

The
**Church of the
Covenant**

Sunday, January 19, 2020
Second Sunday after Epiphany

Service of Worship
for the Lord's Day

* *Please stand as you are able*

The Cragin Peal

The McGaffin Carillon

Choral Prelude

R. Nathaniel Dett Concert Choir & Chancel Choir

Lift Every Voice and Sing

arr. Roland Carter

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty; let our rejoicing rise, high as the list'ning skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea. Sing a song full of faith that the dark past has taught us. Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us. Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chast'ning rod, felt in the day that hope unborn had died; yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet, come to the place on which our fathers sighed? We have come over a way that with tears has been watered. We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered. Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last where the white gleam of our star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, thou who has brought us thus far on the way; thou who has by thy might, led us into the light, keep us forever in the path we pray lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee, lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee, shadowed beneath the hand, may we forever stand, true to our God, true to our native land.

*Welcome & Announcements
Joys and Concerns*

Rev. Mark A. Medina

* *Celebration of Community*



George Leggiero, *Carillonneur*

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.

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.

CHILD CARE

Child care is provided for infants, toddlers and children in pre-K in our Creché, located in the education wing. See an usher for directions.

ENCOUNTER

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

Introit

Come Here, Jesus, If You Please

No harm have I done you on my knees.
When you see me on my knees, dear Lord,
Come here, Jesus, if you please.

Oh Lord, have mercy on poor me.
When you see me on my knees, dear Lord,
Come here, Jesus, if you please.

** Call to Worship*

Sisters and brothers, rejoice.
We live sustained by God's presence and love.

Thanks be to God.

As we mourn the wounds of God's children,
God weeps with us.

As we give thanks for brothers and sisters who have lived in faith,
God gives thanks with us.

As we struggle for justice,
God struggles with us.

As we strive for peace,
God strives with us.

As we work to build the beloved community,
God works with us.

As we offer our gifts to all,
God blesses us.

Sisters and brothers, rejoice.
**Sustained by God's presence and love
we worship God.**

** Hymn 404*

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

PRECIOUS LORD

** Call to Confession*

Elder Kitty Jarjisian, *Lay Worship Leader*

** Corporate Prayer of Confession*

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Please forgive what we are afraid to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what feels to us like a consuming fire of recrimination and judgment. We ask that you set us free from what we cannot change; open to us a future that we *can* influence; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness. Above all, please hear what we confess in silence from our hearts.

Combined Choirs

Roland Carter

MUSIC NOTES

"Precious Lord , Take My Hand" was Martin Luther King Jr.'s favorite gospel song. The song had deep significance in and for his life. The last request by Dr. King before his assassination before a rally was to have this song sung. It was also sung at his funeral.

"There Is a Balm in Gilead" is a spiritual which Dr. King had sung in worship and at rallies. It's based in the Book of Isaiah and lead to a strong sense of hope among people. A dream of hope for all.

OUR LAY WORSHIP

LEADER is Kitty Jarjisian Catherine (Kitty) has been a Covenant member since 1999. Retired from a career as a music educator and college/university administrator, she serves the Covenant as an elder and as moderator of the Personnel Committee. As a consultant to higher education institutions, she assists administrators and faculty members preparing for upcoming accreditation reviews in music. She is president of her condo association at Chautauqua, where she is delighted to spend each summer season.

**Silent Confession of Sin*

** Declaration of Forgiveness*

Hear the good news! God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel. **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**

Anthem

City of God

Combined Choirs

R. Nathaniel Dett

City of God, how broad and far outspread thy walls sublime!
The true thy chartered free men are, of every age and clime.
How gleam thy watchfires through the night, with never fainting ray!
How rise thy towers, serene and bright, to meet the dawning day!
How purely hath thy speech come down, from man's primeval youth!
How grandly hath thine empire grown, of freedom, love, and truth!
In vain the surge's angry shock, In vain the drifting sands:
Unharm'd upon the eternal Rock the eternal city stands.

Time for Young Disciples

Kaori Hongo, *Coordinator of Children & Youth Ministry*

Children in Kindergarten through 6th grade will remain in the service today. We invite children to join us up front in the Worship Center for various activities during the service. (See an usher for a child's bulletin if they wish to remain with their parents.)

