

The CHURCH of the COVENANT

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2018, 10:00 AM

4TH SUNDAY IN LENT

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



THE MCGAFFIN CARILLON

GEORGE LEGGIERO, Carillonneur

PRELUDE

Ricercar in D

JOHANN ULRICH STEIGLEDER
JONATHAN MOYER, Director of Music

WELCOME

REV. AMY STARR REDWINE, Pastor

* CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY

INTROIT

Hope of the World

GEORGIA HARKNESS
The Covenant Choir

Hope of the world, thou Christ of great compassion,
speak to our fearful hearts by conflict rent;
save us, they people, from consuming passion,
who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: We have not seen the risen Christ,

ALL: but we see him in the lives of those transformed by grace.

We have not seen Jesus face-to-face,

but we have seen him in the faces of everyone whose love encourages us.

We have not touched the wounds from the cross,

but we have been called to bring healing to the scarred of the world.

* HYMN (see insert)

Hope of the World

DONNE SECOURS

* CALL TO CONFESSION

JOHN MARSH, Lay Worship Leader

* CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful and loving God, so many times we get distracted from trying to be our best selves in your sight. We pursue comfort and security, suspicious of what we perceive to be a tough world. We forget to look for things to be grateful for now. We don't pray enough, asking to be inspired by compassion and hope to work toward peace and ending injustice. We are overwhelmed by too many commitments draining our strength to be patient and kind. Your spirit is always very near but we tend to ignore it. Help us to draw closer to you...

* PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN

* DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

One: If we confess our sin, God is faithful and just, forgiving and transforming our lives.
Friends, believe the good news:
All Voices: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

* RESPONSE

APPALACHIAN FOLK MELODY



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

JOEL 2:12-17

ANTHEM

Blessed are the pure in heart

HENRY WALFORD DAVIES
The Covenant Choir

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God;
The secret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's abode.
Still to the lowly soul he doth himself impart,
And for his cradle and his throne chooseth the pure in heart.

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

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

JOHN 20:19-23

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Who God Is; Who We Are Called to Be

AMY STARR REDWINE

* HYMN 370

Just as I Am, Without One Plea

WOODWORTH

All are invited to sing in harmony.

JOYS AND CONCERNS IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

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

Beati pauperes

JAN PIETERSZOOM SWEELINCK

The Covenant Choir

Beati misericordes: quoniam ipsi misericordiam consequentur. Beati mundo corde: quoniam ipsi Deum videbunt. Beati pacifici: quoniam filii Dei vocabuntur. Beati qui persecutionem patiuntur propter iustitiam: quoniam ipsorum est regnum coelorum.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

* RESPONSE

TAIZÉ

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 298

There's A Wideness in God's Mercy

IN BABILONE

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL POSTLUDE

Wayfaring Stranger

SACRED HARP

I am a poor, wayfaring stranger, while journeying through this world of woe,
Yet there's no sickness, toil nor danger, in that bright land to which I go...

CARILLON POSTLUDE

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

MUSIC REHEARSAL, Sanctuary, 8:00

NURSERY, Education Wing, 9:30

WORSHIP, Sanctuary, 10:00

YOUTH CHOIR & SUNDAY SCHOOL, Yost, 10:15

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP, Reception Room, 11:00

ADULT FORUM, Beckwith Hall, 11:30

YOUTH SUNDAY PREP, Yost, 11:45

SCIENCE OF SPIRITUALITY, Sonia Golden Room, 12:30

CLEVELAND GUITAR, Living Room, 1:15

STUDENTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

We welcome students to join us in the Reception Room for a coffee, snacks, and fellowship with the whole Covenant community. To learn more about Covenant Student Ministries contact our Chaplain Kevin:

KLowry@CovenantWeb.org, 216.421.0482, ext. 236; CovenantStudentMinistries.org.

☞ **USHERS TODAY ARE** Bob Ault, John Bromelmeier, Jim Greene, and Clint & Patty Fowler. Greeters are Arnie & Susan Dahm.

☞ **OUR LAY WORSHIP LEADER** is John Marsh. John joined the Church of the Covenant in 1993. He participated in the first Education for Ministry class soon after and enjoyed learning about theology and church history. He also attended Sunday school here in the early to middle 1960's. His parents Gil and Mitsi were active participants with the church's Social Issues Workshop. John is married to Sybil and they have two daughters in their early twenties, Midori and Naomi. John enjoys tutoring at Daniel E. Morgan elementary school on Thursday afternoons and for the Saturday Tutoring Program here at the Covenant.

