



COVENANT

presbyterian church

To the Greater Glory of God

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Sunday, September 13, 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, September 13, 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

Gabriel’s Oboe E. Morricone

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP Katherine Kerr

*HYMN OF PRAISE 401

Gather Us InGATHER US IN

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

PRACTICES OF DISCIPLESHIP

CALL TO CONFESSION

SILENT CONFESSION

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, our mouths sing praise for the gift of this new day and for your abundant gifts. Yet we confess to singing other words as well, words of doubt, fear, shame, and even vengeance. Forgive us, we pray. Repair our brokenness, restore our wholeness, and set us on the way to life, making praise our very breath, and love our singular path. Through Christ, our Lord, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 587 (*choir and congregation*)

Alleluia! CELTIC ALLELUIA¹

**Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*PASSING THE PEACE

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Bob Henderson
Collins Hunt Gaither, child of Sommer and Joseph Gaither.

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.**

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.**

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O Love..... E. Hagenberg²
O love, O love, O love that will not let me go,
O love, I rest my weary soul in thee.
I give thee back the life I owe,
that in thy ocean depths its flow
may richer, fuller be.
O joy, O joy, O joy that seeks me through the pain,
O joy, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
and feel the promise is not vain.
That morn shall tearless be.
O love, O love, O love that will not let me go.
O love, I rest my weary soul in thee.
I give thee back the life I owe,
and in thy ocean depths its flow
shall richer, fuller be.
That morn shall tearless be.
O love, that will not let me go.
~ Chapel Choir ~

ENCOUNTER GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 1:3-11 New Testament, p. 185

SERMON

“Keeping It Simple” Bob Henderson
Sermon Series: *Building What Matters*

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 100

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout ... STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

GO IN GOD’S NAME

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

You Can’t Always Get What You Want M. Jagger and K. Richards

*Please join us in the Sanctuary at 12:20 p.m. today as we celebrate Bob Henderson’s ministry and retirement. Light refreshments will be available in the Narthex before the 11:00 a.m. worship service.
After the program, we’ll gather for a buffet lunch in the Welcome Center, with tables available throughout the campus. All are welcome!*

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Leading Worship this Morning

Bob Henderson, senior minister
Katherine Kerr, senior associate minister, congregational care
Emily Floyd, director of traditional music
Mark Glaeser, guest organist
Chapel Choir

Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism with the Gaither Family

Grandparents: Hugh and Julie Gaither of Charlotte, N.C.; aunts and uncles: Sarah and John Gaither, Liz and Todd Carter of Charlotte, N.C.; cousins: Jack, Ben, Hannah, Olivia and Rosie, all of Charlotte, N.C.

Hugh Gaither stands as Elder with the Gaither family.

WELCOME TO COVENANT

We are happy that you are worshipping 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 September 9)
Please keep the following individuals and families in your prayers:

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Will and Sayde Winn on the birth of their child

Robert Arthur Winn on September 6.

Lucia Mulherin Palmer and John Wesley Gibson on the
baptism of their children Quinn McCoy Palmer-Gibson
and John David Palmer-Gibson today at 9:30 a.m.

OUR SYMPATHY AND LOVE TO

Donna Whitley on the death of her husband, and to
Farah Lisa and Thomas Walker and their family on the
death of her father, Kacem Sebti on September 8..

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Candace Carter-Johnson

Rebecca DiSandro

Deloris Davis

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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