

The
**Church of the
Covenant**

Sunday, November 8, 2020

Twenty-third Sunday After Pentecost

Service of Worship
for the Lord's Day

The Cragin Peal

*Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.
(Psalm 119:105).*

*Carillon Prelude
United*

David Cieri
Joey Brink, University of Chicago

Greeting & Announcements

Rev. Bill Hudson

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit;
**As it was in the beginning, is now
and shall be: world without end. Amen.**

*Prelude
Largo, Suite for Solo Violin*

Alan Choo, violin
Johann Sebastian Bach

Call to Worship

Psalm 24:1

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it.



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.

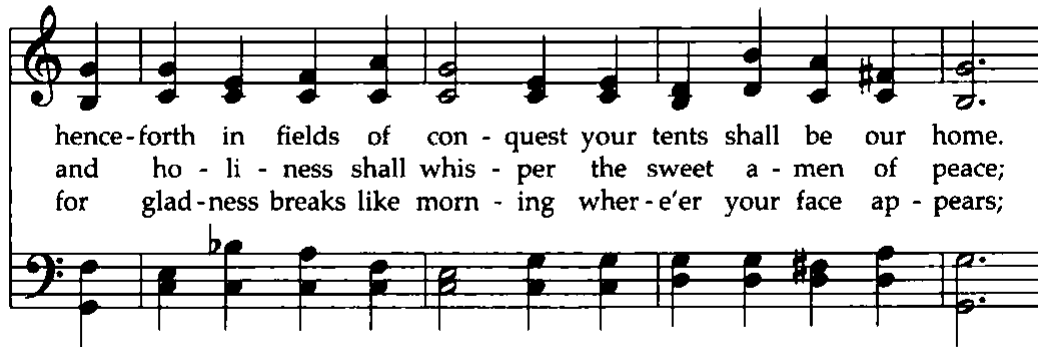
ENCOUNTER

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

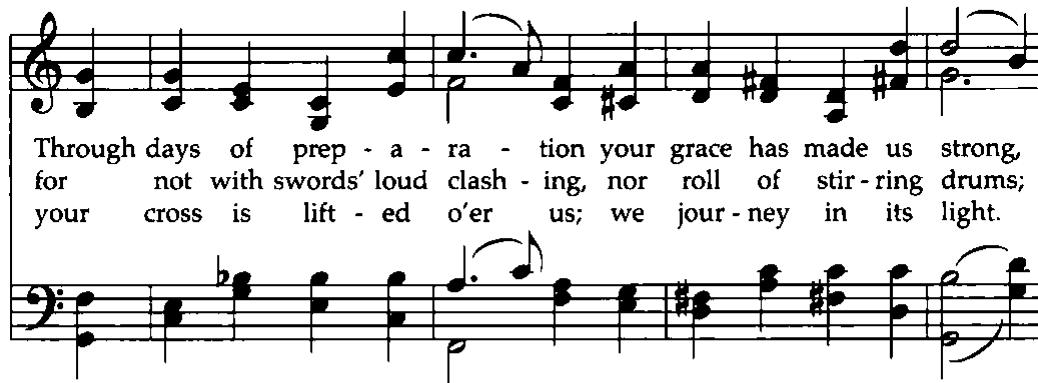
Glory To God



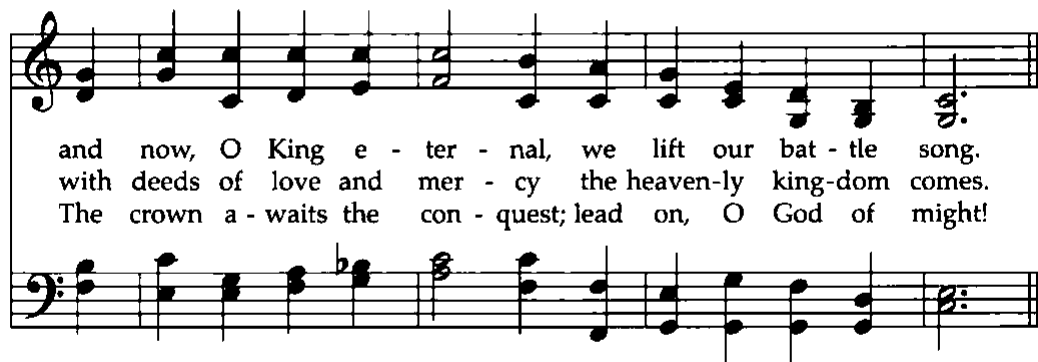
1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,



hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents shall be our home.
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears;



Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong,
for not with swords' loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums;
your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light.



and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song,
with deeds of love and mer - cy the heaven-ly king-dom comes.
The crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

Not everything that looks like a battle ends up being one. This text, written for a seminary graduation, works well with its martial tune in the first stanza; but later stanzas turn from such imagery and focus on "deeds of love and mercy" and courage for life's journey.

MUSIC NOTES

Music notes include information about André Thomas's arrangement of the spiritual, *Keep Your Lamps*.

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](#).

TODAY

10:00 Carillon Concert
McGaffin Carillon

10:30 ZOOM Coffee Chat
[Click HERE to join via Zoom](#)

11:00 The After Church
Forum
Rev. Bill Hudson
[Click HERE to join via Zoom](#)

12:00 Children's Sunday
Zoom Meeting
[Click HERE to join via Zoom](#)

Prayer of Confession

Deacon John Marsh
Lay Worship Leader

**Holy and gracious God,
you are all light and wonder and glory.
You are our strength and our delight;
you give us all we need to live.
Yet we are distracted by all that glitters,
continually grasping for more.
Rather than trust in your provision,
we chase after our own happiness.
Forgive us, Lord, and turn us back to you.
Overwhelm us with your goodness
and cover us with grace,
for we know that you are the source of life,
the fount of all that is good.
In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

Silent Confession of Sins

Declaration of Forgiveness

1 Timothy 1:15

Beloved, you are not in the dark.
You are the sons of Light, the daughters of the Day.
Believe the Good News!

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**

Reflection On the Church

John Marsh, *Deacon*

Time for Young Disciples

Kaori Hongo, *Coordinator of
Children & Youth Ministry*

**OUR LAY WORSHIP
LEADER is John Marsh.**

John joined the Church of the Covenant in the 1990's after an invitation from his then fiancé and now wife Sybil. He was immediately drawn in by the warm reception he received. He participated in the first Education for Ministry class soon after and enjoyed learning about theology and church history and appreciates all the opportunities to learn, serve others and worship here with everyone.

**DUE TO THE
UPDATED COVID-19
RISK LEVEL FOR
CUYAHOGA COUNTY,
PLEASE CALL THE
OFFICE TO SCHEDULE
AN APPOINTMENT IF
YOU ARE VISITING
THE CHURCH.
216-421-0482**

SEND

Having been nurtured and nourished through worship, we are sent from this place to glorify God in the service of our daily lives

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

- בְּרִית ber·eeth - covenant

Joshua 24:25

Anthem

Yukiko Weinroth, soprano; Alan Choo, violin

Laudamus te from *B-minor Mass*, BWV 232

J.S. Bach

Laudamus te, benedicimus te,

We praise You, we bless You,

Adoramus te, glorificamus te.

We worship You, we glorify You.

Prayer of Illumination

Psalm 119:105

**Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path.**

Amen.

Writings

Joshua 24: 1-3a, 14-25

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Psalter

Psalm 78, People of the Lord

JENNY VAN TSCHEGG
The Moyer Family

People of the Lord, listen to my voice.

Hear the ancient words. Once again rejoice!

