

The
**Church of the
Covenant**

Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 13, 2020

Service of Worship
for the Lord's Day

Gathering

The Cragin Peal

Carillon Prelude

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent

David Christensen U of California, Riverside

arr. R. Barnes

Greeting & Announcements

1 Corinthians 1:3

Rev. Bill Hudson

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and
the Lord Jesus Christ.

And also with you.

Prelude

*Trio super Nun komm,
der Heiden Heiland, BWV 660*

(Now come, Savior of the Nations)

Jonathan Moyer organ
Johann Sebastian Bach

Lighting of the Advent Candle Cody Hatfield and Julia Prince Hatfield
Owen and Grady Hatfield

A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

**Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.**

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

Isaiah 40:3-5

**We light this candle as a sign
of our waiting and hope for the coming Christ.**



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.

Opening Prayer

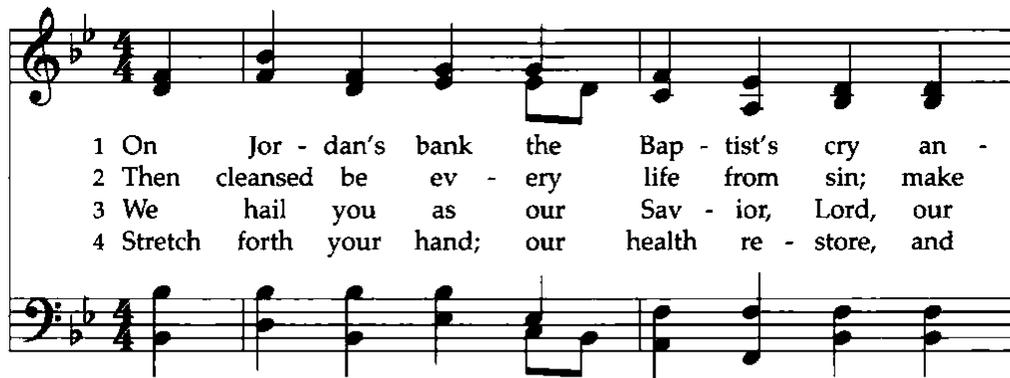
Stir up our hearts, O Lord,
to prepare the way for your only begotten Son.
By his coming give us strength in our conflicts
and shed light on our path through the darkness of our world;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever. Amen.

Gregorian Sacramentary 900 AD

Hymn 96

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

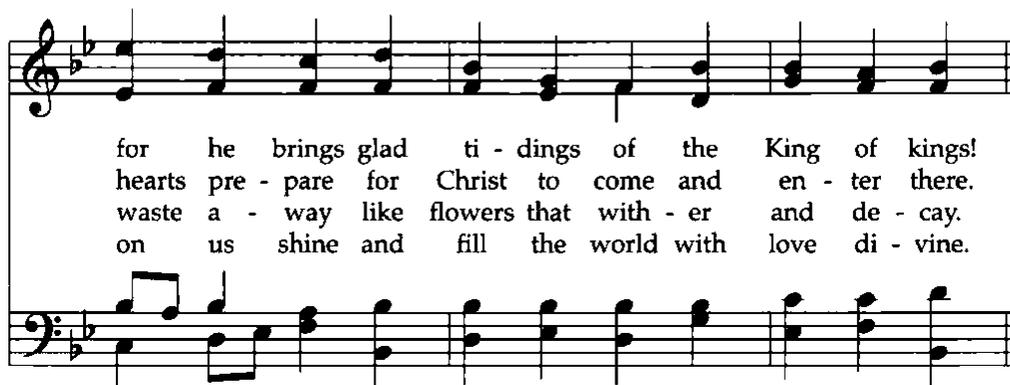
WINCHESTER NEW



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
2 Then cleansed be ev - ery life from sin; make
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our
4 Stretch forth your hand; our health re - store, and



nounc - es that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and hear - en,
straight the way for God with - in, and let us all our
ref - uge and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
make us rise to fall no more. O let your face up -



for he brings glad ti - dings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.

