



COVENANT

presbyterian church

To the Greater Glory of God

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Sunday, October 25, 2026

8:45 a.m.

CHAPEL

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

8:45 a.m.

Welcome to Covenant; we are glad you are here. Children are always welcome in worship. Childcare (ages 6 weeks to Kindergarten) is offered in the Education Wing. See an usher for assistance.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

Hymn to Joy A. Travis

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP Serenity Taylor

*HYMN OF PRAISE 687, verses 1,3 and 6

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

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

PRACTICES OF DISCIPLESHIP

CALL TO CONFESSION

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 587 (*choir and congregation*)

Alleluia! CELTIC ALLELUIA¹

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PASSING THE PEACE

COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

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

The Call of Wisdom W. Todd²
Lord of wisdom, Lord of truth, Lord of justice, Lord of Mercy;
walk beside us down the years till we see you in your glory.
Striving to attain the heights, turning in a new direction,
entering a lonely place, welcoming a friend or stranger.
I am here, I am with you, I have called: do you hear me?
I am here, I am here, I am with you.
Silver is of passing worth, gold is not of constant value,
jewels sparkle for awhile; what you long for is not lasting.
I am here, I am with you, I have called: do you hear me?
I am here, I am here, I am with you.
Rulers govern under me with my insight and my wisdom.
Those who know me know my love; those
who seek me find their answer.
I am here, I am with you, I have called: do you hear me?
I am here, I am here, I am with you.
God the Father and the Son, Holy Spirit co-eternal.
Glory, glory be ascribed to you, now and to the end of ages.
I am here, I am with you, I have called: do you hear me?
I am here, I am here, I am with you.
~ Chapel Choir ~

ENCOUNTER GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 121 Old Testament, p. 539
Matthew 15:29-31 New Testament, p. 16

SERMON

“The Hills Are Alive” Courtney Shudak
Sermon Series: *Building What Matters*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH. From “A Brief Statement of Faith”

In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth, praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 717

For the Life That You Have Given. PLEADING SAVIOR

GO IN GOD’S NAME

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Fanfare. K. Leighton

*You are invited to rise in body or spirit

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Leading Worship this Morning

Courtney Shudak, pastoral resident, mission and outreach
Serenitye Taylor, associate minister, congregational life
Emily Floyd, director of traditional music
Dr. Catherine Hicks, interim organist
Chapel Choir

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. We will gladly host meetings in the Welcome Center upon request.

Assistive listening devices are available from the ushers.

Audio-induction hearing loops are installed in the chapel 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 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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