



"Joy is the echo of God's life in us."
Columba Marmion

September 25, 2022
16th Sunday after Pentecost

Ministers
Pastor
Director of Faith Formation Ministries
Director of Music
Organist/Accompanist
Director of Preschool

All the People of Covenant
Dr. Kyle Allen
Jewel Aagaard
Richard Rudolph
Ronn Lowe
Anne Craig

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Loving God, Loving People, Making Disciples

Worship

**Please stand in body or in spirit*

*Chiming of the Hour and Presentation of the Word

Prelude "At the Name of Jesus"
Michael Burkhardt

Welcome and Covenant Life Bruce Johnson

Introit "God Is So Good to Me"
Bryan Sharpe/Mary McDonald

*Call to Worship

Mary Glenn Aydlett

One: What makes your soul sing for joy?
Is it hearing the laughter of children?

All: Holding your grandchild close as you rock her to sleep?

One: Tasting a fresh peach or a "Tommie-toe" tomato?

**All: Smelling wood burn on an open fire
while stargazing under and open sky?**

One: Seeing something so amazingly spectacular
it takes your breath away?

**All: Or doing something good for someone else
without thought of payback?**

One: Through these means and so many others,
God is inviting us to catch the joy!

**All: In a spirit of profound gratitude,
let us sing for joy to the Living God!**

*Hymn of Praise, #464 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Call to Confession

Ginny Fedison

One: To the Lord, Giver of Mercy,

All: let us confess our sins.

Prayer of Confession *(in unison)*

Lord, why are we so worried, anxious, and troubled? Why do we do those things we shouldn't do? And why do we fail to do those things we should have done? Lord, you know our limitations, our exasperations, our fears, our overextensions, and our underperformance. You know. You see us as we are. You know we know better. And yet you love us even more. Oh God, do not remove your steadfast love for us. Do not leave us to fend for ourselves. Instead, direct our gaze, our hearts and minds, our daily living, toward you. Guide us in your truth and bless us with your grace. Correct our steps, pick us up when we stumble, and forgive us. In Jesus, the world's saving grace. Amen.

*Declaration of Forgiveness and Passing of the Peace

One: What can we say to this?

All: If God is for us, who can be against us?

One: God is for us. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven

**All: and set free to serve the world
which God loves forevermore.**

One: Passing the peace,

All: let us catch the joy of greeting one another!

*(Greet one another, "Peace be with you,"
which may be followed by a personal greeting.)*

***Response**, Hymn #457 (verse 1)

"I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art"

(Children are invited to come forward during the singing of this hymn.)

***I greet Thee, who my sure Redeemer art,
My only trust and Savior of my heart,
Who pain didst undergo for my poor sake;
I pray Thee from our hearts all cares to take.***

Teach

Time with Our Children

Jewel Aagaard

Director of Faith Formation, Family & Youth Ministries

*(Children ages 4 – 11 may leave with Jewel for Children's Worship
in the Green Room and will return during the last hymn.)*

Prayer for Illumination & Readings

John McMillen, Anne Currin, Susan Foard

Old Testament Reading Lamentations 3:22-24 (Pew Bible OT, p. 724)

Epistle Reading 2 Corinthians 9:7 (Pew Bible, NT. p. 162)

Gospel Reading Luke 2:8-14 (Pew Bible NT, p. 50)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Homily "Good News of Great Joy!"

Dr. Kyle Allen

Anthem

"Walk with Me, Lord"
arr. Rosephanye Powell

Service of Officer Installation Donna Jones, Deacon Class of 2024

Nurture

The Joy of Worship Caitlin Cheatham

Invitation to Offering Jennifer Mundorff

Offertory "Larghetto"
Johann W. Franck

***Doxology**, Hymn #591

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore,
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen!***

***Prayer of Dedication**

Welcome and Reception of New Members

Barbara Ann Boyd and Jerry Lawson
Jeff, Marion, Anna, and Seth Kopley

Betty Young, Sponsor
Betty Young, Sponsor

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer *(Traditional; Hymnal, p. 16)*

Reach

***Hymn of Devotion**, #525

"Here I Am, Lord"

Congregational Meeting

***Charge and Benediction**

***Congregational Response, #40** (verse 2) "Joy to the World!"

***Joy to the world! the Savior reigns: Let us our songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.***

***Trinity Chimes**

Our Trinity Chimes played before the postlude is the opportunity to sit and enjoy the end of our service with music, or it is the time to exit quietly as our Livestream continues for this part of worship.

