



"Teach me..."

March 17, 2024
Fifth Sunday in Lent

Ministers
Pastor
Director of Faith Formation Ministries
Director of Music
Organist/Accompanist
Director of Preschool
Maintenance Superintendent
Administrator/Recording Treasurer

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

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Loving God, Loving People, Making Disciples

Gathering

**Please stand in body or in spirit*

*Chiming of the Hour and Presentation of the Word

Prelude

"Christ, the Life of All the Living"
David Lasky

Welcome and Covenant Life

Introit

"Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord God Almighty!"
arr. Robert Sterling

*Call to Worship

One: To you, God, we bring our wandering hearts.

All: To you, God, we bring our inquiring minds.

One: Fill us with curiosity.

All: Bless us with your wisdom.

One: For we have come to worship you,

All: to celebrate your love divine.

One: So come and fill our hearts with joy.

All: Come, let us learn your ways and sing your praise!

*Hymn of Praise, #366 (verses 1-3)

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession *(in unison)*

Holy God, you are our Teacher, and we have so much yet to learn. When we are impatient, settle and forgive us. When your scriptures are readily available to guide us, and we neglect them, lead us to seek their wisdom, and forgive us. When we think life is too hard, and we want to cave in or walk away, calm our spirits, refocus us, and forgive us. O Lord, without your direction, where would we be? Without your grace and your commandments, we would be utterly lost. But you, O God, Creator, Redeemer, and Friend, you refuse to let us go. You refuse to give up on us. You love us, and your world, and in your love, we find a hope, a confidence, and a will to keep looking for you, to keep marveling at your mercy, to keep striving for your justice; and in that, we find your glory and our peace. O Lord, do not leave us as we are, but teach us your ways, that we might live them, and with holy integrity, reach and teach others. In your Son's mercy, we pray. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Response, #445

"God, How Can We Forgive"

Children are invited to come forward as we sing.

Teaching

Time with Our Children

Jewel Aagaard
Director of Faith Formation

*Passing of the Peace *(Greet one another, "Peace be with you.")*

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

Prayer for Illumination

Paul Weary

Old Testament Reading

Psalms 119:9-16 (Pew Bible, OT pp. 529)

Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:21-22 (Pew Bible, NT p. 17)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Teach Me"

Dr. Kyle Allen

***An Affirmation of Faith**

One: We believe that questions are a building block of faith.

All: "How many times should I forgive?"

"Jesus, where are you going?"

"What must I do to inherit eternal life?"

One: We believe that humble curiosity can open our eyes.

All: "Where does it hurt?"

"What do you need?"

"How can I help?"

One: We believe that God is a teacher.

All: "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."

"Here I am."

"Send me."

One: We believe that faith invites our whole being to engage,

All: with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our strength.

One: O God, we believe. Help our unbelief.

All: In Christ's name. Amen.

Welcome of New Members

Daniel and Rhea Haner

Sponsors: John and Mary Jane McMillen

Anthem

"Teach Me, O Lord"

Philip W. J. Stopford

Nurturing

Celebration of Giving+

Offertory

"I Call to You, Lord Jesus Christ"

Friedrich Zachow

***Doxology, #475 (verse 3)**

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

(Hymnal, p. 35)

Reaching

***Hymn of Devotion** (see insert)

"Love Your Neighbor and Forgive"

***Charge and Benediction**

*During the Lenten season we will not have a Postlude,
as is traditional in many churches. You may take this time for
quiet meditation and prayer in the sanctuary before exiting
for our time of fellowship around lemonade and cookies.*



Welcome! We are blessed to have you join our worship today, and we hope to keep seeing you! More information about Covenant is available on our website at covenantroanoke.org and you can also follow us on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter. We would love to get to know you better, and a card is available in the pew before you to begin this journey together.

Greetings, Parents! Children are always welcome in our worship services. If you so choose, a professionally staffed nursery is available for children ages 3 and younger downstairs. Please ask an usher for assistance. **We also have a Parents Room** just outside the Sanctuary, with a changing table and rocking chairs. **Children's bulletins and activity bags are available** on the table in Heritage Hall. **We offer Children's Worship** during the second half of the service for children ages 4 to 11.

Girl Scout cookies and lemonade await you! After worship, all are welcome to gather in Heritage Hall (the entrance area) to visit with church members and guests. A special thank you to Girl Scout Troop #119, Ellen Jones, and Meg Munton, for hosting this morning.

*The flowers in the chancel today are given to the glory of God
by Pete and Gail Trussell
in memory of Lois and Ollie Stein
and
by the Covenant Family
in honor of Kyle and Beth Allen's 40th wedding anniversary
and Kyle's 6-plus years of service at Covenant.*

Greeter: Sharon Nanz

Ushers: Covenant Youth

Liturgist: Paul Weary

Elder of the Month: Dick Frahm

Deacon of the Month: Jinx Weary

Assistant Deacon of the Month: Sherry Moran

Sound: Roger Dickenson **Video/Livestream:** Jena Bircher, Pranav Singh



In Our Prayers . . . Church Members: Mary Glenn Aydlett, Christine Beck, Tricia Cronise, Will Dibling, Mary Jane Fisher, Lynnmarie Hancock, Marion Kepley, Walter Jones, Jerry Lawson, Lindsey Nanz, Peggy Phillips, Ann Cecil Renick, Carol Ryan, June and Forrest Smith, Jo Wilson, Betty Young, caregivers, military service members and families

