

The
**Church of the
Covenant**

Sunday, September 16, 2018
17th Sunday after Pentecost

Service of Worship
for the Lord's Day



WELCOME

Convinced of God's grace, the Church of the Covenant seeks to be a welcoming spiritual home, live God's inclusive love, express Christ's compassion, and do justice in the world.

The Cragin Peal

The McGaffin Carillon

George Leggiero, *Carillonneur*

Organ Prelude

Dr. Michael Peters

Erbarm dich mein, O Herre Gott

J.S. Bach

Welcome

Rev. Melanie Marsh Baum, *Associate Pastor*

Statement of Opportunity

Bill Braun, *Nominating Committee*

* Celebration of Community

Introit

The Covenant Choir

Spirit of Mercy

W.R. Voris

Spirit of mercy, truth, and love, unfailing comfort, heavenly guide, still over Thy holy church preside; still let mankind Thy blessing prove, spirit of mercy, truth, and love.

* Call to Worship

Melanie Marsh Baum

One: Bless the Lord, my soul.

All: With all my being I bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, and forget none of his benefits.

God pardons my wrongdoing and heals my ills.

God rescues me the pit and crowns me with compassion.

Bless the Lord, my soul, bless God's holy name.

* Hymn 457

TOULON

I Greet Thee, Who Sure Redeemer Art

* Call to Confession

Sybil Marsh, *Lay Worship Leader*

* Corporate Prayer of Confession

Loving God, you ask us to celebrate and share the gifts you freely give: our natural world, community, and faith. But we have other plans. We hoard, hide, and waste your gifts. We always have enough, but we want more. We compare our lot to, others' and we bitterly keep score. Forgive us our greed and lack of gratitude. When earthly treasures perish, your love for us endures. Help us protect the gifts that come from you, and teach us to share.

GATHER

We gather to worship God on the Lord's Day (Sunday) because the Gospels testify that Jesus rose from the dead early on the first day of the week. The Lord's Day is also called the "eighth day" of creation, a sign of the new creation that has begun with Christ's resurrection.

** Please stand as you are able.*

LAY WORSHIP LEADER

Sybil Marsh first attended the Church of the Covenant in 1989, because it's close to the hospital, and stayed after learning about the Covenant's commitment to compassionate social justice. A teacher of family and addiction medicine, she resides in Cleveland Heights with husband John Marsh, daughters Midori and Naomi, (when they drop in), fish, and cats. She still works at the hospital across the street!

CONFESSION

Having praised the holiness of God, we must also face the sinful state of the world and of our lives, trusting in the mercy of Jesus Christ.

* Silent Confession of Sin

* Declaration of Forgiveness

One: Hear the good news: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. 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.**

Time for Young Disciples

Melanie Marsh Baum

Anthem

The Covenant Choir

My Days are Gone Like a Shadow

John Blow

My days are gone like a shadow, and I am withered like grass. But Thou, O Lord, shalt endure forever, and Thy remembrance throughout all generations. Arise O Lord, and have mercy upon Sion, for it is time that Thou have mercy upon her, yea the time is come. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Sybil Marsh

First Lesson

Psalms 102: 1-11, 18-22

Second Lesson

Matthew 6:6

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Amy Starr Redwine, *Pastor*

Follow the Loneliness

* Hymn 303

ABERYSTWYTH

Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Joys and Concerns

Kevin Lowry, *Campus Chaplain*

Prayers 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



ENCOUNTER

We receive the good news of God's love, mercy, and justice revealed to us through the Bible. The Word is proclaimed in scripture, sermon, and, on some Sundays, through the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

**or Maker

K-5th graders will go to Choir and Prep Time after the time for young disciples. 6-12th graders remain in worship. If you complete a Worship Reflection and turn it into Melanie, you'll receive a prize next week!

