

covenant
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November 8, 2026 – 10am

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

PRELUDE "Great is Thy Faithfulness" arr. Forrest

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Let us muse over the faithfulness of God,
Bask in God's companionship,
People: Meditate upon divine sincerity.
Leader: Let's wax poetic about the nearness of God,
Ponder where God is close at hand,
People: Praise divine steadfastness in silence and song.
Leader: Our God, constant and kind,
People: is worthy of our contemplation, is worthy of our celebration!

*Please rise in body or spirit

*HYMN 619 "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven"

This adaptation of an older paraphrase of Psalm 103 (see no. 620) is informed by an awareness that much of the received language of religious traditions enshrines social values that obscure the goodness of God, which far transcends all our labels and categories and hierarchies.

1 Praise, my soul, the God of heaven;
glad of heart your carols raise;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
who, like me, should sing God's praise?
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the Maker all your days!

2 Praise God for the grace and favor
shown our forebears in distress;
God is still the same forever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Sing our Maker's faithfulness!

3 Like a loving parent caring,
God knows well our feeble frame,
gladly all our burdens bearing,
still to countless years the same.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All within me, praise God's name!

4 Angels, teach us adoration;
you behold God face to face.
Sun and moon and all creation,
dwellers all in time and space:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You prepare a place for us;
we refuse your invitation.
Lord have mercy
Lord have mercy

Your table is open to all;
we keep it for ourselves.
Christ have mercy
Christ have mercy

Your welcome is wild;
we are caged by fear.
Lord have mercy
Lord have mercy

(Silence for personal confession)

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

HYMN 581

"Glory Be to the Father"

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen, amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

HYMN #188 "Jesus Loves Me"

TALK WITH THE CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE FIRST READING Psalm 145 (NRSVUE)

Holy wisdom, holy word. **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC "Be Thou My Vision" arr. Julie Stitt

THE GOSPEL READING Matthew 18:1-5 (NRSVUE)

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

SERMON "Three Chords and the Truth: Innocence"

***HYMN 614** "Great Are You, Lord"

This adaptation of an older paraphrase of Psalm 103 (see no. 620) is informed by an awareness that much of the received language of religious traditions enshrines social values that obscure the goodness of God, which far transcends all our labels and categories and hierarchies.

Great are you, Lord:
you are holy and just;
by your power we trust
in your love.
Great are you, Lord:
you are faithful and true;
by your mercy you prove
you are love.

Great are you, Lord,
and worthy of glory!
Great are you, Lord,
and worthy of praise.
Great are you, Lord.
We lift up our voice;
we lift up our voice:
great are you, Lord!
Great are you, Lord!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven… (Hymnal p. 35. We say "debts & debtors.")

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Amazing Grace" arr. Matt & Adam Podd

*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

*HYMN 31

"Let Us With a Gladsome Mind"

These few stanzas are among the least florid of the two dozen that make up the rather flamboyant paraphrase of Psalm 136 written by the 15-year-old who would become one of the greatest English poets. It is set here to a sprightly tune with Moravian connections.

1 Let us with a gladsome mind
praise the Lord who is so kind:
for God's mercies shall endure,
ever faithful, ever sure.

2 God, with all-commanding might,
filled the new-made world with light:
for God's mercies shall endure,
ever faithful, ever sure.

3 All things living God does feed;
with full measure, meets their need:
for God's mercies shall endure,
ever faithful, ever sure.

4 Let us with a gladsome mind
praise the Lord who is so kind:
for God's mercies shall endure,
ever faithful, ever sure.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Reprise of "Let Us With a Gladsome Mind"

Liturgy for this service is reprinted by permission from the Book of Common Worship, © 2018 Westminster John Knox Press and enfleshed.com.

Assisting in Worship Today:

Terry Kennedy Mancini – Liturgist
Brian Gray – Vocalist
Nan Davidson – Campanile Bell Choir Director
Cherie Brooks – Director of Music
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

PODD BROTHERS
November 15

9 am | They join us for a 45-minute Q&A in the sanctuary
10 am | They'll join us for Service
3 pm | "An Afternoon with the Podd Brothers" Concert

Thrilled to have the brothers join us to premiere a new commissioned hymn and to showcase their incredible body of work!

IN-GATHERING OF FOOD
November 15 & 22

Collection tables will be set up in the Front and North Entrance

Grab a shopping list from the welcome table of the most needed items.

Monetary donations are also welcome; note "SOS Pantry" on your check, envelope, or select the fund on the digital giving page: SOS Pantry fund.

MEAL PACKING

November 22

Help Pack 15,000 Meals! Stay after worship and join us in making a difference for neighbors facing food insecurity. Lunch will be provided after we pack.

Thank you to The Jay Fund for making this church-wide event possible!



RSVP: https://bit.ly/CPCMealPacking

HALL DECKING

November 22
Following Meal Packing

Come help spread Advent joy throughout Covenant!

