

# The CHURCH of the COVENANT

## THE WORSHIP OF GOD

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2018, 10:00 AM

2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT

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



THE MCGAFFIN CARILLON

GEORGE LEGGIERO, Carillonneur

PRELUDE

*An Wasserflüssen Babylon*

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH  
ABRAHAM ROSS, Music Department Intern

WELCOME

REV. MELANIE MARSH BAUM, Associate Pastor

\* CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY

INTROIT

*Sometimes a Light Surprises*

SALLEY GARDENS  
The Covenant Choir

Sometimes a light surprises the child of God who sings;  
It is the Lord who rises with healing in his wings;  
When comforts are declining, he grants the soul again  
A season of clear shining to cheer it after rain.

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

KEVIN LOWRY, Campus Chaplain

ONE: The proof of God's amazing love is this

ALL: **While we were utterly helpless, Christ died for us**

Having been reconciled, we are God's forever

**Let us praise the God of all Creation for this amazing love**

\* HYMN (*see insert*)

*Sometimes a Light Surprises*

SALLEY GARDENS

\* CALL TO CONFESSION

KEASIA CLARKE-JONES, Lay Worship Leader

\* CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Forgiving One, we come to you as broken people needing to be healed and restored into your image. We acknowledge that through our insecurities, fears, and self-centeredness, we have tarnished the mirror reflecting you to the world. We confess to you that we have not always done what is right, acted out of kindness and love, or spoken truth to bring about justice. So today and every day we seek your forgiveness that we might become whole and offer forgiveness to ourselves and others. We ask for your truth and love to set us free as we silently confess our sins.**

\* PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN

\* DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

One: Friends, no matter the day of the week or time of day, Christ is moving toward us with open arms ready to embrace us with love and forgiveness. Receive and share this Good News we have for ourselves and with others

**All Voices: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

\* RESPONSE

APPALACHIAN FOLK MELODY



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

PSALM 30:4-12

ANTHEM

*Drop, Drop, Slow Tears*

ROBERT LIND  
The Covenant Choir

Drop, drop slow tears and bathe those beauteous feet, which brought from heaven the news and Prince of Peace. Cease not, wet eyes, his mercies to entreat; to cry for vengeance sin doth never cease. In your deep floods drown all my faults and fears; Nor let his eye see sin, but through my tears. ~*Phineas Fletcher (1582-1650)*

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

FOOD COLLECTION

*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 2:1-12

One: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*Utter Helplessness*

REV. MELANIE MARSH BAUM

\* HYMN 407

*When a Poor One*

EL CAMINO

JOYS AND CONCERNS IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

REV. AMY STARR REDWINE, Pastor

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

THOMAS PAVLECHKO



INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY                      *Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen*                      SPIRITUAL ~ ARR. JENNIFER CONNER  
The Beckwith Handbell Choir

\* RESPONSE

**How blest are you who are poor; the Kingdom of God is yours.  
How blest are you who are poor; the Kingdom of God is yours.**

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\* HYMN 394                      *There Is a Balm in Gilead*                      BALM IN GILEAD

\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL POSTLUDE                      *Wayfaring Stranger*                      SACRED HARP

I know dark clouds will gather o'er me, I know my way is rough and steep,  
Yet beauteous fields lie just before me, where God's redeemed their vigils keep.  
I'm going there to see my mother, she said she'd meet me when I come,  
I'm only going over Jordan, I'm only going over home.

CARILLON POSTLUDE

**TODAY'S SCHEDULE**

MUSIC REHEARSAL, Sanctuary, 8:00	STUDENT GATHERING, Main Entrance 11:00
NURSERY, Education Wing, 9:30	ADULT FORUM, Garden Valley, 11:30
WORSHIP, Sanctuary, 10:00	SCIENCE OF SPIRITUALITY, Sonia Golden Room, 12:30
COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP, Reception Room, 11:00	QUEER SPIRIT, Connection Center, 3:00

**YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!**

Church of the Covenant welcomes undergraduate, graduate and professional students as well as staff and faculty of our local colleges and universities. We invite you to join us in the main entrance for a time of fellowship after the service. To learn more about Covenant Student Ministries contact our Chaplain, Kevin Lowry: [KLowry@CovenantWeb.org](mailto:KLowry@CovenantWeb.org), 216.421.0482, ext. 236; [CovenantStudentMinistries.org](http://CovenantStudentMinistries.org).

**COMMUNITY MEAL**

Each month Covenant Student Ministries hosts a meal for students, faculty and staff of our local colleges and universities to get to know members of the Covenant community. **Our next Community Meal will be next Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup>** following the service. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Kevin Lowry.