What we have heard, what we have known,
let our tongues tell our sons and daughters
the wonders of our living God,
that they may join us in the chorus. *(Refrain)*

Tell of God's great deeds. Teach God's loving law
that faith's precious seed in each heart may grow. *Refrain*

Tell the news till each generation knows.
They, in turn, will teach those yet to be born. *Refrain*

May we trust in God, rest in God's strong hand,
live in God's strong love, follow God's commands. *Refrain*

CONTACT

LEADERSHIP

Rev. Bill Hudson,
Transitional Pastor,
Head of Staff
whudson@covenantweb.org

Faithformation@
covenantweb.org

Finance@covenantweb.org

Service@covenantweb.org

Personnel@covenantweb.org

Deacons@covenantweb.org

Trustees@covenantweb.org

Building@covenantweb.org

Music@covenantweb.org

MINISTERS

All the members of the church

Rev. Bill Hudson,
Transitional Pastor,
Head of Staff

George Leggiero, MA
Carillonneur

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

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Alleluia

106, Refrain

**Alleluia, alleluia!
Give thanks to the risen Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Give Praise to His Name.**

Gospel

Matthew 25:1-13

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Sermon

The Covenant

Rev. Bill Hudson

A Brief Statement of Faith (1991)

**We trust in God
whom Jesus called Abba, Father.
In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image,
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.
Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth,
exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.
In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.
Hearing their cry,
God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.**

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,
Matthew Garrett,
Sybil Marsh, Cathy Miller

CLASS OF 2023: Mary Anne
Bromelmeier, Jenny Conner,
Anne Wombwell deConingh
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,
Liz Shriver, Nick Tomko

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

Loving us still,
God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.

Prayers of the People

*Includes ringing of the Prayer Bell for those impacted by gun violence
(23 more individuals in Cuyahoga County died from gun violence in October)*

Invitation to Offering

Click here to visit the church's online giving page

Prayer of Dedication of 2021 Pledges

Offertory

Keep Your Lamps!

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.
Children don't get weary 'til your work is done.
Christian journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.

Covenant Chancel Choir
arr. André Thomas

Doxology

**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**

OLD HUNDREDTH

****or Creator**

**BELIEVING GOD CALLS US
TO BE PEACEMAKERS**

Since a gunman opened fire at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14, 2012, killing 26 people, 20 of them children; 1,470 people in Cuyahoga County have been killed by guns. Since last month, **23 more individuals** have died by gun violence in Cuyahoga County.

Daniel Morales,
Ledon Allen,
Cameron Jamal Davis,
Michael Jamal Mobley,
Nathaniel Michael
Wilson Jr.,
Wuanya'e Tyree Dozier,
Jonathan Christopher
Jordan,
Jeffrey Peter Addy,
Montelle Jayshon Edgerson,
Zhonta'e D. Woolridge Sr.,
Alexis Millan Jr.,
Xenaujriyah S. Piskac,
Kalvin N. Hamilton,
Frank Green Judge,
John Cleggett IV,
Dwight Staples,
Tobias Tucker-Lamarr
Bogarty,
Devonte Eugene Lashon
Jackson,
Victor M. Sustasic,
Shalamiah Hodiyyah Moore,
Bruce Holland Jr.,
and Ortez R. Littlejohn.

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

Faithful God, in baptism you claimed us;

and by your Spirit you are working in our lives,
empowering us to live a life worthy of our calling.

**We thank you for leading us. to this time and place
reaffirming the covenant you made with baptism.**

Establish us in your truth, and guide us by your Spirit,

that, together with all your people,
may grow in faith, hope, and love,
and be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ,
**to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit
be honor and glory, now and forever.**

Amen.

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,
Amen.**

Charge

Joshua 24:15

"As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

Charles Wesley, 1744 Attr. William Croft, 1708
A Supplement to the New Version of the Psalms, 1708

1. Ye ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim,
2. God rul - eth on high, al - might - y to save;
3. "Sal - va - tion to God, who sits on the throne."
4. Then let us a - dore, and give Him His right,

And pub - lish a - broad His won - der - ful name;
And still He is nigh— His pres - ence we have;
Let all cry a - loud, and hon - or the Son;
All glo - ry and power, all wis - dom and might,

The name all - vic - to - rious of Je - sus ex - tol;
The great con - gre - ga - tion His tri - umph shall sing,
The prais - es of Je - sus the an - gels pro - claim,
All hon - or and bless - ing, with an - gels a - bove,

His king - dom is glo - rious, He rules o - ver all.
As - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus our King.
Fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.
And thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fi - nite love.

