The Cragin Peal

Carillon Prelude
Gnosienne No. 1

Prelude
Magnificat I. My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord
from Vêpres du commun des fête de la Sainte Vierge, Op.18

Welcome & Announcements
Joys and Concerns

Celebration of Community
All are invited to light a candle for the duration of the service
as a symbol of our community of faith.

Call to Worship
Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26

O give thanks to the L ORD, call upon God’s name,
make known the deeds of the Lord among the peoples.

Sing to the L ORD, sing praises,
tell of all God’s wonderful works.

Glory to God’s holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the L ORD rejoice.

Search for the strength of the L ORD;
Continually Seek God’s face.
Remember the wonderful works God has done,
his miracles, and the judgments of God’s mouth,

O offspring of Abraham, God’s servant,
O children of Jacob, God’s chosen ones.

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.

ENCOUNTER
We receive the good news of God’s love, mercy, and justice revealed to us through the Bible.
Israel came into Egypt; Jacob lived as an alien in the land of Ham. And the LORD made the people of Israel very fruitful, more numerous than their enemies, whose hearts God turned so that they hated God’s people, to deal unjustly with the servants of God. O LORD, you sent Moses your servant, and Aaron, your chosen one.

Hymn 52 When Israel Was in Egypt’s Land

GO DOWN MOSES

Music Notes
All are invited to watch our video-recorded “Music Notes” this week available in the e-news and interactive bulletin emails or by clicking here, and here.

Music selections this week feature vocalist Gwendolyn DeLaney. A Chancel Choir soloist, Gwen recently completed a degree in vocal performance from the Cleveland Institute of Music.

Our Lay Worship Leader is Sybil Marsh.
Sybil first attended the Church of the Covenant in 1989, as a graduate student at Case, and stayed because of the Covenant’s friendly people and commitment to social justice. A teacher of family and addiction medicine, she lives in Cleveland Heights with husband John Marsh, daughters Midori and Naomi, (on their way to Canada this week), fish, and cats.

Nothing in Hebrew Scripture resonated more deeply with the experience of African Americans in North America than Israel’s slavery in Egypt. In this spiritual’s recurring line, “Let my people go,” past and present became one, as they still do for all who are oppressed.
Call to Confession

Corporate Prayer of Confession

Gracious God,
You offer us hope, but we chose helplessness. You offer us grace, but we choose pride. You offer forgiveness, but we choose to stand our ground. Forgive us when we can’t imagine other choices, ones that bring us into your light. Encourage us as we pray together and read your word to choose paths that draw us closer to each other, closer to the stranger. Hear us, we pray, as we silently confess our sins.

Silent Confession of Sins

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. Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Gloria Patri

Hymn 579

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

Kaori Hongo, Coordinator of Children & Youth Ministry

Parting Response

Hymn 535

Ivy Goodman and Christopher Sho Moyer

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.
Sacred Word אֶהְיֶה אֶהְיֶה אֵֽהָי - ehyeh asher ehyeh - I AM WHO I AM (Exodus 3:14)

Anthem Gwendolyn DeLaney, vocalist

Et exsultavit spiritus meus from Magnificat J.S. Bach

Et exultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo.
And my spirit has rejoiced in God my savior.

Prayer of Illumination

Torah Exodus 3:1-15

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

Epistle Romans 12:9-21

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

Gospel Matthew 16:21-28

This is the Gospel of our Lord. Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon Go Down Moses Rev. Bill Hudson

Affirmation of Faith: The Good News Creed

based on Matthew 16:16; Mark 16:9; John 20:28; 1 Corinthians 15:1-6; Revelation 22:13

This is the good news that we have received,
in which we stand, and by which we are saved,
if we hold it fast:
that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,
that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day,
and that he appeared first to the women,
then to Peter, and to the Twelve,
and then to many faithful witnesses.