MUSIC NOTE

Our anthem this week, by English Baroque composer John Blow, personifies the initial cries of anguish heard in the opening lines of Psalm 102. In contrast, Romantic composer Johannes Brahms sets a text that gently exhorts us to trust in God, without concerning ourselves with daily worries. Interestingly, Brahms's composition is a technically demanding double canon at the ninth, perhaps reminding us that faith in God may not always be an easy task.

RESPOND

Having heard God's word proclaimed, we respond with music, prayers, and Regularly practice of the spiritual discipline of generosity, offering to God a portion of the financial resources we have received.

Offertory

Lass dich nur nichts nicht dauren

Let nothing ever grieve you; be at peace. Whatever God ordains, accept it gladly, my soul! Why do you want to worry today about tomorrow? The One is lord of all; he also gives to you that which is yours. In all things, be not inconstant; stand firmly. Whatever God ordains is and signifies the best. Amen.

The Covenant Choir

Johannes Brahms

Scan the QR code to access online giving.



* Doxology

Old Hundredth

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 368

I've Got Peace Like a River

African-American spiritual

SEND

Having been nurtured and nourished through worship, we are sent from this place to glorify God in the service of our daily lives. Please be mindful of those who wish to stay and listen to the postlude.

* Charge & Benediction

Organ Postlude

Sketch No. 1

Dr. Michael Peters

Robert Schumann

Congregational Meeting

Carillon Postlude

COVENANT COMMONS

CONNECT ● GROW ● SERVE

EVERY SUNDAY AT 11:30 AM IN THE DOWD COMMONS

Every Sunday following worship we will gather in the Dowd Commons to explore what it means to live as Christ's disciples through community, expression, action and reflection. All are welcome to this intergenerational exploration of faith, fellowship, and service.

THIS WEEK'S COVENANT COMMONS: FAITH IN ACTION

Today we will explore September's theme of Welcome through the lens of undocumented immigrants and their experiences in an ICE detention facility. During our time together we will view the brief documentary *Locked in a Box*, have the opportunity to write letters or make a pledge to contact to our elected representatives; and make a creative piece of public witness.

UPCOMING COVENANT COMMONS

September 23rd - Book Discussion: *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas

September 30th - New Member Class

October 7th - Community Meal / Covenant Lecture

October 14th - Jody Kerchner, "Then Sings My Soul"

October 21st - Faith In Action: Poverty / Hygiene Kits

October 28th - Book Discussion: *Grateful* by Diana Butler Bass

USHERS TODAY ARE Dan Carroll, Jim Greene, Suchi Nelson, and Oleg Targoni.

GREETERS TODAY ARE Arnold & Susan Dahm.

TODAY

9:30 Nursery, *Creche*

10:00 Worship, *Sanctuary*

10:15 Children's Choir, *Education Wing*

11:00 Congregational

Meeting, *Sanctuary*

11:00 Reception, *Reception Room*

11:30 Youth Sewing

Gathering, *Living Room*

11:30 Building & Grounds

Meeting, *Cloister Room*

11:30 Faith in Action, *Dowd Commons*

12:30 Science of Spirituality, *Sonia Golden Room*

A Stephen Minister will be in Christ Chapel after worship to talk or pray.

COVENANT STUDENT MINISTRIES

WELCOME UNDERGRADUATE, GRADUATE, AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENTS!

Join us following the service in the Reception Room for a time of fellowship with other students and members of the Covenant Community.

Covenant Student Ministries is here to support your spiritual journey.

For more information or to talk with someone, contact Kevin, our campus chaplain, at klowry@covenantweb.org, text/call 330-988-0490, or visit www.CovenantStudentMinistries.org.

Join Us for our Connect Meal every Thursday at 5:30pm in the Connection Center Living Room. We provide the dinner; you bring the conversation!

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: The session has called a congregational meeting today to vote on the nomination of Jim Prince to fill a vacated term in the trustee's class of 2020.

DID YOU KNOW that the flower arrangements we enjoy each Sunday come to us for the remarkably low price of \$85? Flowers can be donated in honor or memory of an individual or group. If you would like to sponsor flowers for a worship service, please contact the church office.

