



COVENANT

presbyterian church

To the Greater Glory of God

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND COMMUNION

Sunday, October 4, 2026

9:30 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 AND COMMUNION

Sunday, October 4, 2026

9:30 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

Gathering Music

We Are One Body..... D. Scallon¹
We are one body, one body in Christ
And we do not stand alone.
We are one body, one body in Christ
And He came that we might have life
I am the Way, the Truth, the Life
I am the final sacrifice
I am the Way, the Truth, the Life
Believe in me, have eternal life!

Welcome and Call to WorshipCourtney Shudak

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

*I Will Follow..... C. Tomlin, J. Ingram, R. Morgan²
(worship team and congregation)

*Prayer of Adoration

PRACTICES OF DISCIPLESHIP

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Eagle’s Wings..... R. Morgan³
(worship team and congregation)
Come live in me, All my life take over
Come breathe in me, And I will rise
On eagle’s wings

Assurance of Grace

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. Children ages 6-11 are invited to The Gathering Place Room on the 2nd floor of the Education Wing. Children must be signed in/out by a parent/guardian.

Congregational Life and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

Another Day in ParadiseP. Collins⁴

She calls out to the man on the street, “Sir, can you help me?
It’s cold, and I’ve nowhere to sleep
Is there somewhere you can tell me?”
He walks on, doesn’t look back
He pretends he can’t hear her
Starts to whistle as he crosses the street
Seems embarrassed to be there
Oh, think twice
‘Cause it’s another day for you and me in paradise
Oh, think twice
‘Cause it’s another day for you; you and me in paradise
Think about it
She calls out to the man on the street
He can see she’s been crying
She’s got blisters on the soles of her feet
She can’t walk, but she’s trying
Oh, Lord
Is there nothing more anybody can do?
Oh, Lord
There must be something you can say
You can tell from the lines on her face
You can see that she’s been there
Probably been moved on from every place
‘Cause she didn’t fit in there

ENCOUNTER GOD’S WORD

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 58:5-12Old Testament, p. 596-97
James 1:27 New Testament, p. 215

Sermon

“Fast Forward”Katherine Kerr
Sermon Series: *Building What Matters*.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation to The Lord’s Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving 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.**

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

You are invited to take communion by intinction. With the ushers' guidance, please come down the center aisle, take a piece of bread and dip it into the cup, and return to your seat by the side aisle. Gluten-free bread is available at the center station. Those wishing to be served in the pew may signal an usher.

Music at Communion

This Table Is Yours M. Maher, P. Zach⁵

Am I a stranger among my own
is this a place where I can be known
what do I have to hide just to belong
Is this my table? Am I alone?
I see you, stranger among your own
No reputation, without a home
Touching the river, throwing no stones
Come to my table; you're not alone
This table is yours; this table is mine
Christ breaks the bread and pours the wine
So we lift the cup and we join the feast
God's holy mystery
Jesus He cried out while on the tree
"O God forgive them, they cannot see"
His love forsaken, his mercy meek
Yet at this table, we know Christ's peace
Mary in mourning went to the tomb
Her heart was broken; the stone was too
She saw an angel claimed Jesus raised
The body's gone now, don't be afraid
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
With open hands and broken hearts
Lord we lift our prayers and we join the feast
God's holy mystery.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*Invitation and Benediction

*Benediction Response

**For I Know* R. Muchow⁶

*You are invited to rise in body or spirit

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Leading Worship this Morning

Katherine Kerr, senior associate minister, congregational care
Courtney Shudak, pastoral resident, mission and outreach
Mary Kate Sykes, pastoral resident, education
Jessica Borgnis, director of contemporary music and worship arts
Ricko Hill, assistant director of contemporary worship and arts

World Communion Sunday

On the first Sunday in October each year, Christians around the world celebrate World Communion Sunday. It is a day to commemorate our shared faith in Jesus Christ, and to recognize unity among all people who share the bread and cup of holy communion. We extend special thanks to the worship arts team for their creative contributions to the table.

Today we celebrate with our first graders who have completed the milestone "Ready, Set, Worship." They will receive communion with their families using special chalices they made for the occasion. Many thanks to Mary Gaertner, Carla Haughton, Martha Isaacs, and Lou Watson for their leadership with the first graders and their parents over the last month.

Sharing the Gifts of Music

Jessica Borgnis (piano and vocals), Paul Fisher (drums), LaVita Hill (vocals), Cheryl Hoover (bass guitar and vocals), Phil Koonce (acoustic and electric guitar, vocals), Phil Lyew (tenor saxophone), Jacquelyn McAbee (vocals), Shea Watts (vocals),

Flowers in the Sanctuary

Given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage of Commander John H. Horne (USN) and Bailey O'Bagy on September 25 in Exuma, Bahamas by their family.

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 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 September 30)
Please keep the following individuals and families in your prayers:

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Richard Greene

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Rebecca DiSandro

Candace Carter-Johnson

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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6 © 1993, 1996 Rick Muchow (Encouraging Music)

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