



COVENANT

presbyterian church

To the Greater Glory of God

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Sunday, August 16, 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, August 16, 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

IV. The Peace May Be Exchanged from "Rubrics" D. Locklair

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP Mary Kate Sykes

*OPENING HYMN 612

We Praise You, O God KREMSER

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

PRACTICES OF DISCIPLESHIP

CHORAL CALL TO CONFESSION

Spirit of the Living God LIVING GOD¹

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

SILENT CONFESSION

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Holy God, to stand before you is to risk a vulnerability that is overwhelming, yet you promise forgiveness to all who seek it. And so we turn to you with as much honesty as we can muster to confess that we have not been who you created us to be. We have sought our own way instead of your way, placing our needs above the needs of others. We have allowed selfish desires to overshadow compassion and care, and we have not always loved as you love us. For these and other sins, we are sorry. Forgive us, we pray and restore us to full and honest relationship with you that we might live as your redeemed and beloved children, sharing your love and extending your forgiveness to others, in Christ's holy name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (*choir and congregation*)

Alleluia! CELTIC ALLELUIA²

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PASSING THE PEACE

ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM.....Bob Henderson

Wells David Seippel, child of McKenzie and Cris Seippel

Baptism Response (*choir and congregation*)

Children of the Heavenly Father..... Swedish Folk Tune

**Children of the heavenly Father, safely in God's bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge éer was given.**

**Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever;
Unto them God's grace he showeth and their sorrows all God knoweth.**

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLESGrace Lindvall

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

John 13:31-35 New Testament, p. 102

SERMON

"Who Do You Love?"Katherine Kerr
Sermon Series: *Encounters with Jesus.*

RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 727, VERSES 1-4

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant..... THE SERVANT SONG

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.**

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

If Ye Love Me..... Wilby³

**If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the
Father, and He shall give you another comforter, that He may
abide with you forever; even the Spirit, the spirit of Truth.**

**And ye know Him, for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.
I will not leave you comfortless. I will come to you.**

~ Summer Choir ~

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*You are invited to rise in body or spirit

GO IN GOD’S NAME

*CLOSING HYMN 692

Spirit, Open My Heart WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

The Rejoicing from “Suite in G” C. Callahan

Notes:

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Leading Worship this Morning

Bob Henderson, senior minister
Katherine Kerr, senior associate minister, congregational care
Mary Kate Sykes, pastoral resident, education
Grace Lindvall, associate minister, education
Emily Floyd, director of traditional music
Dr. Catherine Hicks, guest organist
Summer Choir
Katie Cornwell, carillon

Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism with the Seippel Family

Sister: Ellison; grandparents: David and Trudy Cox of Charlotte, N.C., William Seippel of Winston-Salem, N.C.; aunt and uncle: Stephen and Virginia Baker of Winston-Salem, N.C.; cousins: Lilli, Emerson, Jack, Wyatt and Virginia Baker of Winston-Salem, N.C. Ellen Schubert stands as Elder with the Seippel family.

Flowers in the Sanctuary

Given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Mary Scott Kennedy and Drew Mansfield yesterday in the Sanctuary.

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, Communications Manager, 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 August 12*)
Please keep the following individuals and families in your prayers:

CONGRATULATIONS TO
Mary Scott Kennedy and Drew Mansfield on the
occasion of their marriage on August 15.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Candace Carter-Johnson

Deloris Davis

Annabelle Dawson

Bucky Renner

Dottie Stowe

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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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1000 E. Morehead Street | Charlotte, NC 28204 | 704-333-9071
www.CovenantPresby.org