

The CHURCH of the COVENANT

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2018, 10:00 AM

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

**All who are able are invited to stand.*



THE MCGAFFIN CARILLON

GEORGE LEGGIERO, Carillonneur

PRELUDE

Sonata No. 3, Op. 65

FELIX MENDELSSOHN

Abraham Ross, Music Department Intern

WELCOME

THE REV. AMY STARR REDWINE, Pastor

* CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY

INTROIT

Psalm 62

SONGS OF SYON, 1910

The Covenant Choir

My soul in silence waits for God, who my own hope has proved. A rock and stronghold is my God, I never shall be moved. In God alone my honor rests, who brings deliverance sure: My rock of strength is found in God. My refuge most secure.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

MINDY STEWART, Director of Family Ministries

ONE: It is not we who chose Christ,

ALL: But Christ who chose us,

That we are not here because of our goodness

But because of Christ's grace,

That we are not here to enlighten ourselves,

But to allow Christ to enlighten us,

That we have not come to be entertained

But to worship God with heart, soul, mind and strength.

* HYMN 285

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

AUSTRIAN HYMN

* CALL TO CONFESSION

TOM DENBOW, Lay Worship Leader

* CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and actions. We hold up our imperfections and our sinful actions we have done to each other, to our community, and to our earth. We see daily the ills of our society and struggle to find ways to mend and heal our neighbors in pain and suffering. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves or seen or heard their cries. In your mercy and graciousness, forgive what we have been. Help us to open our eyes and hearts to discover our strengths and resources, and direct what we shall be, so that we may be renewed and walk in your ways, to the glory of your creation. Hear us now as we silently confess our sins.

* PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN

* DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

One: *Friends, Hear the good news!*

We may grow weary...We may grow tired and indifferent...but if we confess our sin, God is faithful and just, forgiving and transforming us. The Holy Spirit breathes into the very depths of our being, restoring us to lives that reflect the profound goodness of God.

Friends, believe the good news.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven

* GLORIA PATRI

HYMN 579

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;**

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

****or Maker**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

PSALM 62:5-12

ANTHEM

"How Lovely Are the Messengers" from St. Paul

FELIX MENDELSSOHN

The Covenant Choir

How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace, to all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words, throughout all the lands their glad tidings. (Isaiah 52:7)

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

AMY STARR REDWINE

While all children are more than welcome to remain in the service, we have a nursery for infants through pre-kindergarten children. Ask an usher for directions.

PARTING RESPONSE

HYMN 535 ~ TALLIS' CANON

All are invited to sing as the children kindergarten through 7th grade depart for Sunday School. Families may pick up their children at 11:45 am in the education wing.

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day, that in your spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.

SECOND LESSON

MARK 1:14-20

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Left Behind

AMY STARR REDWINE

* HYMN 275

God of Our Life

SANDON

JOYS AND CONCERNS IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

KEVIN LOWRY, Lay Chaplain to Students

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION, AND PETITION

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.

CONGREGATIONAL AMEN

MCNEIL ROBINSON

All are invited to sing.



INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Ain'-a that Good News!

SPIRITUAL ~ ARR. WILLIAM DAWSON
The Covenant Choir

I got a crown up in-a the kingdom, ain'-a that good news!
I'm a-goin' to lay down this worl', goin'-a shoulder up-uh my cross,
Goin'-a take it home-a to my Jesus, ain'-a that good news!
I got a harp up in-a the kingdom, ain'-a that good news...
I got a robe up in-a the kingdom, ain'-a that good news...
I got a Savior in-a the kingdom, ain'-a that good news...

* DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH, HYMN 591

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.* Amen.
*or Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

* HYMN 434

Today We Are Called to Be Disciples

KINGSFOLD

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fuga sopra la Magnificat, BWV 733

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

*Please be mindful of those who remain seated to listen. Thank you!
A Stephen minister will be in Christ Chapel after worship to talk or pray.*

CARILLON POSTLUDE

Allegro con fuoco, Op. 53, No. 5

FELIX MENDELSSOHN

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

MUSIC REHEARSAL, Sanctuary, 8:00

YOUTH CHOIR/SUNDAY SCHOOL, Education Wing, 10:15

CRÈCHE NURSERY, Education Wing, 9:30

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP, Sanctuary, 11:00

WORSHIP, Sanctuary, 10:00

NOMINATING COMMITTEE, Herrick Room, 11:30

SCIENCE OF SPIRITUALITY, Sonia Golden Room, 12:30

WELCOME UNDERGRADUATE, GRADUATE, AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS!

Meet Kevin Lowry, Chaplain for Students, in the main entrance after worship.