SEE SOMETHING THAT NEEDS ATTENTION? If you notice something around the building that needs attention, we want to know about it! Please send your observations to building@covenantweb.org. Or speak directly to Martha Goble, Keith Kallay, or Willie Howard. Thanks for your help!

NEXT SUNDAY we collect donations for the Covenant Food Pantry. We need canned meat, pasta sauce, jelly/jam, canned soup, fruit and pudding cups.

WE PRAY FOR: Michael Anthony (Orene Anthony's brother-in-law), Judy Bourne, Andrew Bullen, David Brown (Kitty Jarjisian's cousin), Kim Bergman, Kristy Burrus, Sylvia Clapp (Sandy Ammon's mother), Akeya Clark (Marie Jones' niece), Paul Dirksen, Rob Engle, Marlene & William Finkenthal (David Finkenthal's parents), Phyllis Hackett, Denise Horstman, Stephanie Howard (Willie Howard's niece), Greg Madison, Barbara McGhee, Liam & Emilee Stewart (Mindy Stewart's nephew and sister), Simmons Family, June Tomko, and Gabriel (Jenny Conner's grand-nephew). We pray for those struggling with illness, convalescing, or homebound; patients, family, and staff in our surrounding hospitals; and those who have left prayer requests in our Carpenter's Box.

WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHIES to Stephanie Johnson and her family on the death of her sister Elaine Sharp, who died on Monday, September 10 in Texas following a brief illness.

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT: **Tuesday:** Staff Meeting, Office, 9:30 am; Cache Retail Shop, 10 am-4 pm; Bible Study, Library, 11 am; Noon Organ Concert, Sanctuary, 12 pm; Trustee Meeting, Library, 6:30 pm; **Wednesday:** Twelve Steps to Freedom, Beckwith Hall, 5:30 pm; Ministry of Service, Library, 6 pm; **Thursday:** Theology On Tap, The Jolly Scholar, 5:30 pm; Connect, Living Room, 5:30 pm; Handbell Rehearsal, Conference Room, 6:30 pm; Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room, 7:30 pm; **Friday:** Carillion Concert, 12:15 pm; **Saturday:** Saturday Tutoring Program, Dowd Commons, 10 am.

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LEADERSHIP

MINISTERS

All the members of the church
Amy Starr Redwine, Sr. Pastor
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Melanie Marsh Baum, Pastor
mbaum@covenantweb.org
Kevin Lowry, Campus Chaplain
klowry@covenantweb.org
Jonathan Moyer, Music Director
jmoyer@covenantweb.org

SESSION

Will Klein, Clerk of Session,
clerk@covenantweb.org
CLASS OF 2019: Jenny Conner,
Virginia Kallay, LaShawna Adams
Mitchell, Jim Smekal, Lou Stark
CLASS OF 2020: Deni Horstman,
Kitty Jarjisian, Chris Langmack,
Suchi Nelson
CLASS OF 2021: Barb Clint,
Elizabeth Hagen, Reaver Nelson,
Omar Siddiq, Jim Tomaszewski

DEACONS

CLASS OF 2019: Matthew Garrett,
Marjorie Heines, Beth Holbein,
Pat Owen-Keltner, Mildred
Russin, Liz Shriver, Ann Stark
CLASS OF 2020: Tom Denbow,
Stephanie Johnson, Julie Mailey,
Lucy & Nancy Matz, Lynda Starr
CLASS OF 2021: Stacey Booker,
Dan Carroll, Cathy Luck, Ken
Rock, Ryan Szafranec

TRUSTEES

CLASS OF 2019:
Russell Hack, Ann Williams
CLASS OF 2020:
Harriet Wadsworth
CLASS OF 2021:
Patty Fowler, Nancy Smekal

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

Martha Goble, President
Keith Kallay, Treasurer
Jim Mate, Secretary

CONTACT US:

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