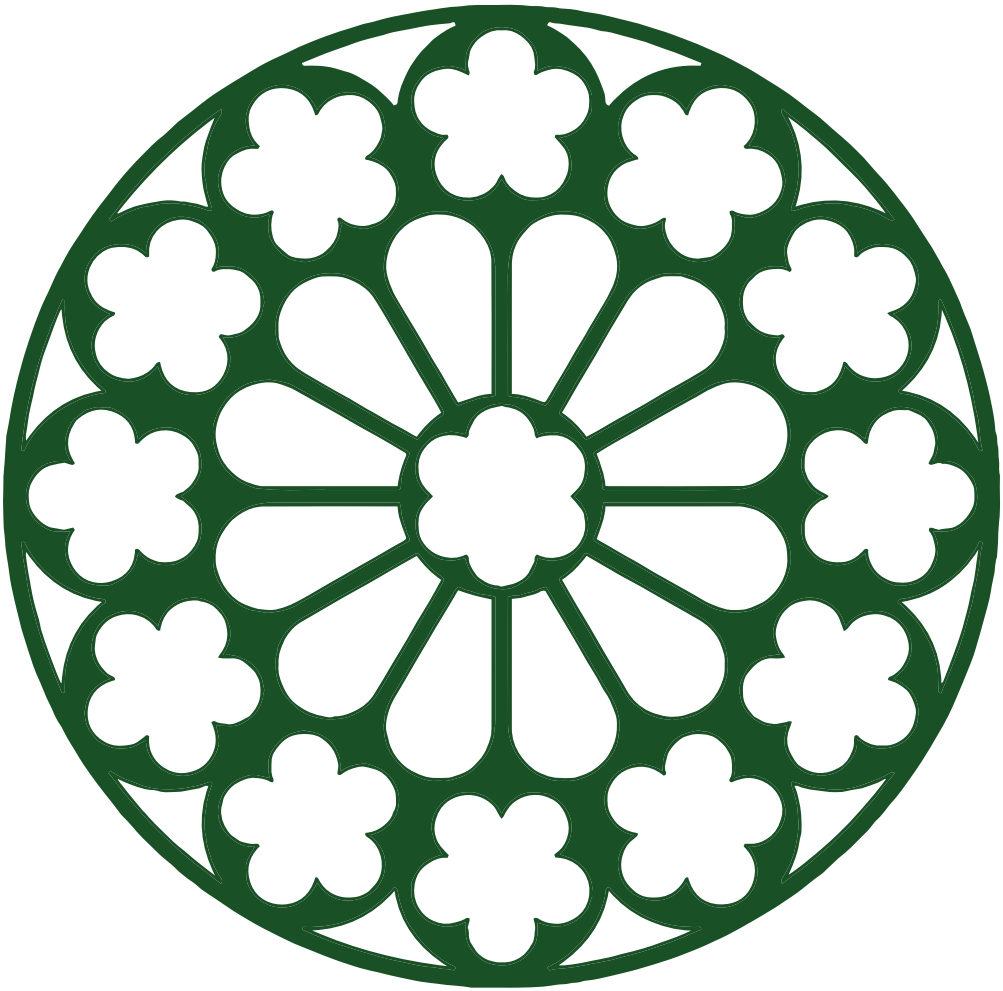


COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 27, 2026 | Morning Worship | 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Welcome to Covenant

WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

Centrally located in the southern hills of Nashville, we are a multigenerational church family seeking to make mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the glory of God and the good of our neighbors, our city, and our world. We do this through worship, formation, and mission. Please see a staff member or visit our website at covenantpres.com for more information about our ministries.

HERE ARE A FEW DETAILS AROUND THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP:

- Refreshments are available in The Commons between services. We hope you will join us!
- Children are always welcome to participate in worship with their families in the Sanctuary.
  Also, please note:

  -A children's bulletin is available in the Narthex from the ushers.

  -Childcare is available during worship for children ages three years old and younger in the Nursery. Enter through Entrance C.

  -Nursing mother space is available in Room 130 near the Grand Staircase and in the Nursery hallway.

