

THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Leading Worship this Morning

Bob Henderson, senior minister
Jessica Patchett, associate minister
Jason Graffis, director of contemporary worship and arts
Terry and Lecia Horne., usher team leaders

Sharing the Gifts of Music

Paul Fisher (drums), Cheryl Hoover (bass, vocals), Pam Jefsen (vocals),
Ben Powell (vocals), Bill Saunders (trumpet)

Audio and Visuals

David Balas (visuals), Cleveland Elam (video), Ricko Hill (audio)

Leading Other Services

Ian Clark, pastoral resident
Robert Dicks, assistant director of traditional music & organist
Grady Moseley, interim minister of congregational life, pastoral care
Heather Potter, director of traditional music
Kenney Potter, choral conductor
Sherry Ward, carillonneur

Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism with the Hicks Family

Sisters: Brantly and Emma Katelyn, grandparents: Lorraine Maslanka,
JoAnn and Lamar Hicks, all of Charlotte, great aunt: Theresa Halbherr
of Philadelphia; aunts and uncles: Sharelle Hicks and Nicki Humphrey of
Brooklyn, NY, Kristin and Bill Vogenitz of Anderson, SC, Nick and Casey
Maslanka of Charlotte, Katie and Adam Dale of Gainesville, FL; cousins:
Jack, Ryan, and Rush Vogenitz of Anderson, Reid Maslanka of Charlotte.
Stuart Pratt stands as Elder with the Hicks family.

Cover Image

The Portent of the Birth of Christ is located in the Sanctuary in the central gallery window. Mary has found joy in believing that the Archangel Gabriel's message about her pregnancy would be fulfilled even as the peace she experiences is in the midst of trouble. In tradition, the Blessed Virgin Mary is clothed with the sun, the moon under her feet, and wears a crown of twelve stars as she is about to give birth in the presence of a seven-headed dragon of power that would devour her child. But the deceiver of the whole world is defeated. Christ ascends to the heavenly throne, and Mary finds a place of refuge and salvation. Her soul magnifies the Lord even as a sword pierces her own soul. Reference: Lk 1:39-45; 46-56; 2:35; Rev 12:1-9. Photo © 2010 JonSilla.com.

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).

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 ourselves and sharing a warm greeting, we express the hospitality of our congregation. Please share a smile and welcoming word with those around you.

CONGREGATIONAL NOTES (AS OF DECEMBER 30)

Deaths

The congregation extends its sincere sympathy and love to Dana and Chad Dawson and their family on the death of her father, Allan Bruce Cox, on December 6; and to

Ellen Rhyne and her family on the death of her daughter, Mary Kathryn Rhyne, on December 17, and rejoices with them all in the assurance of the resurrection.

In Need of Healing Prayer

Judy Gaffney
Lamont Hudson
Frank Mansfield
Edna Hamilton
Lillian Neal
Bob Taylor
Barbara White

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| | 7. 1998 Pilot Point Music) |

This service is being streamed live and recorded for online viewing at media.covenantpresby.org.

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



SERVICE OF WORSHIP
Sunday, December 23, 2018
9:30 a.m.

SANCTUARY



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

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, December 23, 2018 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

Happy P. Williams¹

It might seem crazy what I'm 'bout to say
Sunshine she's here, you can take a break
I'm a hot air balloon that could go to space
With the air, like I don't care, baby, by the way
Clap along if you feel like a room without a roof
Clap along if you feel like happiness is the truth
Clap along if you know what happiness is to you
Clap along if you feel like that's what you wanna do
Here come bad news, talking this and that
Well, give me all you got, don't hold it back
Well, I should probably warn ya, I'll be just fine
No offense to you, don't waste your time, here's why

Bring me down
Can't nothing bring me down
My level's too high to bring me down
Can't nothing bring me down, I said
Bring me down
Can't nothing bring me down
My level's too high to bring me down
Can't nothing bring me down, I said

Joy Rend Collective Experiment

We're choosing celebration
Breaking into freedom
You're the song
You're the song of our hearts
We cast aside our shadows
Trust You with our sorrows
You're the song
You're the song of our hearts
We're dancing to the rhythm of Your heart
We're rising from the ashes to the stars
You're the joy joy joy
Lighting my soul
The joy joy joy
Making me whole
Though I'm broken
I am running into Your arms of love

The pain will not define us
Joy will reignite us
You're the song
You're the song of our hearts
The dark is just a canvas
For Your grace and brightness
You're the song
You're the song of our hearts
In the shadows, in the sorrows
In the desert when the pain hits
You are constant ever present
You're the song of my heart

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle Jessica and Jay Wardlaw

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

*Joy Rend Collective Experiment²

*Angels We Have Heard On High E.S. Barnes, J. Chadwick

*Prayer of Adoration

PRACTICES OF DISCIPLESHIP

Call to Confession

Come, Come, Emmanuel J.J. Chepponis³

(prayer response)

Come, come, Emmanuel
Come, Emmanuel
Come, come, Emmanuel
Come, Emmanuel

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Sacrament of Baptism

Tasber James Hicks, son of Andrea and Justin Hicks

I Was There to Hear Your Borneing Cry

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.**

*You are invited to rise in body or spirit

Eagle's Wings R. Morgan⁴

**Come live in me
All my life take over
Come breathe in me
And I will rise
On eagle's wings**

Offering

Good Light D. Holcomb⁵

Wasting time and wasting money,
you've been acting like a fool.
You spend your whole life fighting for a guarantee,
when all you really need is a friend.

Hey, there's a good light, shining in you.
There's a magic in your eyes.

Hey, there's a good light, shining through, and I need it tonight.

You've been looking for rhyme and reason.
The confusion is dragging you down.
You got lost in the chaos.

You got lost in the ashes and dust.
What you needed was someone to trust.
We're all stumbling through the darkness.
No one can stay there and still make it through.

GOD'S WORD READ AND PROCLAIMED

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:39-45 New Testament, p. 53

Sermon

"Joy" Bob Henderson

Sermon Series: What Are You Waiting For?

*Joyful (*The One Who Saves*). B. Brown⁶

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*Invitation and Benediction

*Jesus O What A Wonderful Child K. Bible, T. Fettke⁷