You're encouraged to help package food, enjoy a meal together, and then stay for a little longer to Deck the Halls! Additional treats will be provided :)





ADVENT EVENT

November 29
11:00 AM

Everyone is invited to kick off the advent season with an event put together by our Children & Youth Commission. There will be crafts for all ages, a photo opportunity and of course some very yummy snacks!

Stay tuned for more details.



SOULCOLLAGE®

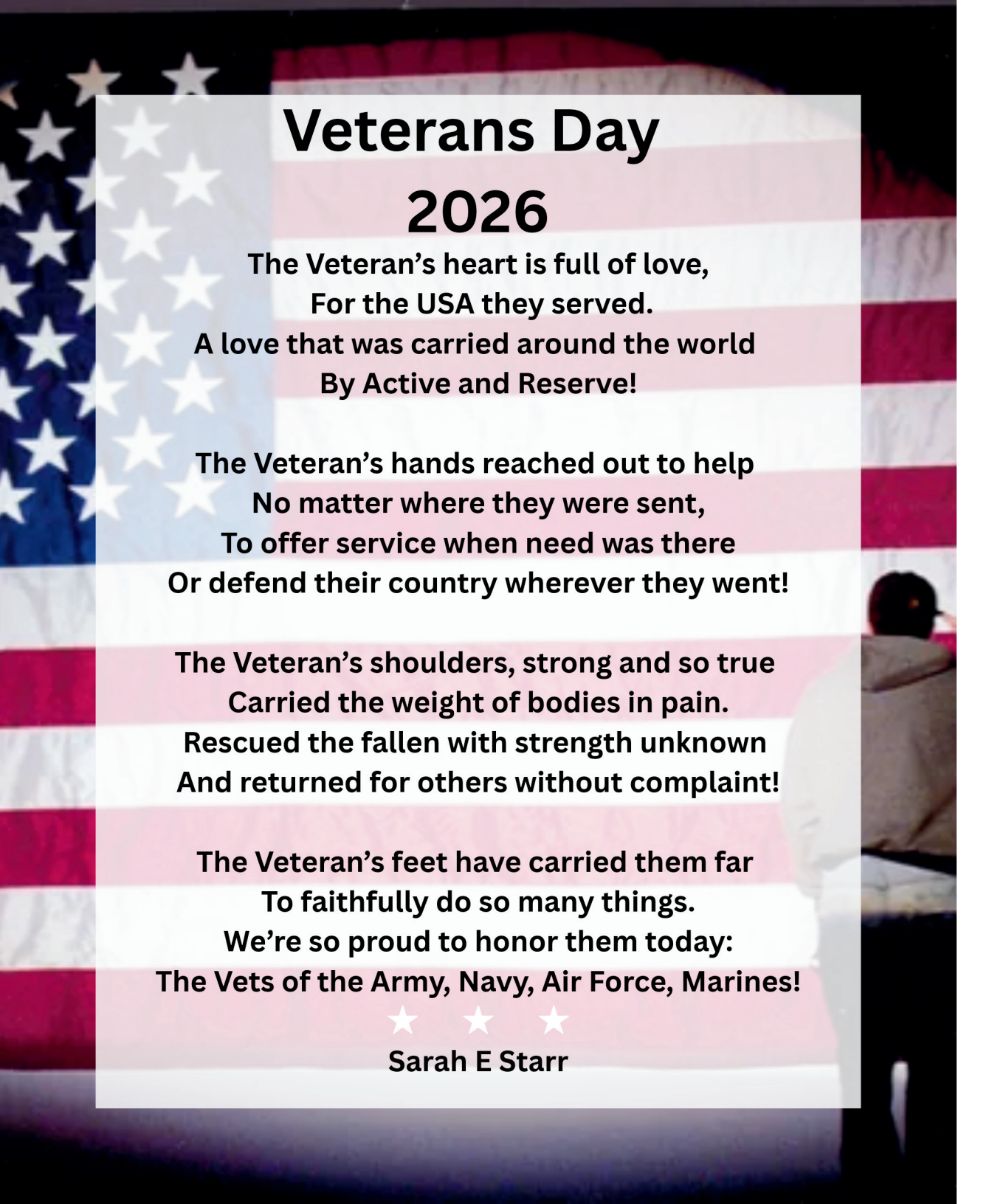
November 14
9:30–11am

SoulCollage® is a creative process that can be used as a spiritual or mindfulness practice. The process encourages quiet listening, curiosity, and self-reflection.

$5/person cash or Venmo KatyOberleCreative

Registration appreciated; walk-ins welcome

Register: https://bit.ly/SoulCollageRSVP or with Megan in the office



Veterans Day 2026

The Veteran's heart is full of love,
For the USA they served.
A love that was carried around the world
By Active and Reserve!

The Veteran's hands reached out to help
No matter where they were sent,
To offer service when need was there
Or defend their country wherever they went!

The Veteran's shoulders, strong and so true
Carried the weight of bodies in pain.
Rescued the fallen with strength unknown
And returned for others without complaint!

The Veteran's feet have carried them far
To faithfully do so many things.
We're so proud to honor them today:
The Vets of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines!

★ ★ ★

Sarah E Starr