



**GOD'S LIGHT
SHINES
THROUGH THE DARKNESS**



May 18, 2025
Faith Formation Celebration Sunday

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

All the People of Covenant
Rev. Rachel H. Vogado
Richard Rudolph
Ronn Lowe
Jewel Aagaard
Anne Craig
Mark Overacker
Gail Schuler

1831 Deyerle Road SW, Roanoke, VA 24018
540-989-3314 • office@covroanoke.org
covenantroanoke.org

Loving God, Loving People, Making Disciples

Gathering

**Please stand as you are able*

*Chiming of the Hour and Presentation of the Word

Prelude

"Arise, Shine, for Your Light Has Come"
Jered McKenna

Covenant Band

Welcome and Covenant Life

*During our morning announcements,
please take time to pass and sign the friendship pads.*

Joys and Concerns of the Church Family

Introit

"My Lighthouse"

Chris Llewellyn, Gareth Gilkeson

Covenant Band

*Call to Worship (from John 1)

One: The light of God has come into our world
to proclaim God's justice and love;
It has overcome the darkness and brought new life.

All: Come and see!

One: Christ the light brings us together.
He draws us into a loving family
from every nation and family and culture.

All: Come and follow!

One: The Spirit has equipped us for service
to love our neighbors as we do ourselves
to bring God's light to the ends of the earth.

All: Go and tell!

One: The light of God shines for us all,
it leads us through the storms of life.

All: Come and see! Come and follow! Go and tell!

*Hymn of Light, #401

"Here in This Place"

Time of Confession

One: For the times we have lied to one another
and the times we have been lied to,

All: heal us, Jesus, Light of the world.

One: For the times we have laughed at another's pain
and the times we have been laughed at,

All: heal us, Jesus, Light of the world.

One: For the times we have betrayed ourselves, our friends,
or our faith and for the times we have been betrayed,

All: heal us, Jesus, Light of the world.

One: For the times we have spoken
when we should have remained silent
and the times we have remained silent
when we should have spoken,

All: heal us, Jesus, Savior of the world.

Assurance of Forgiveness

***Passing of the Peace**

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Children are invited to come forward.

Time with Our Children

The Stuff of Stars; Matthew 5:14-16

Teaching

Prayer for Illumination, Hymn # 458

"Thy Word Is a Lamp unto My Feet"

Scripture Reading

Psalm 27:1, 13-14 (Pew Bible, NT pp. 466-467)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God**

Time with Our Adults

Jewel Aagaard

Director of Faith Formation

Anthem

"Siyahamba (We Are Marching in the Light of God"

Anders Nyberg

Covenant Band

Nurturing

Celebration of Giving+

Offertory

"Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness"

Bernadette Farrell

Covenant Band

***Doxology, #314** (refrain)

"Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness"

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

Rev. Rachel H. Vogado

Reaching

***Sending Hymn, #192**

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

"My Lighthouse"

Chris Llewellyn, Gareth Gilkeson

Covenant Band

Welcome! We are blessed to have you join our worship today and we hope to see you again soon! More information about Covenant is available on our website: covenantroanoke.org. You can also follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. 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! We want all of God's children to feel comfortable in our sanctuary, and children are always welcome in our worship services. If you so choose, a professionally staffed nursery is available for children ages 3 and younger. Please ask an usher for assistance.

We also have a Parents Room just outside the Sanctuary with a changing table, rocking chairs, and toys. **You will find special children's bulletins and activity bags** on the table in Heritage Hall. **There is no Children's Worship today as our children and youth are helping to lead our worship service.**

You are invited to share your Joys and Concerns by writing them in the book on the stand outside the sanctuary. These will be included in the Prayers of the People during our worship service. (If you have a concern of a personal nature, please speak with the pastor or contact the office.)

The Elder of the Month will stand with Rev. Rachel as she greets attendees following the worship service. If you have any questions, concerns, or would like more information about Session or Covenant, please reach out to the Elder of the Month or any of the active serving Elders.

Join us for Mingle and Munch! After worship, all are welcome to gather in Heritage Hall (the entrance area) to visit with church members and guests while enjoying light refreshments. **Thank you to Gail Trussell and Lynn McGhee for hosting this morning!**

Elder of the Month: Sandra Ryals

Deacon of the Month: Lynn McGhee

Assistant Deacon of the Month: Teri Ponton



In Our Prayers...

Congregation: Pamela Alden, Audrey Bashlor, Todd Baumgardner, Mary Jane Fisher, Dick Frahm, Lynnmarie Hancock, Marion Kepley, Jerry Lawson, Lindsey Nanz, Carol Ryan, Brian Slack, June and Forrest Smith, Bob Taylor, Paul Weary, Jo Wilson, Hensley Woods, Jr., Betty Young, Ray Zubler, caregivers, military service members and families

Family & Friends: Greg Adcox, Rob Ahlers, Reid Ammen, Lowell Bashlor, Jr., Kenneth Benner, Mike Cummings, Patrick Dooley, Maria Dreiling, Cesia Enriquez, Heather Ford, Larry Ford, Debbie Helms, Jo Jones, Pauline Mudrick, Ezra Schuyler Soto, Judy Talley, Daniel Woodbury, Religious violence against Christians in northeast India, Mission co-workers Tyler & Rochelle Holm and the people of Malawi, Jim McGill (Niger)

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