☞ **MUSIC NOTES:** Portions of the Beatitudes are presented in two choral anthems. The first is a poetic reflection on the text "Blessed are the pure in heart" by John Keble in a simple musical setting by Henry Walford Davies. Davies is well-known for his music-educational radio broadcasts for children during WWII. Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck was organist of the Oude Kerk (Old Church) in Amsterdam during the years of transition between Roman Catholicism and the Dutch Reformed Church. His setting of the Beatitudes reflects the Italianate motet style of composition of the late renaissance filled with rich harmony and evocative text painting, particularly on the word "persecutionem" (those who are *persecuted* for righteousness sake).

☞ **THIS WEEK AT COVENANT:** **Tuesday:** Staff Meeting, Office, 9:30 am; Bereavement Group, Herrick Room, 6 pm; **Wednesday:** Connection Center open, 12-5 pm; Twelve Steps to Freedom, Beckwith Hall, 5:30 pm; **Thursday:** Connection Center and Student Food Pantry open, 12-5 pm; Theology on Tap, The Jolly Scholar, 5:30pm; Connect, Living Room, 5:30 am; Handbells, Conference Room, 6:30 pm; Choir, Choir Room, 7:30 pm; **Friday:** Lower Level Meeting, Library, 10 am; Connection Center open, 12-5 pm; Restore Yoga, Nursery, 4 pm; **Saturday:** Soul Shop Training, Beckwith Hall, 8:30 am; Guitar Society Ensembles, Choir Room, 9:30 am; Saturday Tutoring, Lower Level, 10 am.

☞ **ADULT EDUCATION TODAY** We welcome our mission partners from Transplant House of Cleveland. They will tell us about their work, and share stories of experiences of Transplant House residents and their families. Join the conversation in Beckwith Hall at 11:30. Next week, join us for brunch at Transplant House!

☞ **WE PRAY FOR** Judy Bourne, Akeya Clark (Marie Jones' niece), Marlene Finkenthal (David Finkenthal's mother), Mollie Hoar (family friend of Gene and Diane Papp), Chick Holtkamp, Dee Hough, Shaun Kuter, Elizabeth Mierke, Ward Porch, Sue Salvator, Liam Stewart and Emilee Stewart (Mindy Stewart's nephew and sister), Louise Wolfoale, and Gabriel (Jenny Conner's grand-nephew). Greg Madison continues to recover from a traumatic brain injury. His family covets your prayers and welcomes your visits at St. Augustine Manor 7801 Detroit Road, Cleveland, OH 44102. Please call the facility's front desk ahead of your visit to receive the room number and notify the family of your arrival. 216.939.7600. We pray for those struggling with illness, convalescing, who or are homebound; the patients, family, and staff in our surrounding hospitals; and those who have placed prayer requests in our Carpenter's Box.

☞ **BELIEVING GOD CALLS US TO BE PEACEMAKERS**, each month we pray for people affected by gun violence, marked by the tolling of the tower bell. Since a gunman opened fire at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14, 2012, killing 26 people, 20 of them children; 924 people in Cuyahoga County have been killed by guns. Since last month, 15 more individuals have died by gun violence in Cuyahoga County. The names of those at least 18 years of age are: Sarah Jamal Mahmood, Amer A. Ahmad, David Manuel Perez II, Benjamin Rzepka, Donald Joseph Van Horn III, Maurice L. Rembert, Clement Jon Holmes, Damian Michael Stiles, Sharda Dwayne Elmore, Louis Novak, Terrence Michael Eberling, Michael Terrance Jones Jr., Cheri Reni Yourich, and Phil Hill III. Nine of those who died were by suicide, and one victim was under eighteen

☞ **OUT OF THE OFFICE:** **Melanie Marsh Baum** is on study leave through Wednesday, March 14th attending the Kittye Susan Trent Symposium for Newly Ordained Ministers at Second Presbyterian Church in Roanoke, VA. **Amy Starr Redwine** will be out of the office on Tuesday and Wednesday this week, presenting to the Second Presbyterian congregation and participants of the Trent Symposium. **Kevin Lowry** is leading worship this morning at West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church. **Mindy Stewart** is on vacation through March 17th.

