

Lenten Worship Banners

Ron Boozer, Anna Ferone, Katherine Roehrig, Anne White, Anne McQuiston, Katherine Richey, Cheryl McLawhorn, Katherine Lawson

The silk banners displayed in the sanctuary were created by members of the worship arts team during a weekend arts retreat with artist Lisle Gwynn Garrity. Working from the scriptures chosen for the six Sundays in Lent, the team collaborated to visually proclaim themes and images found in the scriptures as a whole. In their study, they discerned an overall theme of the duality of sin and grace, highlighting that our journey into the wilderness brings us through valleys that expose the depth of our pain and brokenness, while also guiding us to triumphant peaks where we are transformed by God's grace. Each banner explores different facets of our journey into the wilderness.

"Ripples" (right front; pulpit side): Inspired by the image of ripples expanding across the surface of water, this banner considers the ripple effect of our actions and the consequential power of our decisions. David's sinful actions toward Bathsheba impel him to follow up with more harm, creating a cycle of murder and destruction—a cycle we see continuing into the lives of his children Tamar, Amnon, and Absalom. Our actions aren't just our own—they ripple out, affecting others for better or for worse.

"Crowd Psychology" (right middle; pulpit side): Separated by a colorful robe (representing Joseph's robe and the coats laid down for Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem), smiling faces at the top of this banner quickly transform into masks of anger and hatred below. Excitement and condemnation are equally contagious in crowds—how will we be affected by the mentality of the mobs?

"From Mourning to Dancing" (right back; pulpit side): This banner depicts figures dancing with ribbons and mourning with shrouds, symbolizing the totality of emotions we encounter in our journey through the wilderness. A silver shadow outlines each figure, representing how we all experience periods of grief. When we dance, we carry the pain of the past with us. Through dancing in the light of God's grace, we can overcome the shadows of mourning.

"Pointed Fingers to Open Hands" (left front; lectern side): The devil points a finger of temptation at Jesus while testing him in the wilderness. Joseph's brothers cast him into slavery. David orchestrates the death of Uriah. Absalom commands his servants to murder Amnon. The chants of the crowd in Jerusalem quickly turn from "Hosanna," to "Crucify him!" once Pontius Pilate condemns Jesus to death. In our journey through Lent, we see stories of pointed fingers and closed fists. When we consider how to engage with one another today, may our posture be one of open hands instead of hatred, jealousy, judgement, and rage.

"Broken Symbols" (left middle; lectern side): This banner is a meditation on the disorientation and chaos we feel when confronting our own brokenness and sin in the wilderness. Traditional Christian symbols—bread, fish, shells, and a dove—are broken and scattered. As a viewer, we immediately want to pair the halves together to make sense of the chaos, to find wholeness in the broken disorder. This disorientation mirrors our current experience of seeking wholeness in the midst of the brokenness and chaos we see in the world.

"Journey into the Wilderness" (left back; lectern side): We begin our Lenten journey with Jesus in the wilderness as he is tempted and tested by the devil. For 40 days we will confront the challenges and triumphs of being shaped anew for faithful discipleship. Every step forward can transform us for good if we walk in the light of God's grace.

WELCOME TO COVENANT

Join us for fellowship and refreshments in the Circle, where today's preaching minister will be glad to greet you. You also may learn more about our life of faith together at our website or on Facebook.

Interested in joining Covenant? We welcome new members every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in the Parlor, located downstairs in the Sanctuary building. We also welcome new members on the 4th Sunday of each month in the Fellowship Hall Library at 12 p.m.

Each Sunday, we offer education and fellowship opportunities in the mornings and evenings for children, youth and adults in the Education Wing and Fellowship Hall. Please see the digital signs for details.

Each Sunday, Covenant expects and gladly welcomes many first-time and repeat visitors. By introducing yourself and sharing a warm greeting, you express the hospitality of our congregation. Please share a smile and welcoming word with those around you.

CONGREGATIONAL NOTES

Birth

Congratulations to Courtney and Daniel Peterson who celebrated the birth of their daughter, Caroline Jane Peterson, on April 9

In Need of Healing Prayer

Carlyle Hill

Roy Joslin

Helen King

Katherine Lawson

Bill Meanor

Arthur Morehead

John Ramsey – CMC Pineville Rehab
(no visitors, please - cards only)

Amy Sullivan

Bob Taylor

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|--|------------------------------|
| 1. 1996, T. Autumn Music Universal Music - Z | 4. 1995, World Entertainment |
| Songs | 5. 1997, Bmg Special Product |
| 2. 2009, ABKCO | 6. 1998, Pilot Point Music |
| 3. 2003, Thankyou Music | |

This worship service is being streamed via the Internet and video recorded for online viewing.

♻️ If you would not like to keep this bulletin, please recycle it in the bins located in the narthex.



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EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE OF WORSHIP

April 16, 2017

9:30 a.m.