☞ **USHERS TODAY** are Dan Carrol, Chris & Marilyn Langmack and Clint & Patty Fowler. Greeters are Helen Kunsman and Arnie & Susan Dahm.

☞ **THIS WEEK AT COVENANT:** **Tuesday:** Staff Meeting, Office, 9:30 am; Bible Study, Library, 11 am; Classrooms to Corporations, Sonia Golden Room, 6 pm; **Wednesday:** Connection Center open, 12-5 pm; Ohio Fair Lending Coalition, Beckwith Hall, 12-2 pm; Twelve Steps to Freedom, Beckwith Hall, 5:30 pm; Classrooms to Corporations, Sonia Golden Room, 6 pm; Session, Office, 7 pm; **Thursday:** Lower Level Meeting; Library: 10 am; Connection Center and Student Food Pantry open, 12-5 pm; Theology on Tap, The Jolly Scholar, 5:30 pm; Handbells, Conference Room, 6:30 pm; Choir, Choir Room, 7:30 pm; **Friday:** Connection Center open, 12-5 pm; Restore Yoga, Nursery, 4 pm; **Saturday:** Guitar Society Ensembles, Choir Room, 9:30 am; Saturday Tutoring, Lower Level, 10 am; Meditation Group, Herrick Room, 4 pm

☞ **OUR LAY WORSHIP LEADER** is Keasia Clarke-Jones is in the 7th grade at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic school. Keasia likes making jewelry, drawing, trying new foods, fun social activities with friends and family.

☞ **MUSIC NOTES:** We welcome the Beckwith Handbells to our service today, presenting an arrangement of the African-American Spiritual *Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen* by congregation member Dr. Jennifer Conner. The choir presents an evocative setting of the text *Drop, drop slow tears* by the 16<sup>th</sup> century British poet and priest Phineas Fletcher. The text vividly portrays tears as a vehicle through which love and reconciliation are encountered. Alternate liturgical responses for the season of Lent replace the customary *Gloria Patri* and *Doxology*. In the spirit of reflection, our service concludes with a choral postlude – an early American hymn, *Wayfaring Stranger*, reminding us of how the Lenten journey towards Holy Week reflects our own spiritual journey through life.

☞ **THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL URN** Are given to the glory of God and in memory of David Hopkins, whose birthday is February 13, by his sister Marilyn Langmack.

☞ **ADULT FORUM TODAY** We welcome our partners from Garden Valley Neighborhood House to share about their work and the community they serve. The conversation will begin at 11:30am in Beckwith Hall. Next week Saturday, March 3rd, all are welcome to join us as we "Go Out" to Garden Valley to help them with their weekend food distribution.

☞ **WE PRAY FOR** Judy Bourne, Andrew Bullen (Melanie Marsh Baum's cousin), Akeya Clark (Marie Jones' niece), Marlene Finkenthal (David Finkenthal's mother), Eliseo Hairston (Shirley Thompson's grandson deployed to the Pacific), Greg Madison, Mollie Hoar (family friend of Gene and Diane Papp), Chick Holtkamp ;Elizabeth Mierke, Ward Porch, Sue Salvator, Liam Stewart and Emilee Stewart (Mindy Stewart's nephew and sister) and Louise Wolfcale. 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.

☞ **OUT OF THE OFFICE** Amy Starr Redwine will be out of the office Monday, February 26 through Wednesday, February 28 attending the Next Church National Gathering in Baltimore, Maryland, and co-facilitating a conversation group with the Rev. Andrew Kukla, pastor First Presbyterian Church in Boise, Idaho, on the topic "Revitalizing Ministry."

☞ **LENTEN DEVOTIONALS** are available in the church office: Richard Rohr's *Wondrous Encounters* and a family-friendly devotional, "Lenten Prayers for Hungry People," prepared by Bread for the World.

☞ **FOOD COLLECTION:** Today the children will collect food and financial donations for our Covenant Food Pantry, open the last Wednesday and Friday of each month, Thursday afternoons in the Connection Center for students, and for emergencies. Thank you for your support!

☞ **SUNDAY ARTIST CONCERT SERIES:** Renowned concert organist Dr. Craig Cramer from the University of Notre Dame in Southbend, IN, will play a free concert on the Newberry organ today at 4pm.

☞ **NEW MEMBER CLASS SUNDAY, MARCH 4** If you are interested in learning more about making the Church of the Covenant your family of faith, join us on Sunday, March 4. We will get food at the community meal and then gather in the Sonia Golden Room at 11:30 am. Meet members of the staff; learn more about our mission, vision, programs, and governance; and get to know others who are considering joining the church. Questions? Ask Amy (asredwine@covenantweb.org) or Melanie (mbaum@covenantweb.org).



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