We believe that Jesus is the Christ,
the Son of the living God.
Jesus Christ is the first and the last,
the beginning and the end;
he is our Lord and our God. Amen.
Hymn 50  Deep in the Shadows of the Past  SHEPHERDS’ PIPES

Glory To God

1 Deep in the shadows of the past, far out from settled lands,
2 While others bowed to changeless gods, they met a mystery,
3 From Exodust to Pentecost the promise changed and grew,
4 For all the writings that survived, for leaders, long ago,

some nomads traveled with their God across the desert sands.
invisible, without a name: “I AM WHAT I WILL BE”;
while some, remembering the past, recorded what they knew,
who sifted, copied, and preserved the Bible that we know.

The dawning hope of mankind by them was sensed and shown:
and by their tents, around their fires in story, song, and law,
or with their letters and laments, their prophecy and praise,
give thanks, and find its story yet our promise, strength, and call,

a promise calling them ahead, a future yet unknown.
they praised, remembered, hand-ed on a past that promised more.
recovered, kindled, and expressed new hope for changing days.
The model of emerging faith, alive with hope for all.

This vivid text reminds us of two truths we often forget: how deeply our faith is rooted in God’s enduring covenant with the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and how much we can learn from their story. The tune began life as the setting for a family Christmas card.

MUSIC: Annabeth McCollam Gay, 1952

SESSION
Deni Horstman,
Clerk of Session,
clerk@covenantweb.org
CLASS OF 2021: Barb Clint,
Theodis Fipps, Dale Goode,
Chris Langmack,
Cindy Szafraniec
CLASS OF 2022: Heidi Braun,
Kathy Farkas, Clint Fowler,
Matthew Garrett,
Sybil Marsh, Cathy Miller
CLASS OF 2023: Mary Anne Bromelmeier, Jenny Conner,
Anne Wombwell deConinagh
Susan Dahm, Rod Keen,
Erica Stubbs

DEACONS
CLASS OF 2021: Lucy Matz,
Ryan Szafraniec,
Janet Takeyama,
Erin Tomko, Kate Williams
CLASS OF 2022: Ronnie Bromelmeier, John Marsh,
Nancy Matz, Sue Prince,
Nick Tomko, Liz Shriver
CLASS OF 2023: Tom Denbow,
Joan Drushel, Julie Mailey,
Nicole Murray,
Norma Shuskey,
Paul Williams

TRUSTEES
CLASS OF 2021: Patty Fowler,
Nancy Smekal
CLASS OF 2022: Dennis Matz
Ann Williams
CLASS OF 2023: Jim Prince
Harriet Wadsworth

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY
Martha Goble, President
Keith Kallay, Treasurer
Jim Mate, Secretary


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.

Choral Amen

Sevenfold Amen

Covenant Chancel Choir
John Stainer

Invitation to Offering

Rev. Bill Hudson

Click here to visit the church's online giving portal

Offertory

He That Keepeth Israel

Gwendolyn DeLaney
Adolphe Schlösser

He that keepeth Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps.
He will give his Angels charge over thee,
To keep thee in all thy ways,
Put thy trust in Him and call upon Him.
For his ears are open unto thy prayers.

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
1 Bring many names, beautiful and good,
2 Strong mother God, working night and day,
3 Warm father God, hugging every child,
4 Old,aching God, gray with endless care,
5 Young, growing God, eager, on the move,
6 Great, living God, never fully known,

Celebrate, inparable and story,
Planning all the wonders of creation,
Feeling all the strains of human living,
Calmly piercing evil's new disguises,
Saying no to falsehood and unkindness,
Joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,

Holiness in glory, living, loving God.
Setting each equation genius at play:
Caring and forgiving till we're reconciled:
Glad of good surprises, wiser than despair:
Crying out for justice, giving all you have:
Closer yet than breathing, ever-lasting home:

Hail and Hosanna! Bring many names!
Hail and Hosanna, strong mother God!
Hail and Hosanna, warm father God!
Hail and Hosanna, old, aching God!
Hail and Hosanna, young, growing God!
Hail and Hosanna, great, living God!