Blessing

Philippians 4:7

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Postlude
IV. Dialogue sur les Mixtures (*Suite Brève*)

Jonathan Moyer, organ
Jean Langlais

Carillon Postlude
Skywalk

Isaac Wong
David Cieri
Sydney University

Stewardship ***Ready to Share***

Stewardship Sunday on November 8th

Let us be faithful stewards of our time, our talents, and our money,
so that our treasure is in heaven and our giving pleases God.

*The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it.*

Psalm 24:1

*Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,
and pay your vows to the Most High.*

Psalm 50:14

*Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering,
and come into his courts.
Worship the LORD in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth.*

Psalm 96:8-9

*Let us give thanks to the Lord with all our being.
In the company of the upright,
let us honor God for the blessings and goodness we have received.*

Psalm 111:1

*What shall I return to the LORD for all his bounty to me?
I will give what I have promised in the presence of all God's people.*

Psalm 116:12, 14

Please Note:

The church building is temporarily closed once again due to the Updated COVID-19 Risk Level for Cuyahoga County. Please contact the office for more information.

COVID – 19 SAFETY PROCEDURES**We Are Following the Guidelines of the State of Ohio.**

1. Masks **MUST** be worn while you are in the church building.
2. Wash your hands frequently.
3. Practice Social Distancing – keep six feet apart while in the church building.

We Keep in our Prayers: Thelma Everhart, Jacqueline Hudson, David Keltner, Pat Owen-Keltner, Greg Madison, Reathel McWhorter, Susan Moyer (Jonathan's mother), Gene Papp, Carolyn Perry, George Peters (Michael's father), Mildred Russin, Raymond Tomko (Nick's grandfather), Kim Voss, Julia Wadsworth, Jim Watson, Gabriel (Jenny Conner's grand-nephew) and ALL teachers, students and parents. We pray for those struggling with illness, convalescing, or homebound; patients, family, and staff in our surrounding hospitals.

Believing God Calls Us To be Peacemakers

Since a gunman opened fire at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14, 2012, killing 26 people, 20 of them children; 1,470 people in Cuyahoga County have been killed by guns. Since last month, **23 more individuals** have died by gun violence in Cuyahoga County. The names of those at least 18 years of age are: Daniel Morales, Ledon Allen, Cameron Jamal Davis, Michael Jamal Mobley, Nathaniel Michael Wilson Jr., Wuanya'e Tyree Dozier, Jonathan Christopher Jordan, Jeffrey Peter Addy, Montelle Jayshon Edgerson, Zhonta'e D. Woolridge Sr., Alexis Millan Jr., Xenaujriyah S. Piskac, Calvin N. Hamilton, Frank Green Judge, John Cleggett IV, Dwight Staples, Tobias Tucker-Lamarr Bogarty, Devonte Eugene Lashon Jackson, Victor M. Sustasic, Shalamiah Hodiyyah Moore, Bruce Holland Jr., and Ortez R. Littlejohn. Five of those who died were by suicide, including a twelve year old boy who took his own life with a gun. Go to godbeforeguns.org to see how to become engaged.

Covenant Sunday Coffee Chat, 10:30 am by ZOOM

The Ministry of Faith Formation hosts a virtual coffee fellowship time each week, [CLICK HERE](#) to join us!

The After Church Forum, 11:00 am by ZOOM

Come together in fellowship with young adults, young professionals, and the young-at-heart for opportunities to nourish your spiritual development! The Ministry of Faith Formation will sponsor adult education forums almost every Sunday, beginning at 11:00 am. All are welcome to engage with our Covenant Community as we grow in faith and spirit, together!

