to use during our services are available inside the cart that holds our name tags.
- Hearing devices and large print bulletins, bibles and hymn books are available on the credenza in the Narthex. Please ask an usher for assistance.
- Prayer request cards will be collected during Fellowship Moments.

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. James 1:17

THE GATHERING

*GREETINGS and PASSING OF THE PEACE

8:30 Katie Kinnison; 11:00 Karen Jackson

Leader: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

PRELUDE

“Trumpet Tune In A Major”

David N. Johnson

CALL TO WORSHIP

*OPENING HYMN NO. 414 “As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought”
Forest Green

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Creator God, forgive our moments of ingratitude, the spiritual blindness that prevents us from appreciating the wonder that is this world, the endless cycle of nature, of life and death and rebirth. Forgive us for taking without giving, reaping without sowing. Open our eyes to see, our lips to praise, and our hands to share. May our feet tread lightly on the path we tread, and our footsteps be worthy of following, that they might lead to you. Amen.¹

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, Believe the Good News of the Gospel!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

**All who can comfortably do so, please stand.*

11:00 am Service

***AFFIRMATION**

**Born in the light of the Bright and Morning Star, we are new.
Not patched, not mended... but new
Like a newborn...
Like the morning...
The guilt-blotched yesterdays are gone;
The soul stains are no more!
There is no looking back;
There are no regrets. In our newness, we are free.
In the power of God's continuing creation,
We are: New shoots from the root of Jesse,
New branches from the one true Vine,
New songs breaking through the world's deafness.
This then is a new day.
New shoots, new branches,
New songs, new day...
Bathed in the promise of God's New Creation,
We begin!²**

TALK WITH CHILDREN

Tracy Keenan

We encourage children to stay with us in worship. We try to keep the worship experience engaging and participatory for all ages. At the same time, some little ones are too restless to remain in the Sanctuary for the full hour so, with their grown-ups' permission, they may go to Room 112 for Wiggle Worship at this time.

COVENANT IN MISSION

Stewardship

8:30 Linda Billman 11:00 Dave Timmons

FELLOWSHIP MOMENTS

- Prayer request cards will be collected at this point.
- Please sign the fellowship pad and pass it to your neighbor.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: "Our Father who art in heaven..." (Hymnal p. 16. We say debts and debtors.)

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT Leviticus 23:1-11 OT Page 109

Lay Readers: 8:30 Al Bordelon; 11:00 Jim Buchanan

NEW TESTAMENT James 1:17-27 NT Page 229

SERMON "First Things First" Tracy Keenan, preaching

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory 8:30 "The Risen Christ" Gilbert M. Martin

Early Birds

11:00 "Give Me Jesus" Doug Wagner

Chancel Choir

*Offertory Response "Doxology" Old Hundredth

*Prayer of Dedication

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 422 "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"
Beach Spring

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE "Danish" Danish

POSTLUDE "Trumpet Tune in B Flat Major" Mark Sheppard

(You are invited to stay and listen) Weldon Adams, Organ

ANTHEM TEXT

The Risen Christ

Text: I Corinthians 15:55-56 and Anonymous Music: Gilbert M. Martin

Alleluia! Now Christ is risen from the dead!

O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

The strife is over, the battle done. Now is the victor's triumph won!

Now be the song of praise begun. The powers of death have done their worst,

But Christ their legions has dispersed. Let shouts of holy joy outburst: Alleluia!

The three sad days have quickly sped, He rises glorious from the dead.

All glory to our risen Head! Now Christ is risen from the dead!

Give Me Jesus Text and Tune: Spiritual Setting: Douglas E. Wagner

I heard a mourner say:

"Give me Jesus, you may have all this world, give me Jesus.

O, when I come to die, give me Jesus.

Dark midnight was my cry, give me Jesus.

In the morning when I rise, give me Jesus."

HYMN NOTES

Frank Christerson, author and Presbyterian minister, submitted "As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought" to the Department of Stewardship and Benevolence of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. and the Hymn Society of America, who were seeking new hymns on "Stewardship." Ten hymns were chosen, and this hymn outpaced all others in popularity. We must be good stewards today of all that God has given us, just as the farmers of old brought their first and best fruits to God, the Giver of all good. Ralph Vaughan Williams collected and arranged this English folk tune.

"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending" by Robert Lansing Edwards (b. 1915) was written for the Hymn Society of America's 1961 competition for stewardship hymns. It was one of 10 chosen as winners of the competition and was published in "Ten New Stewardship Hymns" (1961). This text explains and highlights the meaning of our stewardship of God's resources so graciously given to us. The text was originally set to the familiar tune "Hyfrydol." The tune "Beach Spring" first appeared in B. F. White and Elisha James King's "Sacred Harp," published in Philadelphia in 1844. The tune is attributed to White.

