

## THE WORSHIP SERVICE

### Leading Worship this Morning

Joan Watson, associate minister  
Grady Moseley, parish associate  
Bob Henderson, senior minister  
John Richardson, director of traditional music and principal organist  
Rob Dicks, assistant director of traditional music  
Sherry Ward, carillonneur  
John Longshore, usher team leader

### Audio and Visuals

Cleveland Elam (projections and video), Joe Pool (audio)

### Leading Other Services

Evan Amo, pastoral resident  
Daniel Heath, contemporary worship leader  
Jessica Patchett, associate minister

### 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).

### 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.

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.

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](http://www.covenantpresby.org)



*To the Greater Glory of God*  
A SERVICE OF WORSHIP  
Sunday, March 19, 2017  
11 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.

~ Large print bulletins with hymns ~  
are available from the ushers.

# A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Sunday, March 19, 2017

11 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.*

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## PRELUDE

*Two Settings of Ich ruf zu dir Herr Jesu Christ . . . . . Dupre/Bach  
(Unto Thee I Cry, O Lord Jesus)*

## \*DOXOLOGY . . . . . LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## \*PRAYER OF ADORATION

## \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 624

*I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art . . . . . TOULON*

## CHILDREN OF THE COVENANT

A Welcome and Prayer of Adoration & Thanksgiving

Hymn 306 (*seated, verse 1*)

*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.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Silent Prayer

Corporate Prayer of Confession. . . . . from Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me...

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and put a new and right spirit within me.

Do not cast me away from your presence,  
and do not take your holy spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and sustain in me a willing spirit...

## CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 444

*Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive. . . . . DETROIT*

Forgive our sins as we forgive,  
you taught us, Lord, to pray,  
but you alone can grant us grace  
to live the words we say.

Assurance of Pardon

## \*Congregational Response

*Gloria Patri. . . . . GREATOREX*

Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, O is now and ever shall be.  
World without end. Amen. Amen.

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

## TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

## SCRIPTURE READING

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

## SERMON

Portrait of Betrayal. . . . . Joan Watson

Sermon Series: Journeys In The Wilderness

## \*HYMN OF RESPONSE 795

*Healer of Our Every Ill. . . . . HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL*

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH. . . . . from The Confession of 1967

The reconciling act of God in Jesus Christ  
exposes the evil in people as sin in the sight of God.  
In sin, people declare mastery over their own lives,  
turn against God and their fellow human beings,  
and become exploiters and despoilers of the world.  
God's love never changes...  
in Jesus Christ, God brings people to repentance  
and new life.

## CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & CONCERNS

## 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.

## MINUTE FOR MINISTRY

Summer Camp Buddies . . . . . Michelle Nebrig

## OFFERING & OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*Eternal Light, Shine Into Our Hearts. . . . . M. Archer*

Eternal Light, shine into our hearts,  
Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil,  
Eternal Power, be our support,  
Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance.

Eternal Pity, have mercy on us, eternal mercy upon us,  
That with all our heart and mind  
and strength we may seek thy face,  
And be brought by your infinite mercy to your holy presence,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

~ The Covenant Choir ~

## \*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 2 (verse 4)

*Come, Thou Almighty King . . . . . ITALIAN HYMN*

To thee, great One in Three,  
eternal praises be,  
hence evermore!  
Thy sovereign majesty  
may we in glory see,  
and to eternity  
love and adore.

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## \*RECESSIONAL HYMN 28 (verses 1-4)

*You Are Before Me, Lord . . . . . SURSUM CORDA*

## \*BENEDICTION

## \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE 28 (verse 5)

*You Are Before Me, Lord . . . . . SURSUM CORDA*

Search me, O God; search me and know my heart;  
try me, O God; my mind and spirit try;  
keep me from any path that gives you pain,  
and lead me in the everlasting way.

## \*POSTLUDE

*In the Cross of Christ I Glory . . . . . D. Cherwien*



*Malcom Archer's music has become an important part of the English cathedral repertoire. With clever harmonic shifts and lyric melodies, his music embodies elements of neoromanticism. The anthem we hear from Archer this morning, sets a medieval text from the Alcuin of York. Alcuin taught Charlemagne, as well as his sons Pepin and Louis. Alcuin's letters remain an authoritative source for understanding the Carolingian age, and his poetry endures as well.*