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](#).

TODAY

10:00 Carillon Concert
McGaffin Carillon

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

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

WHY THE PINK CANDLE?

The 3rd Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday.

The term is derived from the Latin opening words of the introit antiphon, "Rejoice (Gaudete) in the Lord always"

(1 Thessalonians 5:16).

The theme of the day expresses the goal of faith is one of Joy and in anticipation at the Advent of Christ at Bethlehem and Christ's 2nd Coming at the end of time.

This custom is reflected by the practice of including a pink or rose-colored candle among the four candles of an Advent wreath.

This hymn shows how once-unconnected parts can work together. The text about John the Baptist was written in Latin in the 18th century and translated into English in the 19th century. Similarly, the 17th-century melody was adapted to its present form in the 19th century.

TEXT: Charles Coffin, 1736; trans. John Chandler, 1837, alt.
MUSIC: *Musikalisches Handbuch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk, 1847, alt.

WINCHESTER NEW
LM
(alternate tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR)

Prayer of Confession

Carol Roe, *Liturgist*

**God of glory,
you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world,
to reveal your love for all people.**

**We confess that our sin and pride
hide the brightness of your light.**

**We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice;
we do not strive for peace.**

**In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin,
and baptize us once again with the fire of your Spirit,
that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth
your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Silent Confession of Sin

Kyrie (Responsorial)
from *Missa Emmanuel*

Covenant Chancel Choir
Richard Proulx

Lord, have mercy. (choir then congregation)
Christ, have mercy. (choir then congregation)
Lord, have mercy. (choir then congregation)

Declaration of Pardon

Isaiah 61:10

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for God has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
**God has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.**

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Gloria refrain from *Angels We Have Heard on High*

GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.

**OUR LAY WORSHIP
LEADER is Carol Roe.**

Carol came to the Covenant by way of a former Dean at CWRU Nursing school. When your Dean, Janetta MacPhail invites you to her church where she serves as an Elder, it's a good idea to accept. Carol is also an attorney, lives in Cleveland Heights and is former Mayor of that City. She has served in numerous roles at Covenant. Something you may not know is she did try skydiving.

**DUE TO THE
UPDATED COVID-19
RISK LEVEL FOR
CUYAHOGA COUNTY,
PLEASE CALL THE
OFFICE TO SCHEDULE
AN APPOINTMENT.**

216-421-0482

ENCOUNTER

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

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!

Sacred Word מְשַׁח - maw·shakh – anoint Isaiah 61:1

Time for Young Disciples

Trustee Nancy Smekal

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.*

The Word

Prayer of Illumination

Psalm 119:105

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

Prophets

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Holy wisdom, holy Word. **Thanks be to God!**

Canticle

Luke 1:46b-55

The Song of Mary

Magnificat

Setting by Betty Carr Pulkingham

All are invited to sing the refrain.

Refrain:

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.**

CONTACT

LEADERSHIP

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Transitional Pastor,
Head of Staff
whudson@covenantweb.org

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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

Cantor:

From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. **Refrain**

He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly. **Refrain.**

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy, The promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever. **Refrain.**

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Holy wisdom, holy Word. **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Lesson

John 1:6-8, 19-28

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

Sermon

Shining Shoes

Rev. Bill Hudson

A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God.

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.**

Background to The Brief Statement of Faith.

In 1983, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) was formed by the reunion of the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America and the Presbyterian Church in the United States. Integral to reunion was the preparation of a brief statement of faith.

The committee drew extensively on the documents in the Book of Confessions and on Scripture for its formulations, and arranged them within a trinitarian framework. The Brief Statement of Faith (statement) is distinctive in several respects. The Brief Statement of Faith emphasizes gender-inclusiveness. It underscores the role of both men and women in God's covenant, uses feminine as well as masculine imagery of God, and affirms ordination of both women and men. The statement also expresses concern for the integrity of God's creation. Affirming at its beginning that "In life and death we belong to God" (10.1, line 1) and, at its end, that "nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord." The Brief Statement concludes liturgically with the church's familiar doxology of praise and thanksgiving.

