The Cragin Peal

The McGaffin Carillon

George Leggiero, Carillonneur

Two Chorale Preludes

Renew Me, O Eternal Light (Herr Jesu Christ, meins Lebens Licht)
In Thee Is Gladness (In dir is Freude)

Paul Manz

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Mark A. Medina

Joys and Concerns

* Celebration of Community

Introit

Chancel Choir

Hail to the Brightness of Zion’s Glad Morning!

WESLEY

Hail to the brightness of Zion’s glad morning!
Joy to the lands that in darkness have lain!
Hushed be the accents of sorrow and mourning;
Zion in triumph begins her mild reign.

See, from all lands, from the isles of the oceans,
Praise to the Saviour ascending on high;
Fallen the engines of war and commotion,
Shouts of salvation are rending the sky.

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.
Call to Worship

The invitation is given to every person by Jesus Christ: “Come to me! Follow me! Be my disciples!”

We come to this place, to this time, at the invitation of Jesus Christ.

In the name of Christ, we accept the invitation to discipleship.

In the name of Christ, as his disciples, we worship and praise God.

In the midst of a world where cruelty abounds, we proclaim the God of Compassion.

In the midst of despair that threatens to swallow up whole lives, whole peoples, we proclaim the God of Hope.

In the midst of indifference and apathy, we proclaim the God of Love.

Come, let us worship together and share our witness of God’s living presence in the world.

Hymn 115

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

ST. KEVIN

Call to Confession

Benjamin Fugate, Lay Worship Leader

Corporate Prayer of Confession

O Lord, Through your Spirit we stand in the promise of your acceptance of who we are just as we are. Forgive us when we fail to respond to your call with faith. Forgive us when we are shackled by our narrow understandings of discipleship and our clouded sense of purpose. Through your Spirit we are drawn into the light of your empowering love. Forgive us when we are frightened of the future or pull back from the demand of your calling. Forgive us when we fail to sense your presence in our past, to acknowledge your grace in the present moment, and to trust you for our future. Forgive us as we silently confess all that separates us in relationship with one another, your creation, and you.

Silent Confession of Sin

Declaration of Forgiveness

Friends hear the Good News, Through your Spirit we offer ourselves in discipleship. We stand together as your disciples. We seek renewed and renewing faith. Touch us now with your Spirit, Lord. Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Music Notes

We welcome Michael Peters as guest organist while Jonathan is traveling with Oberlin Students in Europe.

The hymn tune (WESLEY) used in the Introit was written by Lowell Mason, a Presbyterian musician who is often referred to as “The Father of American Church Music.” He was equally important in the development of music education in America. Noted American composer and organist Emma Lou Diemer’s setting of this tune, heard as the postlude, is sprightly with a gently shifting rhythmic treatment accompanying the melody. In a similar fashion, Cleveland native Paul Manz’s colorful settings of two Lutheran hymns reflect the playful, joyful and every changing qualities of light.

Shortly after Rev. Medina arrived last fall, he asked if the choir had ever sung The Lord’s Prayer. It seemed coincidence at the time that we had recently purchased a beautiful arrangement by American composer René Clausen. As you listen to the composer’s interpretation of the text, perhaps you will consider how the prayer impacts your connection to Christ’s words.
* 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

Time for Young Disciples

Deacons Erin and Nick Tomko

All children in Kindergarten through 6th grade are invited to the Living Room
in the education wing for singing, Bible lessons and creative activities.

Parting Response

Hymn 535

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.

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Lesson Pew Bible p.166 NRSV 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson Pew Bible p.3-4 NRSV Matthew 4:12-23

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon The Ministry of Jesus Begins Rev. Mark A. Medina

Time for Quiet Reflection

* Affirmation of Faith

Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ,
Fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, 
Jesus was crucified, 
suffering the depths of human pain 
and giving his life for the sins of the world. 
God raised Jesus from the dead, 
vindicating his sinless life, 
breaking the power of sin and evil, 
delivering us from death to life eternal.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, 
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks 
and to live holy and joyful lives, 
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, 
praying, Come, Lord Jesus! 
With believers in every time and place, 
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death 
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. 
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. 
Amen.

* Hymn 423 Jesus Shall Reign Where’re the Sun

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer: Chancel Choir 
René Clausen

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. 
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Invitation to Offering

Offertory Chancel Choir 
David Ashley White

O Gladsome Light

O gladsome light, stark, shining from the creator’s face, 
O God, who comes to us in flesh both blessing and blessed.

Now, as the sun is setting, and we raise the lights of prayer, 
We sing unbounded joy to you, 
Triune God who creates, redeems, restores, 
Single God, who lives as Father, Son, and Spirit.
You are all that is worthy to be praised by these our happy voices.
O God with us, who gave us life, and gives your life for ours.
And to be known as God and source, bliss and joy,
Throughout whatever worlds may be. *Alleluia!*

* 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 377

Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore
PESCADOR DE HOMBRES

* Benediction

Organ Postlude   Hail to the Brightness (WESLEY)   Emma Lou Diemer

Carillon Postlude   Toccata No. 10   Johan Franco

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

Ushering Today are: Keith Kallay, Sean Siswanto, Harriet Wadsworth, and Ann Williams.

Greeters Today are: Renee Boykin and Liz Shriver.

The Flowers In The Chancel Urn are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Tom Demeter in honor of his birthday on January 28th by Marilyn Demeter.

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 (studying abroad in Ireland this semester), 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.

Our Prayers are with the family of Mary Carter in memory of her death on November 30th, 2019.

This Week at Covenant (January 27– February 1)
Office hours are weekdays from 9 am until 5 pm.

Monday: No scheduled activities.
Tuesday: Staff Meeting, Office, 9:30 am; Cache Resale Shop, 10 am; Tuesday Morning Handbell Ringers, Handbell Rehearsal Room, 10:45 pm.
Wednesday: Food Pantry, Office, 10 am; 12 Steps to Freedom, Beckwith Hall, 5:30 pm; Church Officer Training, Pastor’s Office, 5:15 pm.
Thursday: Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Handbell Rehearsal Room, 6:20 pm; Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room/Yost Chapel, 7:30 pm.
Friday: Food Pantry, Office, 10 am; Carillon Concert, 12:15 pm.
Saturday: Saturday Tutoring Program, Lower Level, 10 am; Church Officer Training, Pastor’s Office, 9 am.

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.

Young Adult Forum Today, January 26th
2020 Programming continues this week, with a return of the Bible Study, Love Carved in Stone. Materials will be provided to new participants and all are welcome to join!

Theology On Tap Is Back
and will meet every OTHER Tuesday 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 will continue 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.

Child Care and Activities
All children in Kindergarten through 6th grade are invited to the Living Room in the educational wing for singing, Bible lessons and creative activities.

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.
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.

Church Officer Training
New Deacons and Ruling Elders are invited to participate in a time of Church Officer Training. This is a five week event every Wednesday or Saturday, from January 29 through February 29. Contact Rev. Medina at mmedina@covenantweb.org

Tuesday Noon Organ Plus Concerts
Join us Tuesday, February 4th at 12:00 pm, for our Organ Plus Concert, with Jillian Gardner, 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.