

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.

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 (AS OF APRIL 6)

In Memoriam

Elizabeth W. Boyd
Elder Emerita & Charter Member
August 8, 1927 – March 30, 2017

Death in the Church

The congregation extends its sincere sympathy and love to Elizabeth and Page Stallings, on the death of his mother, and Liza and Clare Stallings on the death of their grandmother, Patsy Edgerton Way of North Myrtle Beach, SC on March 29, 2017 and rejoices with them in the assurance of the resurrection.

Births

Congratulations to Jessica and Seth Strickland (and big brothers Jackson and Alexander) on the birth of their daughter, Avery Ann Strickland, on March 25; and to

Amanda and Matt Isaacs (and big sister Emma) on the birth of their son, Benjamin Finley Isaacs, on April 3

In Need of Healing Prayer

Carlyle Hill, Roy Joslin
Helen King, Katherine Lawson
Arthur Morehead, Amy Sullivan
Bob Taylor

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|---|---|
| 1. John Wilbur Chapman Mark Hall Michael Bleecker. 2009, My Refuge Music Sony/ATV Tree Publishing Word Music, LLC | 4. 1987, Augsburg Fortress |
| 2. 1991, JaTawn Publishing/BMI | 5. 2012, Kerrion Publishing |
| 3. 2012, Chilkoot Music Open Hands Music Sony/ATV Timber Publishing Sony/ATV Tree Publishing | 6. 1982, Full Armor Publishing Company Whole Armor Publishing Company |
| | 7. 1998, Blix Street Records, Inc. |

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.

Covenant Presbyterian Church

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www.covenantpresby.org



SERVICE OF WORSHIP
Palm Sunday, April 9, 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

Palm Sunday, April 9, 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

Swing Low (instrumental)

Glorious Day (Living He Loved Me) J. Chapman, et al¹

Jesus Is Real J.P. Kee²

Welcome & Announcements

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

*It Is Well (Oh My Soul) B. Heath, J. Ingram³

*All Glory, Laud and Honor

*Prayer of Adoration

PRACTICES OF DISCIPLESHIP

Call to Confession

I Want Jesus To Walk With Me . . . African American Spiritual
(Sung first by the worship team, then by all)

I want Jesus to walk with me
I want Jesus to walk with me
All along my pilgrim journey
I want Jesus to walk with me

(prayer response)

I want Jesus to walk with me
I want Jesus to walk with me

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

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 tune⁴

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

Musical notation for the song 'Listen God Is Calling'. It consists of two staves of music in G major. The first staff has the lyrics 'Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,'. The second staff has the lyrics 'of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort, and joy. joy.'

Offering

Don't Cry K. Franklin⁵

Why do you cry
He has risen
Why are you weeping
He's not dead

He paid it all on that lonely highway
His anointing I can feel
He shed his blood
For my transgressions
And by his stripes
We are healed

So as you go through life's journey
Don't you worry lift up your head
Don't you cry no
Stop your weeping
He has risen
He's not dead

Don't cry wipe your eyes
He's not dead
Oh don't weep
He's not asleep
Jehovah He's not dead

GOD'S WORD READ AND PROCLAIMED

Scripture Reading

Luke 19: 29-40 New Testament, p. 78

Sermon

Everybody Loves a Parade, Until... Bob Henderson

*Sanctuary J.W. Thompson, R. Scruggs⁶

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*Invitation and Benediction

*How Can I Keep From Singing Arr. E. Cassidy⁷

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Leading Worship this Morning

Bob Henderson, senior minister
Jessica Patchett, associate minister
Daniel Heath, contemporary worship leader
Sally Graves, usher team leader

Singing

Katherine Balas, Jeff Cox, Phil Koonce, Camilya Thompson,
Voices of Eden Gospel Choir (UNCC) founded and directed
by Zaach Eastrada-Petersen

Instrumentalists

Doug Bacon (flute), Jerard Benson (bass), Paul Fisher
(percussion), Phil Koonce (acoustic guitar), Charlie Trexler
(electric guitar)

Audio and Visuals

Cleveland Elam (video), Ricko Hill (sound),
Natasha Johnson (projections)

Leading Other Services

Joan Watson, associate minister
Jen Christianson, pastoral resident
John Richardson, director of traditional music and principal
organist
Rob Dicks, assistant director of traditional music
Burton Mackey, carillonneur

Note to Parents: During the school year, Sunday School is offered in the Education Wing for preschool and elementary aged children at 9:30 a.m. Child care will be offered on the First Floor during 11 a.m. services; elementary aged children may go to the Kindergarten room (EW120).

While ostensibly based on Elijah's ascent into heaven (2 Kings 2:11), this African American spiritual communicates enslaved people's hope of freedom. During Jesus' final week, Jesus knew his approaching wilderness experience would mean freedom for all.

Don't Cry reminds us of the prophecy that Jesus will be raised to life (Mark 9:31) and the promise that we too will experience resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:51-55)

* You are invited to rise in body or spirit