SANCTUARY

Covenant Presbyterian is a dynamic Christian community that gladly invites all people into a transformational experience of faith; boldly proclaims the gospel, bravely works toward a whole and just world, and passionately nurtures discipleship.

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Easter Sunday, April 16, 2017 9:30 a.m.

Welcome to Covenant, we are glad you are here. Children are always welcome in worship. Child care and children's programs (ages 6 weeks to fifth grade) are offered in the Education Wing. Infant soothing rooms with live video of the worship service are available in the balcony and parlor. See an usher for assistance.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Total Praise R. Smallwood¹

Lord I will lift mine eyes to the hills
Knowing my help is coming from you
Your peace you give me in time of the storm
You are the source of my strength
You are the strength of my life
I lift my hands in total praise to you Amen

Heroes T. Murray

A Change is Gonna Come S. Cooke²

I was born by the river in a little tent
Oh, and just like the river I've been running ever since
It's been a long, a long time coming
But I know a change gon' come, oh yes it will
It's been too hard living, but I'm afraid to die
Cause I don't know what's up there beyond the sky
It's been a long, a long time coming
But I know a change gon' come, oh yes it will
I go to the movie and I go down town
Somebody keep telling me don't hang around
Its been a long, a long time coming
But I know a change gon' come, oh yes it will
Then I go to my brother
And I say, "Brother, help me please."
But he winds up knockin' me
Back down on my knees
There been times when I thought I couldn't last for long
But now I think I'm able to carry on
It's been a long, a long time coming
But I know a change gon' come, oh yes it will

Call to Worship Luke 24: 1-6

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today C. Wesley, J.J. Bankson

*Resurrection Hymn K. Getty, S. Townend³

*Prayer of Adoration

* You are invited to rise in body or spirit

PRACTICES OF DISCIPLESHIP

Litany of New Life

Liturgist: O God, our plans and priorities do not always make space for your interruptions.

People: Have mercy on us.

Liturgist: We are accustomed to death and disappointment. We are well acquainted with cynicism and disillusionment.

People: We are slow to believe your good news. We are scarred by false hopes.

Liturgist: We confess our lack of trust, our limited vision, our uneasy comfort with what we know.

People: We believe. Help our unbelief.

Liturgist: O God, you have created us for covenant keeping.

People: You have created us for resurrection spotting.

Liturgist: You have created us to live your Easter good news with everything we've got.

People: Engage and embrace us Lord,
and equip us to live as a people
shaped by your voice, your hope, your reign.
Amen.

Assurance of Grace

A Time with Young Disciples

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. Amen.

Listen God Is Calling Kenyan tune⁶

(Sung first by the worship team, then by all)



Offering

Hallelujah from Handel's Messiah: A Soulful Celebration

arr. M. Warren, M.O. Jackson, M. Kibble⁴

GOD'S WORD READ AND PROCLAIMED

Scripture Reading

John 20: 11-18 New Testament, p. 108

Sermon

"Life as Devious as Death" Bob Henderson

*Ob Happy Day E. Hawkins⁵

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*Invitation and Benediction

*Jesus O What A Wonderful King . . . K. Bible, T. Fettke arr. E. Bridges

Jesus Jesus, O what a wonderful king
Jesus Jesus, new life to us he brings
He lived and died and rose again
Freed us from our every sin
Glory, glory, glory to the risen King

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Leading Worship this Morning: Bob Henderson, senior minister; Jessica Patchett, associate minister; Daniel Heath, contemporary worship leader; John Hairr, usher team leader

Singing: Phyllis Fulton, LaVita Hill, Mollie James, Lauren Osga, Ben Powell

Instrumentalists: Jerard Benson (bass), Paul Fisher (percussion), Phil Koonce (acoustic guitar), Ben Thomas (keyboard), Charlie Trexler (electric guitar), Zeb Harrison and the Sounds of Praise

Sound and Visuals: Jacob Crain (projections), Cleveland Elam (video), Dave Welchman (audio)

Flowers in the Sanctuary: Given to the glory of the risen Lord and in loving memory of Pauline and Ralph Delk, Virginia and Norman Brauer, and Ruth and Paul Manz by Mary & Phil Delk

Leading Other Services

Joan Watson, associate minister; Evan Amo, pastoral resident Jen Christianson, pastoral resident; John Richardson, director of traditional music; Rob Dicks, assistant director of traditional music; Carolyn Lohr, carillonneur

Cover Image "The Resurrection" from Covenant's apse window: Jesus steps triumphant from the tomb on Easter morning bearing the wounds of our transgressions, pointing upward to God, and carrying the flag of the Church triumphant. The angel who rolled back the stone appears like lightning. A kneeling soldier on Jesus' left holds the down-turned sword of judgment. The kneeling soldier on Jesus' right hand holds the upright spear of sovereignty symbolizing the transfer of mystical power that occurred with the Resurrection from the dead.