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson

Pew Bible p.667 NRSV

Isaiah 40:1-8

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson

Pew Bible p.188 NRSV

Galatians 3:8-9

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

TODAY

8:00 Music Rehearsals

Sanctuary

9:30 Nursery

Education Wing

9:45 Carillon and Organ

Prelude

10:00 Worship

Sanctuary

10:15 Music and Ministry

Education Wing

12:30 Science of Spirituality

Sonia Golden Room

1:30 First Brazilian Church

Yost Chapel

CONTACT

LEADERSHIP

Faithformation@

covenantweb.org

Finance@covenantweb.org

Service@covenantweb.org

Personnel@covenantweb.org

Deacons@covenantweb.org

Trustees@covenantweb.org

Building@covenantweb.org

Music@covenantweb.org

Sermon *Justice in a Divided Nation* Rev. Mark A. Medina

Time for Quiet Reflection

* Hymn 394 *There Is a Balm in Gilead* BALM IN GILEAD

Litany of Challenge and Hope Readers: Elder Norma Shuskey
Trustee Nancy Smekal

Rev. Lisa Heiling and Tammy Johnson have collaborated in this litany by using the parts that are direct quotations from Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

“Rarely do we find [people] who willingly engage in hard, solid thinking. There is an almost universal quest for easy answers...”

When we are tempted to turn to the easy answers, let us look to the example of Martin Luther King digging deep from the well of Wisdom, the scriptures, stories, symbols that encourage, illustrate, and inspire.

“True compassion is more than flinging a coin to a beggar. It comes to see that an edifice which produces beggars needs restructuring.”

When we are tempted to settle for a compassion that requires little of us, let us be empowered to not only fling coins, fill out online petitions, or just feed people, but to truly tear down barriers and do the hard work to build bridges based on real justice.

“Oppressed people cannot remain oppressed forever. The yearning for freedom eventually manifests itself...”

In the midst of ongoing, even escalating, oppression around us everywhere, let the Spirit awaken us to the expressions of those yearnings for freedom, and putting away old paradigms, open us to new understandings, insights, and ideas.

“The ultimate measure of a [person] is not where [they] stand in moments of comfort and convenience, but where [they] stand at times of challenge and controversy.”

In the midst of these times of challenge and controversy and conflict, let us not move for our own comfort and convenience, but let us embody the courage that is standing, sitting, singing, marching, meeting, living, loving.

“I refuse to accept the view that [hu]mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and [fellowship] can never become a reality ... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word.”

MINISTERS

All the members of the church
Rev. Mark A. Medina,
Transitional Interim Pastor,
Head of Staff
Kevin Lowry,
Campus Chaplain & Dir.
of Student Ministries
Matthew Garrett, PhD,
Music Director
Jonathan Moyer, DMA
Organist, Assoc. Music Dir.
Michael Peters, PhD,
Assoc. Music Director
Kaori Hongo, DMA
Coordinator of Children &
Youth Ministry, Handbell &
Children’s Choir Director
Ken Wendt, DMA,
Audio Visual Services Mgr.
Jennifer Conner, DMA,
Music Librarian
George Leggiero, MA
Carillonneur

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!

With Martin Luther King, the prophets of old, and Jesus, we too proclaim our belief that the realm of God is near, and we can indeed fully become the Beloved Community. May how we behave ever reflect how we believe in truth and Love.

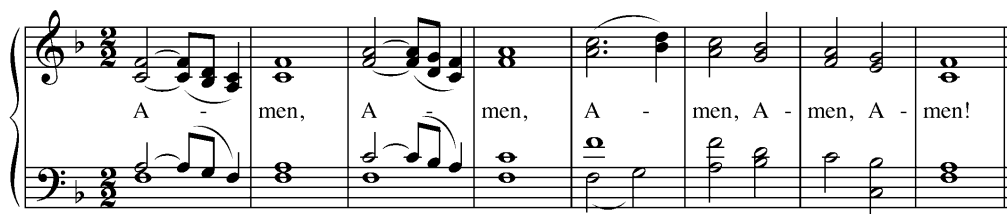
As a people on a journey of hope, justice, freedom and love, let us now lift up our voices as one as we pray the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us to say. Our Father...

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.



Invitation to Offering

Offertory

He's Got the Whole World in His Hand

He's got the whole world in His hand.

