



COVENANT

presbyterian church

To the Greater Glory of God

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Sunday, March 8, 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

Sunday, March 8, 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

Friend of God M. Gungor, I. Houghton¹

Who am I that You are mindful of me
That You hear me when I call
Is it true that You are thinking of me
How You love me it's amazing
(It's amazing, it's amazing)
I am a friend of God (3x)
He calls (you call) me friend
God almighty, Lord of glory
You have called me friend

Welcome and Call to Worship Courtney Shudak

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

**Glorious Day* K. Stanfill, S. Curran, J. Ingram, and J. Smith²
(worship team and congregation)

*Child of the Covenant

*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 Bob Henderson

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.

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

Count On Me B. Mars, A. Levine, P. Lawrence⁴

If you ever find yourself stuck in the middle of the sea
I'll sail the world to find you.
If you ever find yourself lost in the dark and you can't see,
I'll be the light to guide you.
Find out what we're made of
When we are called to help our friends in need. You can
Count on me like one, two, three,
I'll be there,
And I know when I need it
I can count on you like four, three, two,
And you'll be there,
'cause that's what friends are supposed to do, oh yeah.
If you're tossin' and you're turnin' and you just can't fall asleep,
I'll sing a song beside you
And if you ever forget how much you really mean to me,
Ev'ry day I will remind you
You'll always have my shoulder when you cry .
I'll never let go. Never say goodbye
You know you can
Count on me like one, two, three,
I'll be there,
And I know when I need it
I can count on you like four, three, two,
And you'll be there,
'cause that's what friends are supposed to do, oh yeah.
You can count on me 'cause I can count on you

ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

John 11:1-6, 32-44 New Testament, p. 98-99

Sermon

"The Moment of Friendship: Choosing Presence in Pain" . . . Katherine Kerr
Sermon Series: *Discern. Decide. Declare.*

*Song of Response

In Christ Alone K. Getty and S. Townend⁵
(worship team and congregation)

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*Invitation and Benediction

*Benediction Response

**For I Know* R. Muchow⁶

Notes:

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Leading Worship this Morning

Bob Henderson, senior minister

Katherine Kerr, senior associate minister, congregational care

Courtney Shudak, pastoral resident, mission and outreach

Ben Thomas, interim contemporary band leader

Tameka Thomas, interim contemporary worship leader

Ricko Hill, assistant director of contemporary worship and arts

Sharing the Gifts of Music

Jackson Daisley (electric guitar), Paul Fisher (drums), Katrina Heath (vocals), Cheryl Hoover (bass guitar and vocals), Phil Koonce (electric guitar), Phil Lyew (saxophone), Bill Saunders (mandolin and vocals), Ben Thomas (keys), Tameka Thomas (vocals).

Flowers in the Sanctuary

Given with trust in God in honor of bereaved families and in loving memory of all the children who rest eternally with God.

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.

Masks are optional in the sanctuary and 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 March 4)

Please keep the following individuals and families in your prayers:

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Michelle and Bryan Kraak on the birth of their
child Mateo Kraak on March 2.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Mary Phillips (Elise)

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

Joan Louise (Jodi) Malone
May 29, 1952 - February 26, 2026

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, says the Spirit. - Revelation 14:13

OUR SYMPATHY AND LOVE TO

Betsy Cardone and her family on the death of her
mother Jodi Malone on February 26.

Mary and John Gaertner and their family on the death of
her mother Lorraine Carruthers on February 27.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Candace Carter-Johnson

Deloris Davis

Murray Fadiel

Jim Leathers

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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Famamanem

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