This text affirms that the images we use for God can be inspired by either gender because both males and females reflect the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:27). Similarly, since God is with us at all stages of life, all ages hold the potential to reveal something about God.
Responsive Benediction

Let love be genuine;
**hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good;**
love one another with mutual affection;
**outdo one another in showing honour.**
Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.
Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, pray at all times.
Contribute to the needs of the saints;
extend hospitality to strangers.

Postlude

*Fuga sopra il Magnificat, BWV 733*

Jonathan Moyer, organ
Johann Sebastian Bach

Carillon Postlude

*Bell Canto*

Geert D’hollander
Von Lehrer  Lier Belgium

Please extinguish the candle.

An Update from Session for a Return to In-Person Worship

The Church of the Covenant Community continues to worship and fellowship from home, due to the challenges we face together from the COVID-19 pandemic.

On August 26, Session voted to begin having outdoor worship (weather permitting) beginning September 13th. This will be in addition to the virtual service using the interactive bulletin. The church will also be open for small groups of 20 or less.

We Keep in our Prayers: Barb Clint, Thelma Everhart, Earl Howard (Willie’s uncle), Kitty Jarjisian, David Keltner, Pat Owen-Keltner, Greg Madison, Reathel McWhorter, Grace Milligan, Susan Moyer (Jonathan’s mother), Gene Papp, Carolyn Perry, George Peters (Michael’s father), Mildred Russin, Kim Voss, Gabriel (Jenny Conner’s grand-nephew) and ALL Teachers and Students. We pray for those struggling with illness, convalescing, or homebound; patients, family, and staff in our surrounding hospitals.
Our Prayers are with the family and friends of Carolyn Williams who died on August 18. Carolyn is the sister of Shirley Thompson and aunt of Nancy Acree. Carolyn lived in Cincinnati, but made many trips to the Covenant and enjoyed being part of the Woman’s Bible Study.

Covenant After-Worship Coffee Hour, by ZOOM
The Ministry of Faith Formation hosts a virtual coffee hour and fellowship time each week, at 11:00 a.m. CLICK HERE to join our Coffee Hour this week, hosted by Barb Clint. We are now accepting volunteers to host this fellowship time during the month of September. Please email Faithformation@CovenantWeb.org to sign-up!

Happy Birthday to You!
October 29, 1929: The Stock Market Crashes, and January, 1930 ushers in The Great Depression. It was an historic year and today we can look back at it with a personal interest. Three wonderful members of our church, Church of the Covenant, were born in 1930. In 2020 we have the privilege, and joy of honoring them to help them celebrate their 90th birthdays.

These special people are Dan Garland, Jim Greene and Zoe Ann Brown. Each one of them is a beloved member of the church and each of them has contributed significantly to the vitality and spiritual kindliness that we enjoy each Sunday in worship. They are vigorous in their faith and just the mere fact that they are “regular” church goers, appearing almost every Sunday, encourages the rest of us to do likewise. We all need each other, and a friendly greeting from any of these three always makes my day.

So please let us take off our masks, open our mouths and sing heartily, Happy Birthday to You…dear Dan, Jim and Zoe Ann.

My Dear Covenant Friends...
Thank you for making my birthday a very special occasion – almost three dozen beautiful heart-warming cards, and loads of good wishes! What a jump-start for another 90 years! I shall always treasure your thoughtfulness and friendship! Again, thank you!
Sincerely, Jim Greene

Cache Resale Shop Update
A date for reopening the Cache has not yet been set. The shop may not be open for some time. “The Cache Ladies” respectfully request that no donations be brought in to the church until further notice. Thank you, and stay well.

Join The Presbyterian Week of Action
The Presbyterian Week of Action, Aug. 24–30, is an endeavor to provide a public witness that facilitates education, visibility and action that reinforces our PC(USA) statements and policy that support eradicating racism and acknowledge that God loves all Black lives. Communities of faith and people across the nation are joining the movement to confront the sins of racism and white supremacy. They are coming together to demand that Black lives of every age, gender, gender identity and sexuality are no longer ignored, dismissed or pushed to the margins of our society. They are protesting the unlawful and unjust killings of innocent Black individuals.

