

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): 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): 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): 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): 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): 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): 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 MARCH 16)

In Memoriam

Marjorie (Margie) L. Arnold
April 28, 1926 – March 14, 2017

A memorial service will be held April 29, at 2 p.m. in the Chapel. The congregation extends its sincere sympathy and love to the family of Margie Arnold and rejoices with them in the assurance of the resurrection.

In Need of Healing Prayer

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

If the overhead lights in the Sanctuary seem dimmer today, it's not your imagination. We are working to resolve an electrical issue as soon as possible.

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|---|----------------------------|
| 1. 1953, publisher - Unichappel Music, Inc. | 4. 1987, Augsburg Fortress |
| 2. 2000, sixsteps Music worshiptogether.com songs | 5. 2012, Glassnote Records |
| 3. 2010, amos Publishing Windsor Hill Music West Main Music Sony/ATV Timber Publishing worshiptogether.com songs SHOUT! Music Publishing sixsteps 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.



1000 E. Morehead Street • Charlotte, North Carolina, 28204 • 704.333.9071
www.covenantpresby.org



SERVICE OF WORSHIP
Sunday, March 19, 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

Sunday, March 19, 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

Lead Me, Guide Me (instrumental) D. Akers¹

We Have Come Into The Lord's House

Give Us Clean Hands C. Hall²

Welcome & Announcements

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

**I Will Follow* C. Tomlin, J. Ingram, R. Morgan³

**Lead Me, Guide Me* D. Akers¹

Children of The Covenant

A Welcome and Prayer of Adoration & Thanksgiving

Hymn 306 (*seated, verses 1-2*)

Blest Be the Tie That Binds DENNIS

Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love.

The fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.

Before our Maker's throne
we pour our ardent prayers.

Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.

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)

Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,
of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort, and joy. joy.

Minute for Ministry

Summer Camp Buddies Michelle Nebrig

Offering

Lover's Eyes Mumford & Sons⁵

Well love was kind for a time
Now just aches and it makes me blind
This mirror holds my eyes too bright
I can't see the others in my life

We're we too young
And heads too strong to bear the weight
of these lover's eyes.

'Cause I feel numb beneath your tongue
Beneath the curse of these lover's eyes

But do not ask the price I paid
I must live with my quiet rage
Tame the ghosts in my head
That run wild and wish me dead
Should you shake my ash to the wind
Lord forget all of my sins
Oh let me die where I lie
Neath the curse of my lover's eyes '

Cause there's no drink or drug I've tried
To rid the curse of these lover's eyes
And I feel numb beneath your tongue
Your strength just makes me feel less strong

And I'll walk slow
Take my hand help me on my way.

* You are invited to rise in body or spirit

GOD'S WORD READ AND PROCLAIMED

Scripture Reading

II Samuel 11:1-15. Old Testament, p. 271

Sermon

Portrait of Betrayal Joan Watson

Sermon Series: Journeys In The Wilderness

**Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus*. H.H. Lemmel⁹

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*Invitation and Benediction

**Guide My Feet* Spiritual

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Leading Worship this Morning

Joan Watson, associate minister

Bob Henderson, senior minister

Daniel Heath, contemporary worship leader

John Hairr, usher team leader

Singing

Jessica Hindman, Cheryl Hoover, Phil Koonce,

Ginny Magrath

Instrumentalists

Tim Gordon (saxophone), Pam Jepsen (saxophone),

Phil Koonce (guitars), Ben Thomas (keyboard), Justin

Wherry (percussion & mandolin)

Audio and Visuals

Cleveland Elam (video), Nisa Kibona (projections),

Dave Welchman (audio)

Leading Other Services

Evan Amo, pastoral resident

Rob Dicks, assistant director of traditional music

Grady Moseley, parish associate

Jessica Patchett, associate minister

John Richardson, director of traditional music

and principal organist

Sherry Ward, carillonneur

Flowers in the Sanctuary

Given to the glory of God and in celebration of the marriage
of Hillary Jones and John Ash on Saturday, March 18

Note to Parents: During the school year, Sunday School is offered in the Ed 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).