¹**Prayer of Confession** by J. Birch (www.faithandworship.com)

²**Affirmation** by Ann Weems ("New Shoots" from Searching for Shalom, 1991 Westminster/John Knox Press, used by permission)

PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

Ushers: 8:30 Dick Sharpe, Mark Owen, Betsy Owen, Tim Scott

11:00 Jim Hamilton, Suzie Shoemaker, Katy Nowels, Jeffrey Smith

Greeters: 8:30 Mike Hayes, Terri Hayes, Gail Griffin

11:00 Gail Brown, Betsy Campbell, Dick Campbell, Mona Connolly

Musicians: 8:30 Early Birds; 11:00 Chancel Choir

TODAY AT COVENANT

The flowers in front of the pulpit are given by Betty Atkinson and family in loving memory of husband, father and grandfather, Hersh.

Adult Learning

- The Forum: "The Mystics," Joy Schroeder, Lounge
- Lay Led Bible Study - Luke, Room 121
- Parents share their lives and faith, Room 102

Youth - Study on *Faith Questions*, Karen's office

Treasure Finders - Children three years through fifth grade, begin in Room 104

Three Presbyterian Churches in Concert 4 pm, Sanctuary

The musicians of three Presbyterian Churches will present a concert of sacred music for choirs, handbells, and organ: Covenant Presbyterian Church, First Presbyterian Church of Lancaster, Indianola Presbyterian Church of Columbus.

Bible Study of Philippians. Contact Katie Kinnison. 6:30 pm, Room 120

Check your weekly Covenant email on Thursday to stay up to date with events.

THIS WEEK April 26-May 1

Covenant Golf League Wed., April 28, 5:30pm

The Covenant Golf League is back for another year of "Fellowship on the Links" at The Phoenix Golf Links in Grove City for all ages, genders, and skill levels. This is a 16-week league, split into 2 sessions. Cost per round (9 holes) is \$13, so total cost per session is \$104. Bring a check payable to Tom Billman to the first session. Call Tom Billman, 531-5323.

NEXT WEEK May 2-8

Dedication Sunday Sunday, May 2

We'll bring our pledge cards, dedicate our giving to Covenant for the coming year, and celebrate with cake and ice cream after church!

2nd Annual Blessing of the Bikes and Riders Sunday, May 2, 12:30 pm

This is for riders of all kinds of "cycles" (bicycles, motorcycles, scooters, tri-cycles, etc.) and for riders of any age. Following the blessing there will be a "Dog and Suds" lunch. Contact Jim, jimmebler@covenantpcusa.org.

Covenant Congratulates Doug Teske! Award Breakfast RSVP by May 3

Doug was selected to receive a 2010 Living Faith Award of the Columbus Metropolitan Area Church Council. He will be honored Thurs., May 20 at a breakfast, 8-9:30 am at Capital University. If you would like to attend the prayer breakfast as part of the group from Covenant that will be attending, contact Gail Griffin, 457-2346 by May 3. Cost of each reservation is \$25.

Church Women United May Friendship Day Fri., May 7, 9:30-3 pm

The celebration will take place at Grove City United Methodist Church, 2684 Columbus Street with the theme: Living the Vision. The Valiant Woman, Mustard Seed, Young Church Woman, and Church and Community Service awards will be presented. Everyone welcome. **For reservations, call Gerlinde Lott, 486-8607, by May 2.**

LOOKING AHEAD May 9+

Primitimers Fri., May 14, 5:30pm (early time)

There will be a potluck at 5:50pm and then a tour of the Reed Rd. Fire House at 7pm. Call Ruth Adams, 336-0194.

May Spiritual Cinema Offering Mon., May 17

The Spiritual Cinema Group will go out to a theater to view a movie. The movie will be selected by the group based on what is playing at the time. Watch the weekly bulletins for further information or contact either Beth Askue at askue.1@osu.edu or Susan Imel at susanimell@gmail.com or 262-7444.

Continued on back

Artist's Way Courses Begin

May 18 & 19

Two sections of "The Artist's Way: A Spiritual Path to Higher Creativity" will take place. An afternoon section will begin at 2 pm, Tues., May 18, Room 120, and an evening section at 7 pm, Wed., May 19, Lounge. "The Artist's Way" is a 12-week course designed to discover and recover your creative self and nurture your openness to the spirit of the living God at work in you. We'll be working our way through Julia Cameron's *The Artist's Way*. Pick up a flyer on the welcome table or contact Susan Imel, 262-7444, susanimel1@gmail.com or Katie Kinnison, katherinekinnison@covenantpcusa.org.