He's got the woods and the waters in His hand,
He's got the sun and the moon in His hand,
He's got the whole world in His hand.

He's got the birds and the bees right in His hand,
He's got the beasts of the fields right in His hand,
He's got the whole world in His hand.

He's got you and me right in His hand,
He's got everybody in His hand,
He's got the whole world in His hand.

Combined Choirs
Adolphus Hailstork

SESSION

Will Klein, Clerk of Session,
clerk@covenantweb.org

CLASS OF 2020: Mary Anne Bromelmeier, Kitty Jarjisian, Suchi Nelson, Norma Shuskey

CLASS OF 2021: Barb Clint, Dale Goode, Chris Langmack,

CLASS OF 2022: Heidi Braun, Kathy Farkas, Clint Fowler, Matthew Garrett, Sybil Marsh, Cathy Miller

DEACONS

CLASS OF 2020: Tom Denbow, Stephanie Johnson, Julie Mailey,

CLASS OF 2021: Susan Klein, Lucy Matz, Ryan Szafraniec, Erin Tomko, Kate Williams

CLASS OF 2022: Ronnie Bromelmeier, John Marsh, Nancy Matz, Sue Prince, Lyn Cooper Tomaszewski, Nick Tomko

TRUSTEES

CLASS OF 2020: Jim Prince
Harriet Wadsworth

CLASS OF 2021: Patty Fowler,
Nancy Smekal

CLASS OF 2022: Dennis Matz
Ann Williams

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

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

The Church of the Covenant
11205 Euclid Avenue,
Cleveland, Ohio 44106
216.421.0482
CovenantWeb.org
Covenant@CovenantWeb.org

* *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**

* *Prayer of Dedication*

* *Hymn*

We Shall Overcome

SPIRITUAL

The Choirs:

We shall overcome; We'll walk hand in hand; We are not afraid;

Refrain: Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe we shall overcome some day.

All are invited to stand and sing:

We shall live in peace; we shall live in peace; we shall live in peace someday. Refrain

God will see us through; God will see us through; God will see us through today. Refrain

We shall overcome; we shall overcome; we shall overcome some day. Refrain

* *Benediction*

Choral Postlude

Great Day

Combined Choirs
Adolphus Hailstork

Great day! Oh glory, Hallelujah, We're marchin' to the Kingdom!

Great day, children; God's gonna build up Zion's walls!

Great day! Great day, the righteous marchin',

Great day! God's gonna build up Zion's walls.

The chariot rode on the mountain top,

My God He spoke and the chariot stop.

This is the day of jubilee. The Lord has set His people free!

Take my breastplate, sword in hand,

March out boldly in the land!

Want no cowards in our band!

This must be a great, good land!

Great day! Great day, the righteous marchin',

Great day! God's gonna build up Zion's walls.

Carillon Postlude

Thank you for being mindful of those who wish to stay and listen to the postlude.

This week, we welcome the Cleveland School of the Arts, R. Nathaniel Dett Concert Choir to our worship service.

Cleveland School of the Arts R. Nathaniel Dett Concert Choir

Robert McCorvey, director

Dr. William Woods, director emeritus

Adam Whiting, accompanist

Maya Ford, President

The R. Nathaniel Dett Concert Choir, an elite choral ensemble of 75 singers under the auspices of the motto, "Sing to express, not to impress," has delighted the hearts of many music lovers from the Greater Cleveland area to Europe and Japan. The choir is known for its ability to render outstanding performances in many styles.

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Words by James Weldon Johnson, Music by J. Rosamond Johnson

James W. Johnson writes, "A group of young men in Jacksonville, Florida arranged to celebrate President Lincoln's birthday. My brother, J. Rosamond, and I decided to write a song for the occasion. I wrote the words and he wrote the music. It was taught and performed by a choir of five hundred African American school children.

Come here Jesus, If You Please

Roland M. Carter

William Woods has known Roland for forty or so years, having engaged him repeatedly to serve as guest conductor of the Dett Choirs. This small work is from Carter's collection of "Five Choral Responses".

City of God

Words by Samuel Johnson, Music by R. Nathaniel Dett

It is reasonable to assume that when Dett read the poem, "The City of God", he thought about a city of freedom, love and truth to a people who, for so long, suffered deprivation, crushed hopes and sorrow before and after emancipation. He had a clear vision of "A City Called Heaven". The poem is a religious masterpiece. The song is a musical masterpiece.