Join with the national office and PC(USA) churches across the nation, the week of Aug. 24–30. Events will include a town hall, film screening, a rally and a day of service to our communities. Act now by planning to participate in the daily schedule of events and share the news with our digital toolkit.
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:  http://www.covenantweb.org/giving/

Covenant Community Yard Signs Still Available
Celebrate our faith community at your home by displaying a Church of the Covenant yard sign! Contact faithformation@covenantweb.org to reserve a sign for your family. Signs are free, but if you would like to make a $10+ contribution to the church, we will happily accept your generosity.

Join “Mississippi” Charles Bevel, Sunday, August 30 at 6 pm
Please join the Ministry of Faith Formation (MoFF) as we again welcome “Mississippi” Charles Bevel, our Juneteenth speaker, for an upcoming forum on “race” and white privilege. The second will be at 6 p.m. on Sunday, August 30th via a Zoom link. “Mississippi,” as he prefers to be called, asks that you read the materials he has provided as common ground for his presentation and the discussion it is sure to elicit.

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This Week at Covenant (August 30– September 5)

Sunday: Carillon Concert, McGaffin Carillon, 10 am; After-worship ZOOM Coffee Hour, 11 am. Adult Forum, by Zoom, 6pm

Monday: No scheduled activities.

Tuesday: Tuesday Morning Bells, by Zoom, 11 am.

Wednesday: Deacons Meeting, by Zoom, 6:30 pm.

Thursday: No scheduled activities.

Friday: Lunchtime Carillon Concert, McGaffin Carillon, 12:15 pm.

Saturday: No scheduled activities.

Saturday Tutoring Program News!!
The Fall semester will begin on September 12, 2020 and run through November 14, 2020. We will be using Zoom as our online platform. If you are interested in helping, please complete the following registration form: https://form.jotform.com/202186550925153 In addition to registration, we’re asking all tutors and families to review this short orientation video: https://www.saturdaytutoring.org/post/coming-september-stp-online See you in September!
Food Pantry Update From Ministry of Service
Session has approved the limited operation of the church’s food pantry during the building closure. However, we cannot accept food donations at this time. You can support this important ministry by making a monetary donation to the COTC hunger fund. Your generosity will help those in our neighborhood who are hungry and need help during this pandemic. Thank you!

Ways to Help Feed The Hungry.
The Ministry of Service and Hunger Action Network have put together a document outlining ways you can help feed the hungry in our community.
It’s located on the Giving page of our website, so you can access it any time, or refer others to it.

Coronavirus NOT Stopping Carillonneurs!
Greater Cleveland carillonneurs, including our own George Leggiero, continue to provide free music as a solace to a coronavirus-worn public. The outdoor nature of carillon listening supports Governor DeWine’s plea for social distancing as well as his urging to get outside for our mental health.
Here is a link to WCPN ideastream’s stories about the “coalition of carillonneurs” (and stories from 2014 and 2017): https://www.ideastream.org/news/northeast-ohio-carillons-provide-musical-relief-during-pandemic. The Friday concerts are sponsored by the Friends of the McGaffin Carillon in University Circle.

Anti-Racism Resources
Please find below a link to PCUSA’s selected resources for anti-racism education.
"As part of an ongoing campaign to address racial injustice, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is sharing a wealth of antiracism resources — including studies, books and training — to equip the greater church to work against racism."
PCUSA Anti-Racism Resources

Supplies Needed
Covenant member Dale Goode is looking for donations of any old paint, polyurethane, varnish or shellac you may have. He’s also looking for all kind of old bed linens such as blankets, pillow cases, comforters and sheets, in any condition. He is working on a very large project and needs the supplies. Call Dale at: 216-229-7906 and he will pick up your donation.