This week our very own Rev'd. Bill shares a talk on the history of the translation of the English Bible. [CLICK HERE](#) to join us at 11:00 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: <http://www.covenantweb.org/giving/>

Children's Sunday Zoom Meeting

Last week the children had their first session with Ms. Jenny!! They explored their packets, which included some music staff paper, a pencil and an introduction letter, and talked about words of thankfulness to put into their composition! This month we will continue to work on music creativity and explore the possibilities of self-expression through music. Thank you Ms. Jenny for all the time you are giving to the children through your gift of MUSIC!! *Kaori Hongo*

This Week at Covenant (November 8–November 14)

Sunday: Carillon Concert, McGaffin Carillon, 10 am;

Covenant Sunday Coffee Chat, [Click HERE to join by Zoom](#), 10:30 am;

The After Church Forum, [Click HERE to join via Zoom](#), 11:00 am;

Children's Sunday Zoom Meeting, [Click HERE to join via Zoom](#), 12:00 pm.

Monday: No scheduled activities.

Tuesday: Staff Meeting, by Zoom, 9 am;

Introductory Class for Handbell and Tone Chimes, "Les Cigales" (French for The Cicadas), by Zoom, 11 am.

Wednesday: Women Bible Study, by Zoom, 10 am.

Thursday: Chancel Choir Virtual Rehearsal, by Zoom, 7:30 pm.

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

Saturday: Saturday Tutoring Program, by Zoom, 9 am.

Share Your Thoughts about Covenant Virtual Worship

For the past several months, our church has worked to create virtual spaces for worship. The Ministry of Faith Formation endeavors to learn more about member experiences with these services as we reflect on ways to nourish the spiritual development of our community and of those who may become members of our Covenant Community.

Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts about how you and your family have engaged with our virtual worship services by [completing a short online questionnaire](#). The survey tool will be available through Monday, November 9.

Responses are collected anonymously. The Worship & Music support team will meet to review responses and consider ways to continue to grow faith formation through worship. Thank you!

Covenant Choirs A-LIVE

Are you looking for a singing outlet during the pandemic? Join Covenant Chancel Choir for live, virtual rehearsals and fellowship Thursday evenings this fall, from 7:30-8:30 pm. All are welcome to participate in this unique music making opportunity. Contact the music department for additional information or for the Zoom link to participate: music@covenantweb.org.

iPads & Tablets Needed!

The church is looking for gently used iPads or tablets to donate to shut-in members that would like to enjoy our Virtual Service. If you can help, contact Dennis Matz at dmatz@covenantweb.org

Saturday Tutoring Program News!!

The Fall semester **has begun** and will 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>

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.

Volunteer Opportunity

Reparations Now Cleveland is seeking the volunteer services of either a CPA, accountant or tax attorney to assist this start-up organization in establishing processes and procedures which will ensure, among other things, that all contributions received are properly acknowledged for tax purposes. Covenant member Cassie Denbow serves on their Steering Committee and will connect any potential volunteer(s) with the local Reparations Now Cleveland team members. Contact Cassie at cassie.denbow@gmail.com for further information.

UPCaM – UNITED PROTESTANT CAMPUS MINISTRY

Mission Possible: CWRU's New Physical Resource Center and GRAD Food Bags

Campus ministry continues to be equal parts wonderful and uncharted this fall semester.

While many things require reimagining and even postponement, CWRU students continue to engage remotely and in person.

Late September, undergraduate leaders launched CWRU's new Physical Resource Center (PRC) near Mitchell's Ice Cream and the campus's Northside. Known as the PRC at CWRU, this space is designed by undergraduate leaders for both undergraduate and graduate students to offer students in need non-perishable food, gently-used household items, and clothing.

On October 9, Rev. Shelley Nelson-Bridger and Marta Safko from UPCaM were invited to tour the PRC with student leader, Ronnie Sharangpani. On behalf of Church of the Covenant, we purchased and presented 60 non-perishable items to help begin the PRC's food distribution. To learn more, please visit www.upcam.org and/or email: office@upcam.org.

Shelley Nelson-Bridger, **United Protestant Campus Ministries of Cleveland**

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