He's Got The Whole World in His Hand / Great Day

Adolphus Hailstork

These are selections from his large work, "Four Spirituals", where Hailstork artistically captures the harmony, rhythm, melody and interpretation of spirituals. This work was composed for orchestra, chorus and two outstanding African American singers, Kathleen Battle and Jessye Norman.

R. Nathaniel Dett Concert Choir

Soprano

Kaneshia Agnew
Khyla Briggs
Alice Catron
Simone Clarno
Jayda Collins
Shayla Fletcher
Maya Ford
Lanica Gaddis
Faicia Giddings
Jalinay Hicks
Lyashia Jackson
Terri Jackson
Alexys Jensen
Natozjah Johnson
Mysia Jones
McKayla Lemon
Tyisha Lewis
Kera Lopez
Tamaia Madden
Meleah Malone
Keaira O'Neal
Arianna Petro
Nia Primm
Niya Robinson
Alanna Sadosky

Alto

Gabrielle Barnes
Jessica Booth
Ja'Leigha Carson
Sania Cornelius
Shaniya Fuller
Shanae Hawkins
Diamond Jay
Kyla Jackson
Davionna Johnson
Jamyia Martin
Angelina Meech
Hayley Sargent
Mauraye Stephens
Beloved Strozier
Tierra Tabor
Ishanai Warren

Tenor

Jeremy Anderson
Serenity Bell
Carlee Burks
Janae Dix
Traylon Evans
Alecia Jarrett
Joseph Moss
Christin Parker
Denise Santos
Breeasia Sims
D'Symbr Walker
Tavontay Wells

Bass

Dezmon Berry
Fredrick French
Daesean Lawson
Jose Lebron
Trevian Minor
Armond Smith
Cameron Thom

Covenant Chancel Choir

COVENANT CHANCEL CHOIR

Soprano

Nanette Canfield*
Sophia Hahn
Lynne Hoffman-Engel*
Alexys Jensen,
Singleton choral scholar
Anna O'Connell*
Anna Skelton
Kiko Weinroth*
Kate Williams
Madeline Yankell*

**denotes soloist & section leader*

Alto

Mary Anne Bromelmeier
Jennifer Conner
Gwen DeLaney*
Ashlyn Herd*
Carolyn Jones
Cathy Miller
Susan Prince
Erin Tomko

Tenor

Zac Costantino*
Mist'a Craig*
Tom Denbow
JW Keckley*
Rod Keen
Aidan Klemm
John Marsh

Bass

Jeff Green*
Gavin O'Keefe*
Michael Peters
Frank Repasi
Jelani Watkins*

Ushering Today are: Bob Ault, John Bromelmeier, Martha Goble, and Oleg Targoni.

Greeters Today are: Beth Holbein and Shirley Thompson.

The Flowers In The Chancel Urn are given in loving memory of Jim and Julia Fiorenzo (born January 22 and 25), parents of Gale Bromelmeier, by Mary Anne Bromelmeier.

Honor an event or a person with a lovely bouquet of flowers! Simply contact the church office, sign up in the church office or conveniently pay on the website.
The cost is \$85 per arrangement.

We Keep in our Prayers: Jud Branning (Jonathan Moyer's brother-in-law), Jesse Cvelbar, Collin Denbow (who is working in Ethiopia with the Peace Corp), Thelma Everhart, Iris A. Harvie (friend of Susan & Arnie Dahm), David Keltner, Greg Madison, Gene Papp, George Peters (Michael's father), Lyn Cooper Tomaszewski, Kim Voss, 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 left prayer requests in our Carpenter's Box.

This Week at Covenant (January 20– January 25, 2020)

Office hours are weekdays from 9 am until 5 pm.

Monday: Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Church Closed.

Tuesday: Staff Meeting, Office, 9:30 am; Cache Resale Shop, 10 am; Tuesday Morning Handbell Ringers, Handbell Rehearsal Room, 10:45 pm; Theology On Tap, The Jolly Scholar, 5:30 pm; Trustee Meeting, Library, 6:30 pm.

Wednesday: 12 Steps to Freedom, Beckwith Hall, 5:30 pm;
Session Meeting, Office, 7 pm.

Thursday: Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Handbell Rehearsal Room, 6:30 pm;
Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room/Yost Chapel, 7:30 pm.