  -Livestream is available for parents with children in The Commons, The Grand Staircase vestibule, and the Play/Cry Room in Room 104 in the Nursery hallway.

  -A Sensory Room is available in Room 211 for children or adults who may need a quiet place to regroup or take a break during worship.
- If you have a child with special needs, our Special Needs Ministry would love to talk to you at the Welcome Desk in the Narthex after the service and assist you with your child according to their needs. Come and see us!
- Pew cushions, wheelchairs, wheeled walkers, wireless hearing enhancements, and large-print bulletins are available from the ushers.
- Guests, please scan the QR code. We would love the opportunity to get to know you better!
- Supplementary parking is available in the Burton Hills office complex across from the Burton Hills entrance to the church. A shuttle will run between the church and the supplementary parking lot from 8:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Please dispose of any food or beverage and silence electronic devices before entering the Sanctuary for worship. Thank you!

SERVING TODAY

Chancel Guild: Kathy and Lad Kelley, Laura McFadden

Communion Servers: 8:30 a.m.: Dave Barnes, Don Bull, John Gilbert, John Patton, Brent Rexer; 11:00 a.m.: Buddy Creech, Mike Dolezal, Beau Johnson, Tom Pulliam, Gabe Roberts

Ushers: 8:30 a.m.: Rick Brasher, Monty Herring, Rob Ikard, Mark Inman, Raymond Lackey, John Peake, Bradley Richmond, Roderick Russ; 11:00 a.m.: Steve Burbank, John Burie, Christopher Eckert, Craig Fulcher, Ford Hulgan, Overton Roberts, William Roberts, Jim Robertson

Greeters: 8:30 a.m.: Nancy and Rick Brasher, Celia and Gregg Turner
11:00 a.m.: Melanie Martin, Molly Martin, Carol and Tom Pulliam

Coffee and Donuts: Kathryn Smith T, Weldon Wilfong

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CHRIST FOR US · CHRIST WITH US · CHRIST THROUGH US

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Concerto in D Major, RV 121, I. — Antonio Vivaldi

Covenant Strings
Samuel Metzger, harpsichord
Daniel Sommerville, Director

WELCOME

Rev. Kendall Magaña

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Be Thou My Vision — arr. Soon Hee Newbold

† **PLEASE STAND AS ABLE**

Our worship begins with a scriptural call for God's people to worship. In this way, our gathered worship is a conversation initiated by God between himself and his people.

The congregation speaks the print in bold.

† CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 96; Revelation 5:9

Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!

Worthy are you to take the scroll and open its seals, for you were slain

Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.

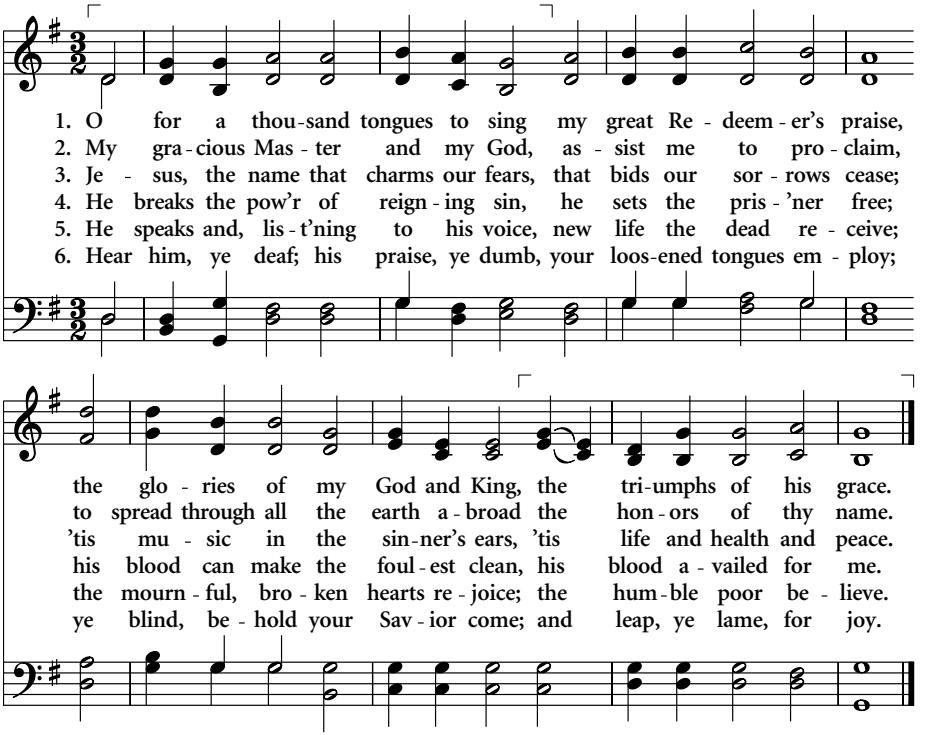
Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