Postlude

"Hymn to Joy"
Albert L. Travis

Welcome! We are so glad you have joined us in worship today, and we hope you will join us again. More information about Covenant is available on our website at covenantroanoke.org. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter. Please speak with our pastor if you would like to learn more about becoming a member of our congregation.

Greetings, Parents! Children are always welcome in our worship services. If you so choose, a nursery staffed by volunteers is available for children ages 3 and under in our Eden Nursery (Room 4) downstairs. Please ask an usher for assistance if needed. **We also offer Children's Worship for the second half of the service for children ages 4 to 11.**

Children's bulletins and activity bags are available on the table in Heritage Hall.

Thank you to our Worship Team for helping lead our service today.

Lemonade and cookies await you! After worship, all are welcome to gather in Heritage Hall to visit with church members and guests. **Special thanks to Gail Trussell for hosting this morning!**

The flowers in the chancel today are given by the Generosity Team to the glory of God and in celebration of Covenant's 65 year history of loving God, loving people, and making disciples.

Worship Leaders: Grace Fiedler, Acolyte; John McMillen, Liturgist; Roger Dickenson, Audio; Gene Collier, Ed Mahler, Pranav Singh: Video.

Ushers: Rick Aydlett, Christopher Bircher, Jonathan Fiedler, Seth Kepley, Kathryn Overacker

Cover Image by Pranav Singh

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Covenant Life

A Called Congregational Meeting will be held near the conclusion of worship this morning for the purpose of electing members to serve on the Congregational Nominating Committee for the period of October 1, 2022 through December 31, 2023. The nominees are: Melissa Cranwell, Clarke Grasty, Tricia McMahon, Matt Miller, & Teresa Wulff.



Come enjoy great food & fellowship this Wednesday at 5:30 PM! Chef Jim Eaton is preparing stuffed peppers, macaroni and cheese, a seasonal vegetable, kale salad with strawberries and almonds, tossed salad, cornbread, and strawberry cream pie

for dessert. *Cost for dinner: \$12 for 6th grade – adult; \$6 for K – 5th grade; free for ages 4 & under; family maximum of \$30. All takeout orders are \$12 each (no maximum) due to increased costs for containers. **Reservations required:** Please sign up on the Friendship Pad in worship or contact the church office by 10 AM on Monday. **Stay after dinner to learn about all that Family Promise is doing in the Roanoke Valley!** Did you know that Covenant is a host church for Family Promise? Marie Muddiman Beebe, Executive Director of Family Promise of Greater Roanoke, will be here to share how you can make a difference in our community!*



Children's Worship: Children and Worship style lessons are provided during the service for kids ages 4 – 11. *Older children are invited to help as volunteers. 1 adult volunteer is also needed to assist Jewel each Sunday.* Please let Jewel know in person, or by email at jaagaard@covroanoke.org if you can help!



Sunday School for all ages at 9:15 am! (Childcare is provided for kids ages 3 and under.) Children ages 4-11 meet in the Green Room and teens 12+ gather in the Youth Room. **October 2nd is Spark Sunday for adults!** Join us in the Blue Room for "Living Your Faith in Your Workplace" led by Jewel Aagaard and guests.

- ◆ **Women's Bible Study** meets Monday, September 26 at 10:30 AM in the Youth Room. Contact Sharon Nanz.
- ◆ **Men's Bible Study** meets Saturday, October 1 at 8 AM in the Red Room. Contact John McMillen or Jeff Cutright.
- ◆ **New Holy Hunch Brunch begins Thursday, October 6!** Find more details in the October newsletter.



