

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 MARCH 23)

In Memoriam

Joseph E. Franzle

March 20, 2017

A memorial service will be held this Wednesday in the Chapel at 11:30 a.m.

Susan B. Pearce

Elder

August 16, 1938 - March 23, 2017

Welcome New Members

Join us in welcoming Ginny and Richard Magrath; Erin and William Miller; Liz and Kirk Ward and their son, Hugh into our church family

Death in the Church

The congregation extends its sincere sympathy and love to:

The family and friends of Joseph Franzle and Susan Pearce; and to Libby and Robert Kotseos on the death of her mother, Dorothy Vail Rucker, of Aiken, S.C. on March 20; and to Sheila and Alec Neisler on the death of her brother, Julie Neisler on the death of her uncle, Robert Wade Hooper of Crystal Beach, Fla. on March 17 and rejoices with them all in the assurance of the resurrection.

Baptism Today at Covenant (11 a.m. Sanctuary)

Hallas "Hallie" Elizabeth Crockford, daughter of Natalie & Mike Crockford

In Need of Healing Prayer

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

You may notice the Sanctuary is dimmer today. We are working to resolve an electrical issue that coincides with our campus-wide conversion to energy-efficient LED lights.

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| 1. 1999, Integrity's Hosanna! Music LenSongs Publishing | Music Publishing sixsteps Music Thankyou Music worshiptogether.com songs |
| 2. 2014, Hillsong Music Publishing | 4. 2001, Thankyou Music |
| 3. 2011, Said And Done Music SHOUT! | 5. 1987, Augsburg Fortress |
| | 6. 2017, Atlantic Records UK |

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.



SERVICE OF WORSHIP
Sunday, March 26, 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 26, 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

Above All (instrumental) L. LeBlanc, P. Baloche¹

Broken Vessels (Amazing Grace) J. Houston, J. Myrin²

Welcome & Announcements

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

**10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)* J. Myrin, M. Redman³

**In Christ Alone* K. Getty, S. Townend⁴

**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 tune⁵

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



Offering

What Do I Know E. Sheeran⁶

Ain't got a soapbox I can stand upon
But God gave me a stage a guitar and a song
My daddy told me "girl, don't you get involved in
Politics, religions or other people's quotes"

I'll paint the picture, let me set the scene
I know when I have children they will know what it means
And I pass on these things my family's given to me
Just love and understanding, positivity

We could change this whole world with a piano
Add a bass, some guitar, grab a beat and away we go

I'm just a girl with a one-man show
No university, no degree, but lord knows
Everybody's talking 'bout exponential growth
And the stock market crashing in their portfolios
While I'll be sitting here with a song that I wrote
Sing, love could change the world in a moment
But what do I know?

Love can change the world in a moment

The revolution's coming, it's a minute away
I saw people marching in the streets today
You know we are made up of love and hate
But both of them are balanced on a razor blade

I'll paint the picture, let me set the scene
I'm all for people following their dreams
Just remember life is more than fitting in your jeans
It's love and understanding, positivity

I'll paint the picture, let me set the scene
You the future's in the hands of you and me
So let's get together we can all be free
It's love and understanding, positivity

GOD'S WORD READ AND PROCLAIMED

Scripture Readings

Psalms 130:1-6 Old Testament, p. 542

II Samuel 15:7-13 Old Testament, p. 276

Sermon

Portrait of a Family Crisis: David and Absalom Bob Henderson

Sermon Series: Journeys In The Wilderness

**Above All* L LeBlanc, P. Baloche¹

GO IN GOD'S NAME

**Invitation and Benediction*

**Guide My Feet* Spiritual

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Leading Worship this Morning

Bob Henderson, senior minister

Jessica Patchett, associate minister

Daniel Heath, contemporary worship leader

Keven Adams, usher team leader

Singing

LaVita Hill, Jessica Hindman, Pam Jepsen, Jolene Powell

Instrumentalists

Jerard Benson (bass), Tim Gordon (saxophone and flute),

Chekayla Jones (percussion), Jimmy White (guitars)

Audio and Visuals

David Balas (projections), Cleveland Elam (video),

Dave Welchman (sound)

Leading Other Services

Evan Amo, pastoral resident

Jen Christianson, pastoral resident

Joan Watson, associate minister

John Richardson, director of traditional music and principal organist

Rob Dicks, assistant director of traditional music

Katie Cornwell, 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).

* You are invited to rise in body or spirit