



*To the Greater Glory of God*  
A SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Easter Sunday, April 5, 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, April 5, 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.*

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## GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

### PRELUDE

*I Know That My Redeemer Liveth, from "Messiah" . . . . . G. F. Handel  
~ Anne Linebarger, trumpet; Mark Glaeser, organ ~*

CALL TO WORSHIP . . . . . Luke 24:1-5

### \*HYMN OF PRAISE 232

*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today. . . . . EASTER HYMN*

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION . . . . . Courtney Shudak

## PRACTICES OF DISCIPLESHIP

### \*EASTER AFFIRMATION

Liturgist: O God, early in the morning when the world was young,

**People: you made life in all its beauty and terror; you gave birth to all we know.**

**All: Thank you God for your creative goodness.**

Liturgist: Early in the morning, when the world least expected it,

**People: a new born child crying in a manger announced that you had come among us, that you were one of us.**

**All: Thank you God for coming to be among us, living our lives, knowing our pain and experiencing our joy.**

Liturgist: Early in the morning surrounded by self-interested religious leaders, anxious civic officials and silent friends, you accepted the penalty for doing good, for being Immanuel, God-with-us.

**People: You shouldered, carried, and suffered the cross while those about you jeered and cheered.**

**All: And it concerns us dear God with whom would we have stood had we been there on that perilous day.**

Liturgist: Early in the morning a voice in a guarded graveyard and footsteps in the dew proclaimed that you had risen from the dead,

**People: announcing the startling news that you had come back to claim as your beloved own, those who had forgotten, denied, and destroyed you.**

**All: Thank you God for such death-defeating extravagant love. On this resurrection day, we dare ask you to pry open our hearts to let such love transform and change us, this and every day. Amen.**

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 587 (*choir and congregation*)

*Alleluia* ..... CELTIC ALLELUIA<sup>1</sup>

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

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Again*. . . . . P. Stopford<sup>2</sup>

Christ the Lord is risen again, Christ hath broken every chain.

Hark, angelic voices cry, singing evermore on high, Alleluia.

He who gave for us his life, who for us endured the strife,  
is our Paschal Lamb today; we too sing for joy, and say Alleluia!

He who bore all pain and loss comfotless upon the cross,  
lives in glory now on high, pleads for us, and hears our cry.

He who slumbered in the grave is exalted now to save;  
now through Christendom it rings that the Lamb is King of Kings. Alleluia.

Thou, our Paschal Lamb indeed, Christ, thy ransomed people feed;  
take our sins and guilt away: let us sing by night and day. Alleluia.

~ *Chapel Choir; Anne Linebarger, trumpet* ~

**ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD**

SCRIPTURE READING

John 20: 10-18 ..... New Testament, p. 108

SERMON

"The Moment of Renewal: Choosing Life at the Empty Tomb" . . . Grace Lindvall  
Sermon Series: *Discern. Decide. Declare.*

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT 238

*Thine Is the Glory* ..... JUDAS MACCABEUS

**GO IN GOD'S NAME**

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*You are invited to rise in body or spirit

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*Hallelujah Chorus*..... G.F. Handel<sup>3</sup>

Hallelujah! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.

The kingdom of this world is become

the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ,

and he shall reign for ever and ever

King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. Hallelujah!

~ *Chapel Choir* ~

\*POSTLUDE

*Toccata from 'Symphony No. 5'* ..... C.M. Widor

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Notes:

# THE WORSHIP SERVICE

## Leading Worship this Morning

Grace Lindvall, associate minister, education  
Courtney Shudak, pastoral resident, mission and outreach  
Emily Floyd, director of traditional music  
Mark Glaeser, organist  
Chapel Choir  
Anne Linebarger, trumpet

## 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, 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 [covenantpresby.org/ways-to-give](http://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 April 1*)

*Please keep the following individuals and families in your prayers:*

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Chiedza and Matthew Hooker

### 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](http://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 [Michelle.Williamson@CovenantPresby.org](mailto:Michelle.Williamson@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](mailto: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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