CPW's Birthday Luncheon and Program

Wed., May 19, 11:45 am

Plan to attend the Covenant Presbyterian Women's Birthday Luncheon so called because we celebrate CPW and all our birthdays. A salad luncheon is provided, and the program "The Little Minyan" will be presented by Jessica Shimberg Lind. The birthday offering will be received and dedicated, and a short business meeting will follow with a vote on the by-laws revision and installation of the CPW officers for next year. Cost is \$6. RSVP Gail Brown, 457-3470, gbrown32@columbus.rr.com, or the church office, 451-6677.

Play Bridge

Sun., May 23, 2 pm, Lounge

Come as pairs or as individuals who will be paired. No reservations. Bring a snack to share and a cold drink for yourself. Hot drinks and ice provided. To pay for incidentals, \$1 per person is collected. Contact Bonnie Roussey, 451-7511.

OTHER IMPORTANT THINGS



Did You Know?

More than 200 Covenant members are over 80; 15 are over 90! Our Older Adults Ministry Team serves them and the entire congregation through workshops, newsletters, personal assistance, home communion, and an annual "over 80" luncheon. Look for their personal stories in the display case in May.

Love One Another

If you are visiting Covenant and would like to take a look at our weekly emails outlining upcoming church events and activities, please email your email address to joanpogalies@covenantpcusa.org.

Good News about The One Great Hour of Sharing. \$3,571.85 was contributed this year. (\$3,450.55 in 2009.) Thanks to all who helped make this happen.

CPW Annual Garage Sale Oct. 1 & 2 (Set-up begins Mon., Sept. 27)

As you do your spring cleaning, set aside cherished but no-longer needed items to donate to the CPW Garage Sale. *Please do not leave items at the church until Sept. 27!* A new feature this year will be a table for handcrafted items. One hundred percent of the income from this table will go directly to the Mission Pledge of Presbyterian Women for the General Mission Fund of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Your craft items will be most welcome.

CWU Collecting Layettes

Throughout May, Church Women United will be collecting layette items such as baby blankets, caps and booties for families in need. A box is in the hall.

Walking in the Power of Love

Put your words into action. Literally. This is a ministry of walking and prayer, and we can each do it according to our own schedule and at our own pace.



Walk and pray for the people in the houses, and pray that God shows you and our church how to understand and serve the needs of our communities. You will be walking in the power of love. Who knows what can happen? Pick up a packet from a table in the hallway today. Contact Katie with any questions.

Mother's Day Cards – Healthy Women Healthy Families is a program of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) that provides obstetric care, cervical cancer screening, malaria prevention and other health services to women in Africa. Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Scioto Valley is again supporting the Mother's Day Card Project. Cards will be available at the PW/PSV Spring Gathering or order and get info from Judy Oeder, 459-2231. Suggested donation: \$10 per card.

COMPASS needs full-size toiletries: soap, shampoo, tooth brushes/paste, deodorant, razors. Place in the laundry baskets in the narthex for deacons to deliver.

Eyeglasses will be collected in April for needy people throughout the world: men's, women's, children's prescription, bi-focals, and non-prescription sunglasses. A box is on the welcome table.

Our Food Pantry is again in need of the following items: Cereal; canned fruit; jam; peanut butter; macaroni and cheese; prepared meals for one person; canned corn; Hamburger Helper; Tuna Helper, and canned tuna (small and large).

IN SYMPATHY

The sympathies of the congregation are extended to the family of Charlene Evans, who died Friday, April 16, 2010.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Bob Bartels	Bob Basford	Dan Belville	Marie Bernays
Eleanor Calvary	Kristin Ware Cooper	Mildred Furney	Mary Jane Greeger
Pauline Grehl	Earl Hosler	Birdine Lint	Evan Lockhart
Mary Marshall	Fred Mills	Jan Morris	Sandy McCloud
Judy Sechler	Phyllis Tate	Sally Tate	Whitney Von Voigt
Ann White	Marvin White	Steve White	

Compiled last week. For current information, check the list on the office bulletin board. Call the church, 451-6677, if you know of those who need prayers of concern or celebration. Hospitals do not automatically contact us, so we rely on you. Also pray for Covenant's mission workers; the list of their names is on the hall bulletin board.

PASTORAL LEADERSHIP TEAM

Tracy Keenan, Senior Pastor

Karen Ware Jackson, Associate Pastor

Weldon Adams, Minister of Music

Katie Kinnison, Director of Christian Education

Jim Mehler, Parish Associate

Covenant Presbyterian Church

2070 Ridgecliff Road • Columbus, OH 43221

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Our Vision Statement

Covenant Presbyterian Church glorifies God and builds relationships with Christ and each other through:

- worship that inspires,
- nurture that embraces,
- education that challenges,
- fellowship that energizes,
- ministry that responds.



Our Mission Statement

Covenant Presbyterian Church is a dynamic congregation

- led by Christ,
- active in the world,
- inspired by the word,
- open to the future.