God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Alleluia

349 vs 1

All are invited to sing the first stanza.

Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us;
the shout of rampart guards surrounds us:
"Awake, Jerusalem, arise!"

Midnight's peace their cry has broken,
their urgent summons clearly spoken:
"The time has come, O maidens wise!

Rise up, and give us light;
the Bridegroom is in sight.

Alleluia!

Your lamps prepare and hasten there,
that you the wedding feast may share."

Prayers Against Gun Violence

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

Prayers of the People

We pray to the Lord –
Come, Lord Jesus

Invitation to Offering

Click here to visit the church's online giving page

Offertory

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Covenant Handbell Quartet

M. Praetorius, arr. R. Groth

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; 1,502 people in Cuyahoga County have been killed by guns. Since last month, **32 more individuals** have died by gun violence in Cuyahoga County.

Ronald L. Davis,
Debra Lynn Szasz,
Edward Lawson,
Richard Harrison Burnett,
Anne Marie Stewart,
Maurice Patterson,
Malcom Jamal Foster,
Alexander H. Somers,
Matthew J. Kimmie Jr.,
Alexander Quincy Jamieson,
Douglas Eugene Rash,
Marreon Stevenson-Bey,
Javon Edward Wells,
Anzalalyah Ebusan Brooks,
Mason A. Davis,
Anthony W. Lance,
Katie Elizabeth Brown,
Omar Jehide Crosby,
Arthur Keith,
Aisha Zahara Payne,
Quintin Phillips,
Zay'Veontae S. Jones,
Herbert Landon,
Byron Vincent Gorman,
Jeffrey Scott Williamson,
William Lane,
Gregory P. Sutton Jr.,
Derrick A. Smith,
Bryan Serrano,
Charles Calvin Federe,
and Marissa Robertson.

**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**

The Eucharist

Invitation to the Table

Come to this table:
you who have much faith,
and you who would like to have more;
you who have been to this sacrament often,
and you who have not been for a long time;
you who have tried to follow Jesus,
and you who have failed.
Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.
Holy God, Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. . .

. . . who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Sanctus (Responsorial)
from *Missa Emmanuel*

Covenant Chancel Choir
Richard Proulx

Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and God of might.
(cantor then congregation)
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. (choir then congregation)
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. (choir then congregation)

. . . to live for him in joy and grateful praise.

SESSION

Deni Horstman,
Clerk of Session,
clerk@covenantweb.org

CLASS OF 2021: Barb Clint,
Theodis Fipps, Dale Goode,
Chris Langmack,
Cindy Szafranec

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

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CLASS OF 2021: Lucy Matz,
Ryan Szafranec,
Janet Takeyama,
Erin Tomko, Kate Williams

CLASS OF 2022: Ronnie
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Nancy Matz, Sue Prince,
Liz Shriver, Nick Tomko

CLASS OF 2023: Tom Denbow,
Joan Drushel, Julie Mailey,
Nicole Murray,
Norma Shuskey,
Paul Williams

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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

Agnus Dei (Responsorial)
from *Missa Emmanuel*

Covenant Chancel Choir
Richard Proulx

Jesus, wisdom and mighty Lord: you take away
the sins of the world, have mercy on us, **have mercy on us.**

Jesus, true branch of Jesse's tree: you take away
the sins of the world, have mercy on us, **have mercy on us.**

Key of David and Day-spring from on high: you take away
the sins of the world, have mercy on us, **have mercy on us.**

Desire of nations, our Emmanuel: you take away
the sins of the world, grant us peace, **grant us peace.**

. . . Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us pour
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine. . .

*Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours,
almighty God,
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,**

Congregational Amen

AMEN VENI EMMANUEL

All are invited to sing.



