

The
**Church of the
Covenant**

Sunday, January 6, 2019

Epiphany of the Lord

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

Jonathan Moyer, *Organist*

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern, Bux WV 223

(How brightly shines the morning star)

Dieterich Buxtehude

Welcome

Rev. Melanie Marsh Baum, *Associate Pastor*

* Celebration of Community

Introit

Chancel Choir and Congregation

Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow

Trad. Spiritual

There's a star in the East on
Christmas morn,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow,
It will lead to the place where
Christ was born,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Follow, follow, rise up,
shepherd, and follow,
Follow the Star of Bethlehem,
rise up, shepherd, and follow.

If you take good heed to the angel's
words,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow,
You'll forget your flocks, you'll forget
your herds,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow. Follow
follow, rise up, shepherd, and follow,
Follow the Star of Bethlehem, rise up,
shepherd, and follow.

* Call to Worship

Kevin Lowry, *Student and Family Ministries*

One: Hear the good news of the psalmist's proclamation: If I say,
"Surely the darkness will overwhelm me, And the light
around me will be night,"

All: **Even the darkness is not dark to God, and the night is as
bright as the day.**

The God who promised never to leave us or forsake us has
come to us in Jesus Christ,

**Who binds up the brokenhearted, heals all our infirmities,
and relieves our burden of sin.**

So arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the
Lord has risen upon you.

Let us worship God!

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.

* Please stand as you are able.

LAY WORSHIP LEADER

Omar grew up in Strongsville and attended St. Edward High School. He went on to law school in Washington D.C. at American University. He came home intent on making a difference and for the past ten years has been serving as a prosecutor helping victims get justice. Currently he works at the City of Cleveland. In 2015 he married Jill and they decided to find a shared faith and community. Upon finding the Church of the Covenant they felt at home and quickly became members. Omar is an avid Cleveland sports fan, a board game enthusiast, and plays disc golf when the weather allows.

* Hymn 56

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

* Call to Confession

Omar Siddiq, *Lay Worship Leader*

* Corporate Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you gave us many gifts in 2018, but we didn't always recognize them. We closed our minds, shutting out your truth while seeking the easy path. We locked the gates of our hearts, pretending to be self-sufficient. Help us to receive your gifts this year with an open heart and mind. Let us embark on this year together as a community, and forgive us for all the times and ways we have fallen short. Renew us by the power of your love to find joy in following your way.

* Silent Confession of Sin

* Declaration of Forgiveness

One: Hear the good news! If we confess our sin, God is faithful and just, forgiving and transforming our lives. Friends, believe the good news:

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

*Gloria

Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Hymn 23, refrain

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Isaiah 60:1-6

Time for Young Disciples

Kevin Lowry

Second Lesson

Matthew 2:1-12

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Amy Starr Redwine, *Pastor*

"A Light in the Fog"

* Affirmation of Faith

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the unity of the communion of saints of the entire human family. And we believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifest and active, in that we love one another; that we give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another; that we share one baptism together; that we eat of one bread and drink of one cup together; that we confess one name, one Lord, for one cause, with one hope, which is the height and the breadth and the depth and the love of Christ, forever and ever. Amen.

Offertory

Behold that Star

Chancel Choir

Trad. Spiritual, arr. Harry Burleigh

MUSIC NOTES

We celebrate a new calendar year by centering our music around one of the oldest forms of American music, the spiritual. Rooted in oral tradition, *Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow*, was passed along through song first, and notation later. The Chancel Choir will issue an opening call that will, hopefully, be followed by a hearty congregational response. Pennsylvania-born musician Harry Burleigh (1866-1949) originally set our offertory selection, *Behold that Star* as a vocal solo. Burleigh's setting of this Epiphany carol reminds us to focus our gaze on the unifying love of the Christ-child, every day of the year.

ENCOUNTER

We receive the good news of God's love, mercy, and justice revealed to us through the Bible.

RESPOND

Having heard God's word proclaimed, we respond with music, affirmations of faith, and by offering to God for the work of the church a portion of the financial resources we have received. Scan the QR code below to access online giving. Thank you for your generous response to God's gracious love!



Behold that star, behold that star up yonder, Behold that star, it is the star of Bethlehem. There was no room found in the inn, For Him who was born free from sin. The wise men came in from the East, to worship Him, the prince of peace. A song burst forth upon the night, from angel hosts all robed in white. Glory to God, world without end, And peace on earth, good will to men. Behold that star, behold that star up yonder, Behold that star, it is the star of Bethlehem.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table

Amy Starr Redwine

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Melanie Marsh Baum

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts,

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give both thanks and praise....