Earth Care Summit @ Covenant next Saturday, October 1st, 11 am – 2 pm. Deadline to register is today, September 25. Find more information about the Summit and a registration sheet at the sign-up Table in Heritage Hall. Bag lunch provided (suggested donation: \$10) OR bring your own lunch. Video keynote presentation by Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, Atmospheric Scientist and Chief Scientist for The Nature Conservancy.



Covenant Youth will be going to this year's CROP Walk on Sunday, October 9. CROP Walk is partnering with Feeding SW Virginia this year! You can write checks to Covenant, with "CROP Walk" in the memo line OR you can go directly to our team page and donate there! Type bit.ly/CovenantCROPwalk into your favorite browser to find our donation page!



Historical Tour! Thursday, October 13, visit Lexington, VA to see Grace Episcopal Church (our organ's original home), enjoy a carriage ride, and free time for lunch, shopping, coffee, or museums. The church bus leaves Covenant at 9:30 am. Cost: \$25 (lunch not included). **Find more information & the sign-up sheet in Heritage Hall.**



Meal Train for the Cronise Family: Our church family has been asked to provide dinner for the Cronise family through December, as Tricia undergoes chemotherapy treatments. **Find the Meal Train sign up link in your Monday email or contact the church office.** Please keep Tricia and the Cronise family in your thoughts and prayers as they travel this journey. Thank you all for your care and love for this family.



Church Library News: Our **“Pandemic Potluck”** Project is receiving a wonderfully eclectic assortment of tried-and-true recipes! Please share **your** recipes for the perfect meal or food gift you take to family & friends in need of TLC. Recipes accepted through September 30. A **free Cook Booklet** will be given to all contributors; others may purchase the cook booklet for a nominal fee at our **Recipe Tasting Event** in October! Drop off your recipe at the display table in Heritage Hall or email to **LibraryGuild@covroanoke.org**. **The Puzzle Donation/Give Away Project** continues through September 30. But don't despair – it will be back again soon! Puzzles remaining after the 30th will be donated to the Rescue Mission. (If you prefer to keep your puzzles, please take them by October 1.)



In Our Prayers . . . Church Members: Audrey Bashlor, Christine Beck, Tricia Cronise, Mary Jane Fisher, Susan Foard, Lynnmarie Hancock, Suellen Hodges, Lindsey Nanz, Ann Cecil Renick, Carol Ryan, June and Forrest Smith, Colette Strother, Roger Tims, Jo and Wayne Wilson, caregivers, military service members and families.

Family and Friends: Lowell Bashlor, Jr., Kenneth Benner, Martha Brumfield, Rosanna Crist, Patrick Dooley, Dickie Hinchee, Tyler and Rochelle Holm, Jay Johnson, Reba Kling, the people of Malawi, Bill Miller, Rich Moreau, Mike Overacker, Cordell Parvin, Lillian Jane Pauley, Phil Peters, Mair Rubin, Alice Schlaffman, Carl Utley, Daniel Woodbury.

This Week at Covenant

Sunday, September 25

- 9:15 AM Sunday School for all ages
- 10:30 AM Worship, with Congregational Meeting
- 5:00 PM Youth Campfire
- 7:00 PM Session meets (Blue Room/Zoom)

Monday, September 26

- 9:30 AM Preschool Chapel (Sanctuary)
- 10:30 AM Women's Bible Study (Youth Room)
- 4:00 PM Centering Prayer (Zoom)

Tuesday, September 27

- 9:30 AM Staff Meeting (Blue Room)

Wednesday, September 28

- 12:00 PM Bulletin Announcements due
- 5:30 PM Fellowship Dinner & Program
- 7:30 PM Choir Practice (Sanctuary)

Saturday, October 30

- 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study (Red Room)
- 11:00 AM Earth Care Summit

Sunday, October 2

World Communion Sunday

- 9:15 AM Sunday School *Spark Sunday!
- 10:30 AM Worship, with Communion *Bring bread