A - men, A - - - men, A - - - - - men.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Virtual Communion will take place today. As part of the service, communion will be celebrated and we invite you to participate. Preparing for communion means for you to place bread of your choice on a plate and have a partially filled cup of unfermented or fermented juice for each of you. A short liturgy includes the words of institution at which time Rev. Hudson will invite you to partake of the bread followed by drinking of the cup. A short musical interlude is played to give you time to partake of the elements and to reflect on the Lord's Supper.

Breaking of the Bread

Prayer After Communion

**Eternal God,
you sent John the Baptist
to prepare the way for the coming of your Son.
Grant us the wisdom to see your purpose
and openness to hear your will,
that we too may prepare the way for Christ
who is coming in power and glory
to establish his kingdom of peace and justice;
through Jesus Christ our Judge and our Redeemer,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever. Amen.**

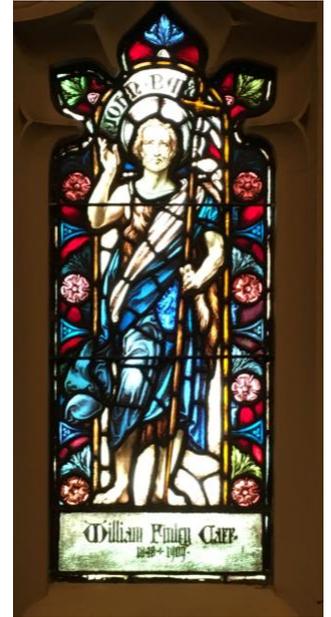
Sending

Charge

1 Thessalonians 5:16–23

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets,
but test everything; hold fast to what is good;
abstain from every form of evil.
May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely;
and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless
at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

JOHN THE BAPTIST, Jesus' cousin, is wearing the hair shirt and other rough garb in which he lived in the wilderness on locust and wild honey (Matthew 3:1-4).



SEND

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

Capo 3: (Bm) Dm (G) B^b (D) F (Bm) Dm (C) E^b

1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and
 2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on
 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard
 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim, with

(G) B^b (F[#]) A (G) B^b (D) F (E^m) G^m

trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly
 earth he stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man
 on the way, as the Light of light de -
 sleep - less eye, veil their fac - es to the

(Bm) Dm (C) E^b (G) B^b (D) F

mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
 ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,
 scend - eth from the realms of end - less day,
 pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,

(B) D (E^m) G^m (Bm) Dm (A) C

Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth,
 he will give to all the faith - ful
 that the powers of hell may van - ish
 "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

(Bm) Dm (E^m) G^m (F^{#m}) Am (Bm) Dm

our full hom - age to de - mand.
 his own self for heaven - ly food.
 as the shad - ows clear a - way.
 al - le - lu - ia, Lord most high!"

The flowering of English hymnody in the 19th century included the rediscovery, translation, and versification of ancient Christian hymns, such as this text from one of the earliest existing Christian liturgies. It is set here to an adaptation of a 17th-century French melody.

*May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.
Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.*

Postlude

Wachet auf ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645

Jonathan Moyer, organ
Johann Sebastian Bach

Carillon Postlude

Fugue in G

G. F. Handel
David Christensen University of California, Riverside

Please Note:

The church building is temporarily closed once again due to the Updated COVID-19 Risk Level for Cuyahoga County. Most of the staff will be working from home starting on 11/30. Willie Howard will be in the office Tuesday–Friday and can be reached by phone at 216-280-5296. The custodial staff will be in the building Monday – Friday from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm. 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: Carrie Arden, Jim Bishop, Thelma Everhart, 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, Arthur Tiroly, 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.

We Celebrate with organist and associate music director Dr. Jonathan Moyer, on the occasion of being awarded tenure and promotion to associate professor at Oberlin College & Conservatory. Congratulations, Jonathan!

