



REFORMATION SUNDAY

**WITH
CAROLYN
WINFREY GILLETTE**

covenant
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

October 25, 2026 – 10am

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

PRELUDE

“Variations on Aurelia” arr Linker

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Beloveds, the Holy One gathers us together with purpose:

People: To dream of futures yet imagined.

Leader: To bolster our courage before powers and principalities.

People: To nurture our love for one another.

Leader: God's blessing is upon us as we come to wrestle:

People: with meaning and justice,

Leader: with questions of love,

People: with the calling upon our lives.

Leader: The Spirit is moving! Let us worship together.

*Please rise in body or spirit



Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824 (“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”)

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1 All of life is filled with wonder, so we thank you, God of love--
For the crash of evening thunder, clearing clouds, then stars above;
For the night that turns to glowing as we feel the morning mist,
God, we praise and thank you, knowing every day we're truly blessed.

2 For the joy of daily waking, for the gift of each new day,
For the smell of fresh bread baking, for the sound of children's play,
For the ways we seek to serve you as we work and volunteer,
God we humbly praise and thank you for your presence with us here.

3 For the ways we're blessed with plenty—love and laughter, neighbors, friends,
Nature's wonders, seasons' bounty, life in you that never ends,
For the ones who've gone before us, giving witness to your way--
We rejoice in all you give us every moment, every day.

4 For your love in times of trouble, for your peace when things are tough,
For your help when hardships double, for your grace that is enough,
For a stranger's gentle kindness, for a doctor's healing skill—
God, we thank you that you bless us, and you bless your world as well.

5 For the baby in the manger, for the cross and empty tomb,
For each time a searching stranger finds at church a welcome home,
For your kingdom's great surprises—poor ones lifted, lost ones found--
God, we thank you! Hope still rises, for your gifts of grace abound.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION



God of the mighty prophets, humble teachers, and gentle companions,
You equip each of us to join in the lineage of the saints,
to support the labors of collective liberation,
but we confess, we struggle to take our place.
We deny our own power or overestimate it.
We accept the way things are and the patterns we inherit.
We commit to institutions over people.
We confess that though we pray for your kingdom to come,
we support conditions that keep it at bay.
Pour out your grace among us,
and build us up in community.
Tend the wounds that keep us from our sacred potential
and deliver us from temptation to find our safety and security
in any power but yours.
May your Spirit embolden us, as disciples of love,
each willing and ready to risk with and for each other
and all the flourishing of the earth. Amen.

(Silence for personal confession)

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

HYMN #582 “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”



1 Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

2 World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. 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

Romans 16:1-7 (NRSVUE)

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



THE GOSPEL READING

Luke 8:1-3 (NRSVUE)

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

SERMON

“Who’s the Call For?” Rev. Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

*HYMN

“O God, We Give Thanks for Brave Women of Old” (see insert)

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

“Over My Head” Arr. Adam & Matt 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





Tune: Traditional Irish melody ("Be Thou My Vision")

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Copied from Gifts of Love: New Hymns for Today's Worship by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (Geneva Press, 2000).

1 God of the women who answered your call,
Trusting your promises, giving their all,
Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth —
Give us their courage to live in your truth.

2 God of the women who walked Jesus' Way,
Giving their resources, learning to pray,
Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more —
May we give freely as they did before.

3 God of the women long put to the test,
Left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed,
Quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?" —
In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.

4 God of the women who ran from the tomb,
Prayed with the others in that upper room,
Then felt your Spirit on Pentecost Day —
May we so gladly proclaim you today.

5 O God of Phoebe and ministers all,
May we be joyful in answering your call.
Give us the strength of your Spirit so near
That we may share in your ministry here.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Reprise of "God Of the Women"

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:

- Sally LuPiba – Liturgist
- Rev. Carolyn Winfrey Gillette – Guest Preacher
- Allie Garner – Vocalist
- 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





CHANCEL FLOWERS

This morning's flowers were given by Janice Hilkerbaumer, celebrating 70 years of women clergy in the Presbyterian Church.

Crystal King, in loving memory of her mother Jean Losch.





TRUNK OR TREAT

October 27th
6 - 7:30 pm

**TO REGISTER A TRUNK EMAIL
COVENANTTRUNKORTREAT26
@PROTON.ME**





PODD BROTHERS

We are hosting the Podd Brothers for the weekend and bringing together some incredible talent for a concert on Sunday, November 15th at 3 pm.

We can't wait to share the newly commissioned hymn with you all ... if you can't wait till' 3 pm to hear it, it will premiere at the 10 am service that morning :)



Cap City Helping Hands (CCHH)

COAT DRIVE

During October we will be collecting new or gently used clean, coats, hats and mittens for school children ages 5 - 17.

Coats are distributed to schools throughout Columbus.

Coats can be deposited in the labeled box in the hallway.

Questions: contact Susan Imel,
susanimell@gmail.com
CCHH is a ministry of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley.



IN-GATHERING OF FOOD

November 15 & 22

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

Most-needed items include canned
fruits and vegetables, mac & cheese,
peanut butter, jelly, canned tuna, soups,
pasta, sauce, and cereal.

Monetary donations are also welcome;
note "SOS Pantry" on your check,
envelope or select the fund on the
digital giving page SOS Pantry fund.
Interested in joining the delivery team?
Contact Mark Owen!

MEAL PACKING

November 22

Help Us 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!



ADVENT EVENT

November 29

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