



Confirmation SUNDAY

covenant
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 3, 2026 – 10am
Fifth Sunday of Easter
Confirmation Sunday

Covenant is an accepting, welcoming community sharing the glory of God's love with all.

PRELUDE

“Lord, Listen to Your Children” arr. Schrader

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: In you, Holy Visionary, we take refuge.

People: With you, we co-create dignity for all of creation.

Leader: Turn your compassion towards us, come quickly to our rescue—

People: deliver us from those who do not treasure the sacred worth of all people.

Leader: Protect us from those who dream of our demise instead of our flourishing.

People: Free us from all systems of domination.

Leader: Shine your face of possibility upon us.

People: Infuse us with your Unfailing Love.

*Please rise in body or spirit

*HYMN #409

“God is Here!”



1 God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

3 Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here, as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.

2 Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit;
here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.

4 Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive:
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you
with our whole heart and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
In your mercy, forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**



(Silence for Personal Confession)

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

HYMN #750

“Goodness is Stronger Than Evil”

Recognizing that this text arose from the years of apartheid in South Africa adds depth and resonance to its already confident language. Yet these words can also be read as a summary of Christ's death and resurrection, the true basis of our hope that good will triumph over evil.

Goodness is stronger than evil;
love is stronger than hate;
light is stronger than darkness;
life is stronger than death.
Victory is ours; victory is ours,
through God who loves us.
Victory is ours, victory is ours,
through God who loves us.



PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord, be with you all. **And also with you.**

HYMN #188

“Jesus Loves Me”

TALK WITH CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION



THE GOSPEL READING

John 14:1-14 (NRSVUE)

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**





PRAYER OF THE DAY †

Generous God,
whose way is love,
whose truth is searching,
whose life is freely given
in Jesus Christ our Lord:
as you have opened for us
your house of many rooms,
so may we make a place
for the rejected and unloved,
and share the work of peace;
through Jesus Christ, the image of God. Amen.

SERMON

“This is the Way”

CONFIRMATION

Rolton Brown, Isabella Demaree, Miles James,
Evelyn Lerdon, Sally LuPiba, Mitchell Magee, Tucker Magee,
Madelyn McCune, Ainsley Merl, and Anna Lea Merl

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING



OFFERTORY

“He Never Failed Me Yet” by Robert Ray

*DOXOLOGY #606

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION



THE LORD'S SUPPER

See the back page of the hymnal

At Covenant, we believe the Lord's Supper is for everyone. From newborns to our most mature, all are welcome at this table. The Presbyterian Church teaches, "The opportunity to eat and drink with Christ is not a right bestowed upon the worthy, but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love. All who come to the table are offered the bread and cup, regardless of their age or understanding" (Book of Order, W-3.049).

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

"One Bread One Body" arr. Hayes

*HYMN #488

"I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry"



Originally created to accompany a video series on baptism, this hymn speaks in the imagined conversational voice of God, assuring the person being baptized of God's presence throughout the changing stages of life. It offers a reminder that baptism is a once-in-a-lifetime event.

1 "I was there to hear your borning cry;
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child
with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off
to find where demons dwell."

2 "When you heard the wonder of the Word,
I was there to cheer you on.
You were raised to praise the living Lord
to whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun."

3 "In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise."

4 "I was there to hear your borning cry;
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized
to see your life unfold."

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Reprise of "I Was There to Hear Your Borneing Cry"

† From Prayers for an Inclusive Church by Steven Shakespeare. New York: Church Publishing, 2009.

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Assisting in Worship Today:

Cathy Levy– Liturgist

Brian Gray – Vocalist

Cherie Brooks – Director of Music & Technology

Katie Wynkoop – Organist/Pianist & Assistant Director of Music

Brian Biller – Media Production Specialist

Erin Wise – Director of Children's & Youth Ministries

Rev. Joel A. Esala – Pastor

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Bible Study - Wednesday at 1:00pm in the Lounge. Join Bible Study with the QR code.

Centering Prayer- Thursday at 8:30am in the Lounge



Have a high school or college student family member nearing graduation?

We would love to celebrate them.

Please get in touch with Megan

- meganlehr@covenantpcusa.org or (614) 451-6677 - and let her know the graduate's name, where they are graduating from, degree, and family relation.

Please submit by 5/6.

ALL are invited to a luncheon where guest and speaker Jean McCoard will be discussing and reading from her latest book, 'Backroads to Paradise'

May 13
11:30am

RSVP in person
on Sunday
mornings or call
Estelle Scott



SHRED DAY

May 16th
9am-Noon

A suggested
donation of \$5/per
box or bag gladly
accepted

VBS

JUNE 15-18, 9-11:30AM

PARTICIPATE

3 YRS - 5TH GRADE

[https://bit.ly/
CPCVBS2026](https://bit.ly/CPCVBS2026)



VOLUNTEER

RISING 6TH GRADE
& ABOVE

[https://bit.ly/
CPC26VBSVOL](https://bit.ly/CPC26VBSVOL)



Optional Dates:

Set up
June 13:
9 am-12 pm
Tear down
June 18:
11:30am

JEAN A. MORTLAND SCHLORSHIP

Established in 2007 to honor her love of music, education, and faith, the Jean A. Mortland scholarship is awarded annually to support an individual pursuing degrees in music or theology who shows vocational excellence. Funded by her bequest and donations.

APPLY | BIT.LY/JAMAPP26

DEADLINE | 06.01.26





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