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; 1,502 people in Cuyahoga County have been killed by guns. Since last month, **an astounding 32 more individuals** have died by gun violence in Cuyahoga County. The names of those at least 18 years of age are: Ronald L. Davis, Debra Lynn Szasz, Edward Lawson, Richard Harrison Burnett, Anne Marie Stewart, Maurice Patterson, Malcom Jamal Foster, Alexander H. Somers, Matthew J. Kimmie Jr., Alexander Quincy Jamieson, Douglas Eugene Rash, Marreon Stevenson-Bey, Javon Edward Wells, Anzalalyah Ebusan Brooks, Mason A. Davis, Anthony W. Lance, Katie Elizabeth Brown, Omar Jehide Crosby, Arthur Keith, Aisha Zahara Payne, Quintin Phillips, Zay'Veontae S. Jones, Herbert Landon, Byron Vincent Gorman, Jeffrey Scott Williamson, William Lane, Gregory P. Sutton Jr., Derrick A. Smith, Bryan Serrano, Charles Calvin Federe, and Marissa Robertson. Ten of those who died were by suicide. 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!

Children's Sunday Zoom Meeting

Greetings from the Children's Corner! On 12/6 we had seven young people. We talked about the season of Advent and how we can prepare for the coming of Jesus. Mrs. Williams led the craft time where the children created a paper lantern to decorate their room. We also went into breakout rooms and practiced our lines for the pageant!! Dec. 20 is Pageant Sunday and the children are working hard on different activities for this year's very different pageant. ***Kaori Hongo***

Daily Advent Reading Videos

Dear Friends, please join us as we read the Bible through the season of Advent together. Jenny Conner has created a beautiful Advent Calendar with special Bible readings to go with every day. If you are able, please print this out and color each day as you read the passage. Kaori Hongo will be reading each passage and will post it on the Church Facebook page. They will also be posted on the front page of the church's website!

Many blessings for this very important season.

[Advent Reading Calendar](#)

Share Christmas Photos of Covenant Community for our virtual Christmas Eve Service

We will celebrate the families of the Covenant Community during the candle lighting element of our virtual Christmas Eve service. Dr. Jennifer Conner has offered to pair our traditional arrangement of *Stille Nacht/Silent Night* with a photo collage of congregant families from this or a past Christmas season. Folks might also consider a picture including a candle, for this particular carol. For additional information or to share a digital photograph, please contact faithformation@covenantweb.org.

Ministry of Faith Formation Meeting Monday, December 14 at 7:00 pm, ALL ARE WELCOME!

Join MoFF by ZOOM to discuss virtual worship service opportunities in 2021. We will also take time for Children/Youth and Adult Christian education support team updates, as we finalize programming for 2021. [CLICK HERE](#) or contact Elder Matthew Garrett for the Zoom meeting link and for additional information: faithformation@covenantweb.org.

Upcoming Book Discussion

The Ministry of Faith Formation will be sponsoring three Adult Education Forums, starting in January, discussing Isabel Wilkerson's book, *Caste*. Hugh Burtner will be the leader. Members are encouraged to get on library lending lists now. You might also consider supporting a local bookseller by making a purchase online. Loganberry Bookstore in Shaker Heights and Appletree Books in Cedar/Fairmount can help you with orders by phone or online, and books will ship to your home. Contact faithformation@covenantweb.org if you need help getting a copy.

Covenant Choirs A-LIVE Christmas & Advent

Are you looking for a singing outlet during the Advent & Christmas seasons? Join Covenant Chancel Choir for live, virtual rehearsals and fellowship Thursday evenings, from 7:30-8:30 pm, through December 17. Contact the music department for additional information or for the Zoom link to participate: music@covenantweb.org.

This Week at Covenant (December 13–December 19)

Sunday: Carillon Concert, McGaffin Carillon, 10 am;

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

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

Monday: Ministry of Faith Formation Meeting, [Click HERE to join by Zoom](#), 7:00 pm.

Tuesday: Staff Meeting, by Zoom, 9 am;

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

Trustee Meeting, by Zoom, 7pm.

