

The  
**Church of the  
Covenant**

Sunday, May 12, 2019  
Fourth Sunday of Easter

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

Patrick Macoska, *Carillonneur*

Organ Prelude

Michael Peters, *Organist*

*Sweet Hour of Prayer*

William Bolcom

Welcome

The Rev. Melanie Marsh Baum, *Associate Pastor*

\* Celebration of Community

Introit

Chancel Choir Soloists

*Shake These Bones from Hymnody of Earth*

Malcolm Dalglish

I'll show you how I'm feeling Lord, any day,  
I'll shake these bones and shout and sing my life away,  
I'll shake these bones and I will shout and sing my life away,  
For it won't be long before these bones turn to clay.

I'll tell you what I'm seeing Lord, everywhere,  
It may be only a small part of what is there,  
It may be only a small part of what is really there,  
But I'll stumble like the blind man Lord, without fear.

I'll tell you what I'm hearing Lord, all the time,  
I'm hearing songs and melodies in my mind,  
I'm hearing songs and melodies, but when they're out of mind,  
We'll hear the sweetest peace of all, left behind.

I'll tell you how I'm living Lord, every day,  
I may not fall down on my knees and start to pray,  
I may not fall down on my knees and worship you or pray,  
But there's reverence in my laughter Lord, anyway.

\* Call to Worship

One: Praise God you highest heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens!

All: **Praise God sun and moon, praise God all you shining stars!**

Elders and Children, let them praise the name of Yahweh

**Whose majesty transcends all heaven and earth.**

Let them praise the name of Yahweh,  
by whose command they were created.

**God established them forever and they shall not pass away.**

## 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.

## OUR LAY WORSHIP

**LEADER** Dara Elliott has been a member of Church of the Covenant since 2000. She is the daughter of our beloved Associate Pastor, Jonyrma R. Singleton and Charles Elliott of Clarksville, TN. Dara's sister, Nikki Elliott, is also a member. She is the proud mother of 3 awesome sons, James (26), Nicholas (18), and Immanuel (12); proud auntie to Donald, Jonathan, and Savannah; newly wed to Eric Williams, a native of Richmond, VA. Dara shared her love for children working in our Creche for over 15 years and volunteering on many youth mission trips and activities. She also is a part of our healing ministries. Dara is a Teacher Assistant at Urban Community School and enjoys volunteering with the Ignatian Spirituality Project, bringing spirituality to the homeless and women in recovery.

\* Hymn 458

*Earth and All Stars*

DEXTER

\* Call to Confession

Dara Elliott, *Lay Worship Leader*

\* Corporate Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, our Eternal Mother, our Everlasting Father, you are sovereign and holy, compassionate and faithful. Forgive us when we are unwilling or unable to be the people you dream for us to be. You seek to shape us and guide us by your perfect will. Forgive us when we rebel against your will and seek our own way. You created us to be in a loving relationship with you. Forgive us for slipping away. Forgive us for our sinful nature and actions. Transform our lives by the power of your spirit. Redeem and restore us to glorify you. We ask your forgiveness as we silently confess our sins.**

\* Silent Confession of Sin

\* Declaration of Forgiveness

One: Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn us?  
Only Christ; and Christ lived for us, Christ died for us,  
Christ rose from the dead for us, and Christ prays for us.  
Friends, believe the good news:

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

\* Gloria Patri

**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 148

Anthem

Chancel Choir  
Malcolm Dalglish

*Have Your Lamps Gone Out*

See that woman and see that man.

They're takin' their children to the promised land.

*(Refrain)* Have your lamps gone out?

Whatcha gonna do in Egypt when your lamp's gone out?

If you get tired, hold out your hand.

We're travlin' to the promised land.

When it's dark at night, and you can't see,

You follow that star 'cause it'll set you free. *(Refrain)*

When it's dark we'll go outside.

The Northern star will be our guide.

There was a tree in paradise.

The people all call it the tree of life. *(Refrain)*

If you get there before I do, tell all my friends I'm coming too.

## MUSIC NOTES

The tradition of American folk music grounds our worship selections this week. American musician Malcolm Dalglish is internationally renowned as a singer-songwriter and hammer dulcimer player. He is also an incredibly funny and deeply spiritual person; and those qualities shine through in his music. The *a cappella* introit tells of a community that lives faith in all facets of life. Harpist Anna O'Connell joins Chancel Choir tenors and basses for a setting of an Afro American folk song for our anthem. This tune was collected from the singing of roustabouts who worked on the steam boats on the Ohio River Valley before and after the Civil War. Anna then leads the handbell choir in a folk hymn based on a 19<sup>th</sup> Century tune attributed to B.F. White of Spartanburg, SC. Today is the final appearance of our Handbell Choir until fall. Please join in celebrating their contributions to our worship in the reception immediately following today's service.

## 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 offer music, prayers, and a portion of the financial resources we have received. Thank you for your generous response to God's gracious love!