Sanctus

Chancel Choir

John Merbecke

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly. Lord God of hosts. Heav'n and earth are
full of Thy glo - ry: Glo - ry be to Thee. O Lord Most High. A - men

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

Words of Institution

Melanie Marsh Baum

* Hymn 67

MORNING STAR

Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning

Prayer after Communion

Amy Starr Redwine

* Hymn 69

WE SCHON LEUCHTET

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

* Charge & Benediction

Organ Postlude

Jonathan Moyer

Vorspiel und Satz: "Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern"

Hugo Distler

Carillon Postlude

George Leggiero

We Three Kings of Orient Are

J.H Hokins arr. A.Gerken

The Presbyterian Church (USA) observes open communion. All who confess their faith in Jesus Christ as Sovereign and Savior, as well as their children, are invited to partake. Today the communion elements will be passed to worshipers, who remain in their seats. The communion wine is unfermented grape juice. Gluten-free bread is in the paper cup

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.

TODAY

8:00 Music Rehearsals, Sanctuary
9:00 Stephen Ministers, Herrick Room
9:30 Nursery, Creche
10:00 Worship, Sanctuary
11:00 Coffee and Fellowship, Reception Room
12:00 Called Session Meeting, Herrick Room
12:30 Healing Circle, 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!

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 5:30 pm in the Connection Center Living Room. We provide the dinner; you bring the conversation!

USHERS TODAY ARE Keith Kallay, Russell Hack and Dan Carroll. **GREETERS ARE** Dan & Karin Garland. **SERVERS ARE** Nancy and Jim Smekal, Ann and Lou Stark, Barb Clint, Kitty Jarjisian, Suchi Nelson, and Chris Langmack.

WORSHIP WITH US ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, AT 10:00 AM, THE WEEKEND OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY The Cleveland School of the Arts' R. Nathaniel Dett Concert Choir, Robert McCorvey, director & Dr. William Woods, director emeritus, will be participating in worship along with the Covenant Chancel Choir.

WE PRAY FOR: Judy Bourne, Sylvia Clapp (Sandy Ammon's mother), Akeya Clark (Marie Jones's niece), Marlene & Paul Dirksen, Rob Engel & Lynne Hoffman-Engel, Marlene & William Finkenthal (David Finkenthal's parents), Anthony Frank, Rolf (Crunch) and Marilyn Krotseng, Greg Madison, Maggie McDaniel, Barbara McGhee, Nicole Murray, Newton/Clay Family, Gene Papp, Carol Roe, Noelene Joy Rout, Danita Wells, Anne Wombwell deConingh, 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.

WITH JOY AND THANKSGIVING, we welcome Ella Louise Fakan born on December 12, 2018 weighing in at 9 lbs, 3 oz. Ella is the daughter of Megan and Ean Fakan, the granddaughter of Rick and Sandy Ammon, and the great-granddaughter of Sylvia Clapp. Also, congratulations to Greg and Ginny Kowalski! Their son, Peter Randolph Kowalski "Rand" was born at 9:11 am on December 25, 2018. Mother and baby are doing well.

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT: **Tuesday:** Staff Meeting, Office, 9:45 am; Cache Retail Shop, 10 am-4 pm; Bereavement Group, Herrick Room, 6 pm; **Wednesday:** Women's Bible Study, Library, 10 am; Twelve Steps to Freedom, Beckwith, 5:30 pm; Peace Service, Sanctuary, 7:30 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:** CEIRS Board Meeting, Library, 8:30 am, Carillion Concert, 12:15 pm., **Saturday:** Meditation Group, Herrick Room, 4 pm.

LEADERSHIP

MINISTERS:

All the members of the church
Amy Starr Redwine,
Senior Pastor
Melanie Marsh Baum,
Associate Pastor
Kevin Lowry, Interim Dir. of
Student and Family Ministries
Matthew Garrett,
Music Director
Jonathan Moyer, Organist
George Leggiero, Carillonneur

SESSION

Will Klein, Clerk of Session,
clerk@covenantweb.org
CLASS OF 2019: Jenny Conner,
LaShawna Adams Mitchell, Jin
Smekal, Lou Stark
CLASS OF 2020:
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, 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 Szafraniec

TRUSTEES

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

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY:

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