Wednesday: Ministry of Service Meeting, by Zoom, 6 pm;

Session Meeting, by Zoom, 7 pm.

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

Friday: Food Pantry, Tower Door, 10 am.

Saturday: No scheduled activities

Reminder:

The church food pantry is open **ONCE** for the month of December.

The date is **THIS** Friday, December 18th.

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.

2020 Giving Trees Information

In past years, the Deacons have planned multiple events to connect Covenant members to the neighborhood surrounding our church. We as Deacons want to continue the spirit of these past events while following the Ohio Stay Safe Guidelines. One of these groups is the Cleveland School of the Arts. We have been in contact with Renee Dibiasio, and Christmas Giving Tree for Cleveland School of the Arts is still on for this year! Click the PDF link below, and let Erin Tomko know which items you've chosen (ebak23@gmail.com or (440) 552-9795). You may also send Erin money via mail or electronically via Venmo @Erin-Tomko. The last four digits of her phone number, if needed for Venmo, are 9795.

CSA Giving Tree List

Another of these groups is the Ernest J. Bohn Center of the Benjamin Rose Institute On Aging. The Deacons are also happy to say that the Christmas Giving Tree for this senior community is still on for this year! There are 37 seniors in our neighborhood who have selected gift cards, some of whom may otherwise go without any Christmas present. If you would like to participate in this Deacons sponsored program, first please pick a person in the PDF below and then purchase a \$25 gift card at either Dave's Market or Walmart. Let Nancy Matz know which name you've chosen (nmatz@att.net or (216) 621-6366).

You could put your gift card into a signed Christmas card and send by December 10th to either Dennis Matz at the church office or Nancy Matz at 340 Claymore Blvd, Richmond Hts., OH 44143.

Ernest Bohn Center Giving Tree List

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/>

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

UPCaM – UNITED PROTESTANT CAMPUS MINISTRY

Student Ministries December Spotlight

A CWRU Food Pantry

This December and January, a select number of CWRU undergraduates and graduates will remain on-campus or living nearby. To address concerns of food insecurity these students may experience and public health mandates, CWRU and Rev. Shelley Nelson-Bridger created a temporary pick-up and go food pantry. Students will pre-register for a box provided by Church of the Covenant. The pick-up location is the Thwing Student Center. To learn more about food insecurity on college campuses and our programs, contact Shelley at office@upcam.org.

UPCaM's Advent Lessons & Carols

Celebrate Advent with this pre-recorded devotional created by UPCaM, CWRU students studying remotely and two friends from Cleveland Institute of Music. Enjoy a beautiful hymn recorded in a treasured, sacred space. This virtual offering of UPCaM's is now sharable, learn more at www.upcam.org.

[Watch the video here!](#)

Campus Ministry Spotlight: Thanksgiving Meals for Graduate Students

On Wednesday, November 25, 60 meals were provided to CWRU graduate students by Church of the Covenant and CWRU's Office of Graduate Student Life (GSL). These students were identified by Assoc. Director of GSL Jenn Brown. Thanks to Barb Clint's leadership and recommendation, delicious to-go meals were catered by the newly reopened Falafel Cafe. Falafel Cafe owner, Mae Ellassal was extremely thankful for Covenant's support and patronage; since reopening this March business has been challenged by the pandemic. Mae welcomes everyone to Falafel Cafe, and last Wednesday, she invited Shelley Nelson-Bridger to assist in the meal distribution and visit students who enjoyed this gift of distanced dining.

Here's a word of thanks shared by one student, Kai W.: *Thank you both, the Church of the Covenant and the Case Office of Graduate Student Life so much for organizing this Thanksgiving dinner for students. I just wanted to let you know that I and all my fellow students appreciate this kind gesture during these crazy and uncertain times. I hope you and your family have a wonderful Thanksgiving- whether loved ones are near or far. God bless!*

Rev. Shelley Nelson-Bridger
Executive Director/Campus Minister

United Protestant Campus Ministries of Cleveland



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