Family & Friends: Rob Adcox, Rob Ahlers, Lowell Bashlor, Jr., Aubrey Bayne, Kenneth Benner, William "Buzz" Caddell, Mike Cummings, Patrick Dooley, Cesia Enriquez, Peggy Evans, Heather Ford, Larry Gray, Jim Haugen, Tyler and Rochelle Holm, the people of Malawi, Jim McGill, Becky Meisner, Mike Overacker, Bob & Betty Sizemore, Ezra Schuyler Soto, Joseph "Joe" Wallace, Daniel Woodbury, Religious violence against Christians in northeast India

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Covenant Life



Wednesday Night Dinner: Join us this Wednesday, March 20th at 5:30 PM for a delicious meal with your Covenant family! Chef Jim is preparing fried chicken, mashed potatoes, seasonal vegetable, biscuits, broccoli salad, tossed salad with cornbread croutons, and strawberry shortcake for dessert. Meals are free, with suggested donation to cover costs. **Reservations required! Please sign up** on the Friendship Pad in worship, at bit.ly/CovenantWND or contact the church office **by 10 AM on Monday**. (If you'd like your meal to go, please bring your own Tupperware – to reduce plastics and save costs!) After dinner, we will welcome St. Francis Service Dogs.



The Women's Bible Study will meet on Monday, March 25th, at 10:30 AM in the Blue Room. Please contact Sharon Nanz for more information.

The Men's Bible Study will meet on Saturday, April 6th at 8 AM in the Red Room. Contact John McMillen or Jeff Cutright with questions.

The Circle of Friends will meet on Tuesday, April 9th at 6:00 PM in the Red Room. Please contact Carol Gentry for details.

Holy Hunch Brunch & Bible Study will not meet in March.



Join us for worship next Sunday, March 24th at 10:30 AM as Holy Week begins with Palm/Passion Sunday! We will sing songs of praise and wave our palm fronds as we celebrate Jesus entering Jerusalem, then ponder the cross looming in the distance. Hosanna!



Holy Week Services:

Maundy Thursday, March 28th at 7:00 PM – Tenebrae Service with Communion (Dinner at 5:30 PM).

Good Friday, March 29th at 6:00 PM – Joint Service with Windsor Hills UMC and Oak Grove Church of the Brethren (Oak Grove COB, 2138 McVitty Road SW, Roanoke).

Easter Sunday, March 31st – Outdoor Sunrise Service at 7 AM; Traditional Sanctuary Service with choir, organ, and brass at 10:30 AM.



Save the Date for a "Wonder" – filled Weekend at Smith Mountain Lake! Enjoy fellowship and fun at the 4-H Skelton Center on **May 17 – 19**. Find more details in the March newsletter. Register online now at

bit.ly/CovenantRetreat or find a form in Heritage Hall. **How wonderful it will be to spend this time together!**



Registration for our 2024-2025 Preschool year is now open! Find registration forms on our website at covenantroanoke.org/preschool/registration. Please contact Preschool Director Anne Craig, with any questions (preschool.admin@covroanoke.org).

**KROGER
COMMUNITY REWARDS**

Preschool Kroger Rewards: Please consider linking your Kroger card to our Preschool Program! Log into your Kroger account and select "Community Rewards," select the Organization (Covenant Presbyterian Preschool) and our preschool will receive a quarterly check from Kroger! This enrollment will last for a year and then will need to be renewed. **Thank you for supporting our Preschool!**



Spring Grounds Cleanup Day will be held on Saturday, April 6th from 8:30 AM – noon (Rain date April 20. We need as many hands as possible to spruce up, clean up, and get our outdoors into shape for spring. **Please sign up in Heritage Hall** so that we have an idea of the

number of helpers we will have. We would love to have 20 or more helpers with the trimming, weeding, cutting, and mulching. We are teaming up with the Earth Care Committee to be as green as possible!



Ready for a bus trip to the Ark Encounter and Creation Museum? This trip was being planned before Covid hit and now the trip is back – with Vickie and Skip Larrington as hosts, **September 16-19**. The cost is \$585/person, double occupancy, traveling in a spacious motorcoach. The Ark Encounter features a full-size Noah's Ark and The Creation Museum offers a stunning botanical garden. **Watch for the flyer in your Monday email** and contact Vickie (540-558-0423) for more information.

This Week at Covenant

Sunday, March 17 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship

Monday, March 18

1:00 PM Preschool Soccer (Fellowship Hall *weather)

4:00 PM Centering Prayer (Zoom)

7:00 PM Finance Team (Blue Room)

7:00 PM Communications Team (Teams)

Tuesday, March 19

9:30 AM Staff Meeting (Red Room)

6:00 PM Girl Scouts (Fellowship Hall/Parlor/Green Room)

6:30 PM Missions Team (Zoom)

Wednesday, March 20

9:30 AM Preschool Chapel (Sanctuary)

12:00 PM Bulletin Announcement Deadline

5:30 PM Wednesday Night Dinner (Fellowship Hall)

7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday, March 21

5:00 PM Preschool Team

7:00 PM Personnel & Polic Team (Zoom)

Friday, March 22

11:00 AM Preschool Easter Egg Hunt

6:00 PM Youth Lock-In

Saturday, March 23

1:00 PM – 6:00 PM Fellowship Hall reserved

Sunday, March 24 – Palm/Passion Sunday

9:15 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship

7:00 PM Session meets (Blue Room)

Sanctuary Reserved for Organ Practice:

Monday (9:00 AM – 2:00 PM); Friday (9:00 AM – 1:00 PM)

