* Please stand as you are able

**The Cragin Peal**

**The McGaffin Carillon**

Keiran Cantilina, *Guest Carillonneur*

**Organ Prelude**

Jonathan Moyer, organ

Johann Sebastian Bach

*Duetto II, BWV 803*

Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr, BWV 675

**Welcome & Announcements**

Rev. Mark A. Medina

**Joys and Concerns**

*Celebration of Community*

**Introit**

Chancel Choir

Trad. South African

*Siyahamba*

*Siyahamb’ ekukhanyen’ kwenkhos,’ siyahamb’ ekukhanyen’ kwenkhos.*

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.

**Call to Worship**

Come, open your hearts to the Lord!

*We are grateful to be here, remembering all that Christ has done for us.*

Friends and family – all are welcome in the house of the Lord.

*Those who are new to our church, those who seek, those who feel lost and alone.*

Christ meets us here; he breaks the bread of salvation for us.

*God embraces us with his transforming and forgiving love.*

Dear friends, let us rejoice in God’s love.

*We are called to receive that love and reach out in compassion to others.*

Let us worship our Creator God!

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**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.

**MUSIC NOTES**

We celebrate Black History month with many of our February musical selections.

The introit, *Siyahamba* is a traditional South African hymn, sung in Zulu and English.
* Hymn 88  All Glory, Laud, and Honor  VALET WILL Ich Dir GEBEN

* Call to Confession  
Carol Roe, Lay Worship Leader

* Corporate Prayer of Confession

Most Gracious God, we confess that we are not humble before others and before you. We do not love you with all our heart. We brag about our accomplishments without the proper recognition of your role in our daily lives. We do not consistently care for our neighbors but blame them for their ills and hold grudges against them. We are hesitant to identify ourselves as believers in the world outside. Please forgive us for our selfishness and conceit. Help us to act in our everyday lives as ministers of your word. We ask your forgiveness as we silently confess our sins.

* Silent Confession of Sin

* Declaration of Forgiveness

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. 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  
Chancel Choir
Alleluia from Choral Triptych  
Kay

Time for Young Disciples  
Trustee Nancy Smekal

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.

The anthem, Alleluia, is one of three pieces in the collection, Choral Triptych, by Black composer Ulysses Simpson Kay, Jr. (1917-1995). In his compositions, comprising over 140 works, Kay avoided musical references to his ethnicity, preferring to base his compositional style on his widely varied academic and travel experiences. One of his most popular pieces, Choral Triptych reflects rapidly changing chromatic variations, often used by 20th Century composers. This is the final time we will hear “alleluia” in worship, until the conclusion of Lent.

OUR LAY WORSHIP LEADER is Carol Roe.

Carol Roe is a registered nurse and attorney who lives in Cleveland Heights. She is stepmother to John Layton who lives in Kansas. He and his wife Chontae have 3 children. Carol has served in various leadership roles in her time at Covenant most recently as a member of the Nominating Committee.

CONTACT LEADERSHIP
Faithformation@ covenant web.org
Finance@covenantweb.org
Service@covenantweb.org
Personnel@covenantweb.org
Deacons@covenantweb.org
Trustees@covenantweb.org
Building@covenantweb.org
Music@covenantweb.org
Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Lesson  Pew Bible p.29 NRSV  Matthew 25:41-45

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

Sermon  21st Century Social Justice Through the Eyes of the Apostle Matthew  Dr. Renee Willis

Time for Quiet Reflection

* Affirmation of Faith  Calvin Institute for Christian Worship

As followers of Jesus Christ, living in this world—
   which some seek to control,
   but which others view with despair—
   we declare with joy and trust:
Our world belongs to God!
   From the beginning,
through all the crises of our times,
   until God’s kingdom fully comes,
God keeps covenant forever.
   Our world belongs to God!
God is King! Let the earth be glad!
Christ is Victor; his rule has begun. Hallelujah!
The Spirit is at work, renewing creation. Praise the Lord!

We rejoice in the goodness of God, renounce the works of darkness, and dedicate ourselves to holy living.

As covenant partners, called to faithful obedience, and set free for joyful praise, we offer our hearts and lives to do God’s work in God’s world.

With tempered impatience, eager to see injustice ended, we expect the Day of the Lord.

And we are confident that the light which shines in the present darkness will fill the earth when Christ appears.

Come, Lord Jesus! Our world belongs to you. Amen.

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

We Welcome Dr. Renee Willis, to our pulpit.

Dr. Renee Willis is the Superintendent for the Richmond Heights Local Schools. Dr. Willis taught in the Cleveland Heights-University Heights school system. She has instituted policy increasing the awareness and opportunities for students in the disciplines of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math).

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
Prayers of the People

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
Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho

Handbell Choir
arr. Hart Morris
Triangle-Anna O’Connell
Tambourine-Gavin O’Keefe
Drums-JW Keckley
Piano-Jonathan Moyer

* 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

* Prayer of Dedication

* Hymn 477 Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim HANOVER

* Benediction

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
Organ Postlude  
Fugue in E-flat, BWV 552  
Johann Sebastian Bach

Carillon Postlude

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

Ushering Today are: Bob Ault, Patty and Clint Fowler, and Harriet Wadsworth.