Friday: Carillon Concert, 12:15 pm.

Saturday: Saturday Tutoring Program, Lower Level, 10 am.

Food Collection

Today we collect food for our Food Pantry. Please place your food donations in the boxes at the entrance and financial donations in the offering, marked "food." 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.

The Sanctuary Birds

The birds you see in the sanctuary are cranes. In the Japanese tradition, these birds signify "happiness". They also are symbols of peace, hope and healing in challenging times.

Theology On Tap Is Back

and will meet every *OTHER* Tuesday, including **THIS** Tuesday, January 21st at The Jolly Scholar at 5:30. For more information, email John Marsh at: marshes@ameritech.net

Saturday Tutoring Is Back In Session!

Saturday Tutoring resumed **LAST** Saturday, January 18th and will continue January 25, February 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, March 21, 28 and April 4, in the Lower Level at 10 am.

Would You Like To Meet With Reverend Medina?

If so, stop in at the church or email him at mmedina@covenantweb.org to set up a time.

Help Yourself To Books & Records!

Many of Karen Burt's books and records were given to the Church of the Covenant after her death. Through January, these items are on shelves in the Reception Room. Please take whatever you would like, and tell your friends—especially those who like to knit, or still listen to LP's! We are sure that Karen would be pleased to share her treasures with her Covenant friends and others.

Covenant Callers Needed

Become a Covenant Caller and reach out to a member you haven't seen in a while to reconnect or check on them. Covenant Callers contact members who are unable to attend church on a regular basis by phone or visiting their home/residence. To learn how rewarding this ministry is, speak with current Covenant Callers Gale Bromelmeier, Stephanie Johnson, Julie Mailey or Nancy Matz

If You Would Like A Copy Of The Kairos Report,

they are available at the church office, or you can access it at this link:
bit.ly/KairosReport2019

Announcements For The Weekly E-news and Sunday Bulletin

are due by 6:00 pm on Tuesday! You can submit your announcements to dmatz@covenantweb.org

Children Are Welcome Here

Children are always welcome to fully participate in worship. We invite children to join us up front in the Worship Center for various activities during the service.

Seeking Church Volunteers To Assist With Sunday Morning Childcare

We are seeking volunteers of all ages from our church community to assist our Sunday morning childcare provider. If you plan to be in worship with us, and you are willing to be an additional set of eyes for childcare, please contact Kaori Hongo: khongo@covenantweb.org

Students Welcome Here

Church of the Covenant is a welcoming and inclusive spiritual home as you navigate your educational journey. We are here to help you flourish during your time in University Circle. We would love to get to know you better! To connect with our student ministries opportunities contact us at studentministries@covenantweb.org.

Custodial Update

Resumes are being accepted and reviewed for both a full-time and part-time position.

Looking Ahead

2019 Pledges

There is still time to fulfill your pledge for 2019. You can do so through the end of January 2020. However, it will NOT be tax deductible for 2019.

Stock Donations Information

NEW INFORMATION REGARDING DONATIONS OF STOCKS: PNC BANK
DTC # 2616 Reference: 21-75-073-6933938 – Church of the Covenant - Gift

Generosity Is Sharing God's Gifts

We are close to completing our Stewardship Effort for 2020 as well as trying to finalize the pledge contributions for 2019.

Here is where we are as of January 9, 2020. January 31, 2020 will complete this campaign so we hope you will respond appropriately. Thank you for being the loving component of *Generosity Is Sharing God's Gifts*.

Goal for 2020 is– \$225,000

Total–\$207,731 *This is 92% of what we need.*

Goal for 2019 was \$275,814 pledged

\$241,116 received *This is 87% of what we need.*

Covenant Partnering with North Church

You are invited to be part of a team of six to eight people on **January 26th, 2020** from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm, to assist in preparing and serving the community meal that follows the worship service at North Church. **Sign up in the church office.** For more information, contact Ministry of Service member Bob Ault.

Tuesday Noon Organ Plus Concerts

Join us **NEXT** Tuesday, January 28th at 12:00 pm, for our Organ Plus Concert, with Jonathan Moyer, organ. The coming season of concerts will extend through June 9, 2020, with occasional "Plus" concerts featuring other instruments and vocalists.

Look for more detailed information to come soon.