Second Lesson

Acts 11:1-12; 15-18

**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.

One: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

*Unholy Creatures*

Melanie Marsh Baum

\* Hymn 322

*Spirit of the Living God*

LIVING GOD

Joys and Concerns

Melanie Marsh Baum

Prayers of Thanksgiving, Intercession, and Petition

*Includes ringing the Prayer Bell for those impacted by gun violence.*

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

*All are invited to sing.*



Offertory

*Beach Spring rom American Folk Hymn Suite*

Handbell Choir

Dale Wood

\* Festival Doxology (Hymn 455, Verse 6)

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**All creatures, your Creator bless, and worship God in humbleness. O sing ye! Alleluia! Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

\* Prayer of Dedication

\* Hymn 440

*In Christ There Is No East or West*

MC KEE

\* Charge & Benediction

Melanie Marsh Baum

Organ Postlude

*Toccata in G*

Mark Edwards, *Organist*

Dieterich Buxtehude

Carillon Postlude

*Preludio III*

Matthias Vanden Gheyn



**TODAY**

8:00 Music Rehearsals

*Sanctuary*

9:30 Nursery, *Beckwith Hall*

10:00 Worship, *Sanctuary*

10:15 Music and Ministry  
*Beckwith Hall*

11:00 Coffee & Fellowship  
*Reception Room*

12:30 Science of Spirituality  
*Sonia Golden Room*

1:00 First Brazilian Church  
*Yost Chapel*

1:15 Guitar Society  
*Interfaith Center*

**CONTACT US**

**LEADERSHIP**

Faithformation@covenant

web.org Jenny Conner

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Lou Stark

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Dan Carroll & Cathy Luck

Trustees@covenantweb.org

Martha Goble

Nominating Committee:

Jim Smekal

InterimSearch@covenant  
web.org

Mary Anne Bromelmeier

Building@covenantweb.org

Music@covenantweb.org

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**USHERING TODAY ARE** Bob Ault, John Bromelmeier, and Clint and Patty Fowler. **GREETING IS** Kitty Jarjisian.

### WE KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

Judy Bourne, Akeya Clark (Marie Jones's niece), Barb Clint, Paul Dirksen, Gretchen Drushel (who is preparing for the Peace Corp), Rob Engel & Lynne Hoffman-Engel, David Keltner, Rolf (Crunch) and Marilyn Krotseng, Greg Madison, Shirley Roe-Stroup, 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; our Interim Pastor Search Committee, and those who have left prayer requests in our Carpenter's Box.

**Kevin Lowry** is on family leave through today.

### 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, 1,108 people in Cuyahoga County have been killed by guns. Since last month, 12 more individuals have died by gun violence in Cuyahoga County. The names of those at least 18 years of age are: Mark Louis Bostnar, Gene Edward Turner II, Esteban Lebron, Giovanni Santana, Levar Lee Briggs Jr., Thomas C. Anzalone, Donald K. Jakubczac, Albert Lee Crenshaw, John Dobyne, John O'Connor, Michael Stepanic, and Robert J. Bairas. Six of those who died were by suicide. Two were under eighteen; one was a one-year old child. Go to [GodBeforeGuns.org](http://GodBeforeGuns.org) to see how to get involved.

### FOOD COLLECTION | NEXT SUNDAY MAY 19 (THIRD SUNDAY)

Next Sunday we collect food for our Food Pantry. We have changed the collection to the third Sunday so the food collected can be used in the bags distributed the last Wednesday and Friday of the month. The Pantry is also open Thursday afternoons for students, and for emergencies. We can use pudding snacks, tuna, canned meat/Spam, canned chili, canned vegetables and snack pack cereal.

### THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

**Monday:** No scheduled activities. **Tuesday:** Staff Meeting, Office, 9:45 am; Cache Resale Shop, 10 am; Bible Study, Library, 11 am; Ministry of Faith Formation, Office Area, 7:30 pm. **Wednesday:** 12 Steps to Freedom, Beckwith, 5:30 pm; Ministry of Service, Office Area, 6 pm; Interim Pastor Search, Library, 6:30. **Thursday:** Theology on Tap, off site, 5:30 pm; Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room, 7:30 pm. **Friday:** Carillon Concert, 12:15 pm. **Saturday:** No scheduled activities.

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216.421.0482 ☞ [CovenantWeb.org](http://CovenantWeb.org) ☞ [Covenant@CovenantWeb.org](mailto:Covenant@CovenantWeb.org)

## MINISTERS

*All the members of the church*  
Melanie Marsh Baum,  
Associate Pastor  
Kevin Lowry, Interim Dir. of  
Student and Family  
Ministries  
Matthew Garrett, PhD,  
Music Director  
Michael Peters, PhD,  
Associate Music Director  
Anna O'Connell,  
Handbell Choir Director  
Mark Edwards,  
Organist  
George Leggiero,  
Carillonneur

## SESSION

Will Klein, Clerk of Session,  
[clerk@covenantweb.org](mailto:clerk@covenantweb.org)  
CLASS OF 2019: Jenny Conner,  
LaShawna Adams Mitchell,  
Jim 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  
CLASS OF 2021: Stacey Booker,  
Dan Carroll, Cathy Luck,  
Ken Rock, Ryan Szafranec

## 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