Greeters Today are: Stephanie Johnson and Debbie Rorick.

Our Sunday School Teacher Today is: Trustee Nancy Smekal.

The Flowers In The Chancel Urn and Columbarium are given in loving memory of Milt Ganger by his wife, Jean Ganger and in loving memory of Martha (Marty) Vinborg by her family.

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: Paul Begany, Thelma Everhart, David Keltner, Greg Madison, Gene Papp, George Peters (Michael’s father), Lyn Cooper Tomaszewski, Kim Voss, Paul Williams 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 (February 24– February 29)
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; Tuesday Noon Organ Plus Concert, Sanctuary, 12 pm;

Wednesday: Food Pantry, Office, 10 am;  
Church Officer Training, Pastor’s Office, 5:15 pm;  
12 Steps to Freedom, Beckwith Hall, 5:30 pm;  
Personnel Meeting, Library, 5 pm;  
Ash Wednesday Service, Yost Chapel, 7 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;  
Lunchtime Carillon Concert, McGaffin Carillon, 12:15 pm;
Saturday: Church Officer Training, Pastor’s Office, 9 am;  
Saturday Tutoring Program, Lower Level, 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.
ZIP CODE: A Product of Your Environment
"Love your neighbor as you love yourself."  Matthew 22:39

As we conclude our celebration of Black History Month, the Ministry of Faith Formation invites you to continue to reflect on what it means to live within specific zip codes in the greater Cleveland area. This week, we welcome Dr. Renee Willis as guest pastor and Young+ Adult Forum speaker.

Sanctuary Peace Cranes
In the Japanese tradition, these cranes signify “happiness,” as symbols of peace, hope and healing in challenging times. Please take a crane from the red basket in the narthex. This is a gift from the staff to you. Please share the peace with others.

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 29, March 21, 28 & April 4, in the Lower Level at 10 am.

Online Donations
Our website’s Giving page is up and running. You can now make donations and pledges from your phone or computer. Check it out at: covenantweb.org/giving

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

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.
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

Generosity Is Sharing God’s Gifts
The Stewardship Committee announces that we have met our goal for pledges for 2020. Members of the congregation have promised $233,317 in support of our budget for this year which was targeted at $225,000. We thank you for this very fine effort.

Per Capita Commitment
The annual Per Capita commitment is $33.00 per member of each household of Covenant’s membership is part of the money raised to support our Presbytery of the Western Reserve’s operating budget as well as the Synod and General Assembly. The Stewardship committee would like you to consider bringing or sending your check to the church by Sunday, March 8th to help the church fulfill its obligation. Thank you.

Trustees 2019 Financial Summary
Revenue exceeded expenses for the by $84,393. Even though there was a shortfall in pledge income by $20,744, other sources of revenue made up the difference. Total expenses were under budget by $81,082, personnel expenses making up $77,727 of this variance. We thank everyone for their commitment and dedication to the church.

Looking Ahead

Congregational Meeting
Following Worship on Sunday, March 1, there will be a congregational meeting for the purpose of nominating and electing Ruling Elders, Deacons, Trustees and Nominating Committee Members to the Class of 2023 and filling the remaining unexpired terms for the classes of 2021 and 2022.

Tuesday Noon Organ Plus Concerts
Join us Tuesday, February 25th at 12:00 pm, for our Organ Plus Concert, with Juan Riveros, harp. Juan played in our Christmas Eve service in December. The coming season of concerts will extend through June 9, 2020, with occasional "Plus" concerts featuring other instruments and vocalists. Look for more details soon.

Be A SOUPer Star!
In February, March, and April, Covenant Student Ministries will be hosting a weekly community meal of Soup and Bread in the Lower Level to raise awareness and funds for food insecurity in University Circle. We are looking for members of the Covenant Community to provide soup and bread each week. For more information or to sign up to bring soup and bread please contact Kevin Lowry at klowry@covenantWeb.org or see the flyer in the weekly ENews.

Covenant Lecture Working Group
The Ministry of Faith Formation is seeking volunteers to plan for future Covenant Lecture speakers. If you would like to participate in the planning process or if you have individuals you would like to recommend as a potential Covenant Lecturer, please contact MoFF faithformation@covenantweb.org
Check your Toolshed!
Do you own an anvil? The Ministry of Faith Formation would like to borrow an anvil for use in the building from March 31 through April 14. Please contact Matthew Garrett (faithformation@covenantweb.org) if you can help.

YOUTH SUNDAY May 10!!
We are excited to announce that our 2020 Youth Sunday will be on Mother’s Day!! We are looking for some helping hands as we prepare for this very important day! Dr. Jenny Conner is working with the kids and we are exploring the many possibilities of our theme for this year! Please contact Kaori Hongo at: khongo@covenantweb.org if you are interested!!