To learn more: KLowry@CovenantWeb.org, 216.421.0482, ext. 236; CovenantStudentMinistries.org.

☞ **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** The Session has called a congregational meeting immediately following worship on Sunday, January 28, 2018 for the purposes of voting on changes to pastoral terms of call and hearing an update from the Nominating Committee.

☞ **OUR LAY WORSHIP LEADER** is Tom Denbow and his wife Barb Clint have been members of the Church of the Covenant since 1995 and live in North Collinwood neighborhood, City of Cleveland where they see Lake Erie every day. Barb and Tom raised three children here at the Church of the Covenant (Cassie, Collin, and Kayla) and will be forever grateful to our church community for the lifelong spiritual lessons learned and the friendships gained on their life's journey. Tom works for Biohabitats, a conservation, ecological restoration, and regenerative design firm focused on healing earth ecosystems for the benefit of communities.

☞ **USHERS TODAY** are Ann Williams, Stephanie Johnson, John Bromelmeier, Bob Ault & Chris & Marilyn Langmack. Greeting are Arnie and Susan Dahm and Liz Shriver.

☞ **MUSIC NOTES:** The choral anthems in this week's service reflect on the "good news" as proclaimed in the Gospel reading from Mark 1. Felix Mendelssohn completed the oratorio *St. Paul* in 1836, from which the anthem "How Lovely Are the Messengers" is taken. Alabama native, William Dawson taught at the Tuskegee Institute from 1931-1951 and published numerous choral settings of African-American spirituals, many of which have become standard repertoire for choirs around the globe. Both Dawson and Mendelssohn represent composers who have felt the sting of injustice - Dawson overcoming the degradation of the Jim Crow era and Mendelssohn overcoming anti-Semitic criticism throughout the 100 years following his death.

☞ **WE PRAY FOR** Don Norris (friend of Tom and Cheri Keys), Judy Bourne, Andrew Bullen (Melanie Marsh Baum's cousin), Akeya Clark (Marie Jones' niece), Anne Wombwell deConingh, Marlene Finkenthal (David Finkenthal's mother), Eliseo Hairston (Shirley Thompson's grandson deployed to the Pacific), Mollie Hoar (family friend of Gene and Diane Papp), Greg Madison, Navy Seal Luke McClain (Dr. bert Campbell's nephew, new father of twins, just deployed), Elizabeth Mierke, Ward Porch, Sue Salvator, Tom SkROUT (Stephanie Pennza's father), Liam Stewart (Mindy Stewart's nephew), Doug Weiss (Ann Williams' friend), Lynn Glickson and Baby Kaden. We pray for those struggling with illness, convalescing, or are homebound; the patients, family, and staff in our surrounding hospitals; and those who have placed prayer requests in our Carpenter's Box.

☞ **DID YOU KNOW** that the beautiful flower arrangements we enjoy each Sunday come to us for the remarkably low price of \$85? This is not covered by the church's budget, but by individual donations. Flowers can be donated in honor or memory of an individual or group, and donations of any size are much appreciated to help offset the cost. After the service, the deacons create several small arrangements from the large arrangements and give them to members of the congregation who are sick or celebrating milestones. If you would like to sponsor flower for a worship service, please contact the church office.

☞ **PARTNERING WITH NORTH CHURCH, SUNDAYS JANUARY 21 & 28 AND APRIL 8 & 15**

Today members of church will gather at North Presbyterian to assist in preparing and serving the community meal that follows their worship service. We are still seeking additional volunteers for next Sunday, January 28th, from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm, and for our spring volunteer dates, April 8th and 15th. North Church shares space with Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries at 4515 Superior Avenue. Sign up in the church office. For more information contact Ministry of Service member Bob Ault. North Church is a Covenant mission partner.

☞ **EXPLORE NEW SPIRITUAL PRACTICES IN THE NEW YEAR**

The Ministry of Faith Formation offers a number of ways for you to find support and companionship on your spiritual journey. If you are not already, consider attending one or more of these programs as we begin a new calendar year. We offer weekly and monthly Bible studies, weekly Theology on Tap, weekly yoga classes, a monthly meditation group, monthly groups exploring the Enneagram, and more. Interested? Please contact a member of the staff to learn more.

☞ **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SATURDAY TUTORING PROGRAM**

Our Saturday Tutoring Program will begin February 10th with a new tutor orientation. Join as a volunteer tutor, or as a Covenant Ambassador to greet, answer questions, and offer general assistance. Tutoring takes place Saturday mornings from 10 am-12 pm in the Education Wing of the church. For more information contact Mary Anne Bromelmeier.



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