

COVENANT

presbyterian church

To the Greater Glory of God

A Service of Worship

Sunday, October 25, 2026

11:00 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, October 25, 2026
11:00 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 spaces with live video of the worship service are available in the Welcome Center and parlor. See an usher for assistance.

Gather in God's Name

Prelude

Hymn to Joy . . . . . A. Travis

Welcome And Call To Worship . . . . . Cedric Lundy

*Processional Hymn 687 *verses 1,3 and 6*

Our God, our Help in Ages Past . . . . . ST. ANNE

*Prayer of Adoration

Practices of Discipleship

Choral Call to Confession

You, Lord Are In This Place . . . . . K. Duke[1]

You, Lord are in this place.
Your presence fills it.
Your presence is peace.
You, Lord are in my life.
Your presence fills it.
Your presence is peace.

~ *Covenant Choir* ~

Silent Confession

Corporate Prayer of Confession (unison)

Holy God, maker of heaven and earth, we confess that we look to many hills before we look to you. We hold too tightly what is yours to keep, forgetting that we are not our own; every person, every ministry, this whole wide world is yours. We worry about tomorrow as though you slumber and walk through hard seasons as though alone. In our anxiety we turn inward and forget the needs of our neighbor. Forgive us, O God. Steady our feet, keep our going out and our coming in, and teach us to rest in your tender care: patient in trouble, thankful in plenty, confident that nothing will separate us from your love. In Christ we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

*Congregational Response 581 *(choir and congregation)*

Gloria Patri . . . . . GLORIA PATRI

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 The Peace

Encounter God's Word

Anthem

Do Unto Others (The Golden Rule). . . . . V. Hancock Wright[2]

Do unto others, do unto others, do unto others
as you would have them do unto you.
Be kind to others, be good to others, be fair to
others as you would have them do unto you.
Try to be patient, and forgiving, a friend in all you say and do.
God will guide you to love others as God has shown love to you.
Do unto others, do unto others, do unto others
as you would have them do unto you..

~ Combined Children's Choirs ~

Time with Young Disciples . . . . . Mary Kate Sykes

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.

Scripture Reading

Psalm 121 . . . . . Old Testament, p. 539

Matthew 15:29-31 . . . . . New Testament, p. 16

Sermon

"On the Ground" . . . . . Agnes Norfleet

Sermon Series: *Building What Matters*

Respond to God's Grace

*Hymn of Response 717

For the Life That You Have Given. . . . . PLEADING SAVIOR

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.

Minute for Ministry

Living Stones . . . . . Meagan Lineberger

Offering Ourselves And Our Gifts

Offertory Anthem

How Firm a Foundation. . . . . arr. T. Trenney[3]

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in God's excellent word!

*You are invited to rise in body or spirit

What more can be said than to you God hath said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
upheld by my righteous omnipotent hand."
"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress."
"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee;
I only design thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine."
"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

~ *Covenant Choir* ~

Prayer of Dedication

Go In God's Name

*Recessional Hymn 625

O Lord My God (How Great Thou Art). . . . . S. Hine

*Benediction

*Postlude

Fanfare. . . . . K. Leighton

Notes:

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Leading Worship this Morning

Agnes Norfleet, guest minister
Mary Kate Sykes, pastoral resident, education
Cedric Lundy, seminary intern
Emily Floyd, director of traditional music
Dr. Catherine Hicks, interim organist
Covenant Choir
Emily Reinicker, carillon

Welcome Agnes Norfleet

Agnes Norfleet is a graduate of Davidson College, Union seminary in Richmond, and earned her Doctor of Ministry in bible and preaching from Columbia seminary. She served the Central and North Decatur Churches in Atlanta; Shandon Presbyterian in Columbia, SC, and retired last year as Senior Pastor at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church in Pennsylvania. Agnes retired and moved to Montreat with her husband Larry Arney, an architect whose career focused on affordable housing. They are proud parents of young adult sons, James and Winston.

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.



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, Director of Communications, 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 October 21)*

Please keep the following individuals and families in your prayers:

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Cary Hall Titus

OUR SYMPATHY AND LOVE TO

Pat Viser on the death of her son and Marty Viser on the death of her brother Casey Viser on October 17.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Candace Carter-Johnson

Dottie Stowe

. . .

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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