And you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.

† HYMN OF ASCENT

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing Trinity Hymnal 164

Words: Charles Wesley | Music: Carl G. Gläser | Acts 3:8



Prayers of adoration are prayers of longing and delight as we begin to trace the narrative arc of God's redemption across our service.

† PRAYER OF ADORATION

† 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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen."

† SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 46:8-13

"Remember this and stand firm,
recall it to mind, you transgressors,
remember the former things of old;
for I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there is none like me,
declaring the end from the beginning
and from ancient times things not yet done,
saying, 'My counsel shall stand,
and I will accomplish all my purpose,'
calling a bird of prey from the east,
the man of my counsel from a far country.
I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass;
I have purposed, and I will do it.

Listen to me, you stubborn of heart,
you who are far from righteousness:
I bring near my righteousness; it is not far off,
and my salvation will not delay;
I will put salvation in Zion,
for Israel my glory."

† GLORIA

Richard Proulx (from Community Mass)

GOD CLEANSES US

CALL TO CONFESSION

Daniel 9:4–5

"I prayed to the LORD my God and made confession, saying, 'O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, we have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from your commandments and rules.'"

Within the context of our relationship with God, we are invited in safety, not in shame, to consider our sins.

God loves us in spite of our sins. We rehearse this truth each week by confessing our sins corporately and leaning into his renewal, restoration, and cleansing.

CORPORATE CONFESSION

O Lord, not a day of my life has passed that has not proved me guilty of sin. Prayers have been uttered from a prayerless heart; praise has often been a praiseless sound. Lord Jesus, though my sins rise to heaven, your merits soar above them. I appeal from the throne of your perfect justice to your throne of boundless grace. Let me hear your Holy Word assuring me that I am guilty of sin, but pardoned; wandering, but found; sinning, but cleansed. Give me perpetual broken heartedness, keep me always clinging to your cross, and flood me every moment with your grace.

SILENT CONFESSION

Lord, hear us now as we bring to you our silent and individual prayers of confession.

The Scripture that follows our confession assures us of God's forgiveness, grace, and pardon. This is the good news.

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

John 11:25–26

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?'"

The Doxology, often sung to the tune OLD HUNDREDTH, is a short hymn of praise traditionally used in Christian worship. The lyrics were written by Thomas Ken in 1674, originally as the final stanza of his hymn "Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun." It has been traditionally used in thanksgiving, such as confession, the offering, or the close of worship. The tune OLD HUNDREDTH was composed by Louis Bourgeois for the Genevan Psalter (1551), originally for Psalm 134, though commonly associated with Psalm 100 in English hymnals.

† DOXOLOGY

Trinity Hymnal 731

Words: Thomas Ken | Music: Louis Bourgeois | Psalm 150:6

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Sam Houston Moran III (8:30 a.m.)
Susan Jossephine Rush (11:00 a.m.)

PARENTAL VOWS

Amanda and Sam Moran
Susie and Thomas Rush

Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?

Do you claim God's covenant promises on his/her behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for his/her salvation, as you do your own?

Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God and promise in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before him/her a godly example, that you will pray with and for him/her, that you will teach him/her the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring him/her up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

CONGREGATIONAL VOW

Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

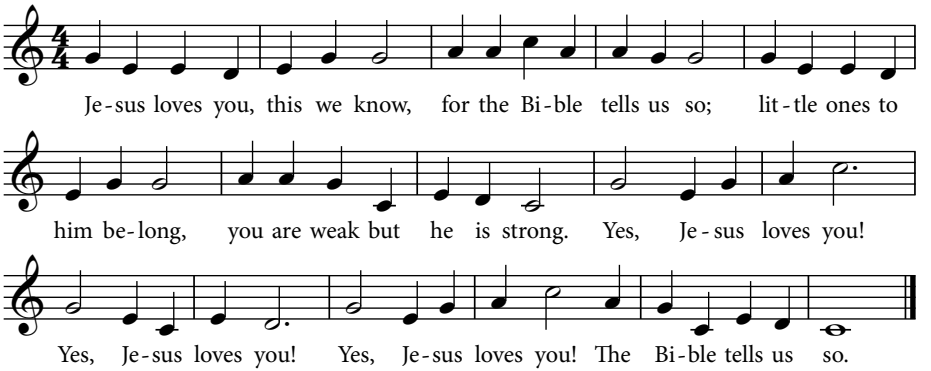
SPRINKLING OF WATER

Rev. Chad Scruggs

BAPTISM HYMN

Jesus Loves You

Words: Anna B. Warner | Music: William B. Bradbury | Galatians 2:20



PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION

If you have prayer requests or if you would like to receive the weekly prayer email, contact prayer@covenantpres.com.

CONGREGATIONAL UPDATES & CALL TO GIVING

Our giving is an act of worship; it is both a response of gratitude for God's generosity toward us and a sign of faith in God's future provision. Please continue to give generously. You may also give online at covenantpres.com/giving or mail a check to: Covenant Presbyterian Church, 33 Burton Hills Blvd., Nashville, TN 37215.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross — Gilbert M. Martin

Chancel Choir
Sloan Yarborough, director

When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
Love, so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all!

Amen!

GOD CONSECRATES US

† SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:28-30
(page 1201 in pew Bible)

"[28]And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. [29]For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. [30]And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified."

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

What We Know — Rev. Chad Scruggs

GOD COMMUNES WITH US

† THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Rev. Patrick Curles

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right and good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks unto you, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing...

Communion is a holy sacrament of the Church. The word "sacrament" is a translation of a Greek word which means "mystery." Baptism and communion are the "mysteries" of the Church that God uses to powerfully nourish our faith. Communion is not just a ritual or a memorial, it is a fellowship with the risen Christ.

We invite all who are baptized Christians and members in good standing of a gospel-believing church to come forward, if you are able, to receive the sacrament. You may commune immediately or return to your seat to commune. If you are unable to come forward, a pastor will be available to serve you where you are. (Baptized children can only eat and drink after they have made a profession of faith approved by the session. If you would like to know more, please reach out to one of our pastors or elders.)

For those not communing, we are glad you are here! We invite you, including non-communing children, to participate by coming forward to receive a simple gospel blessing. Or you may choose to remain in the pew for meditation and prayer; the prayers on the following page may help you formulate your prayer to God.

† SANCTUS

Words: 3rd or 4th Century Hymn | Music: Richard Proulx | Isaiah 6:3

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us. Alleluia.

Alleluia!

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Take these in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, and drink, remembering that Christ's blood has been shed for you!

PARTAKING OF THE ELEMENTS

All bread is gluten free. All wine is fermented. The outer ring of each tray contains juice instead of wine.

PRAYER

We would love to pray for you. Come forward during communion and the prayer team will gladly pray for you. Prayer team members are available on the sanctuary floor near the pulpit and lectern and upstairs in the back of the balcony. You can also fill out a prayer request card and drop it in the offering plate or prayer box in the Narthex, or you can submit an email to prayer@covenantpres.com.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE NOT COMMUNING
Please use the prayers below during communion as guides to reflect upon and respond to what God is doing in your life.

PRAYER FOR THOSE SEARCHING
Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

PRAYER OF BELIEF
Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, and yet, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sin and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT
Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your Church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

Speak, O Lord

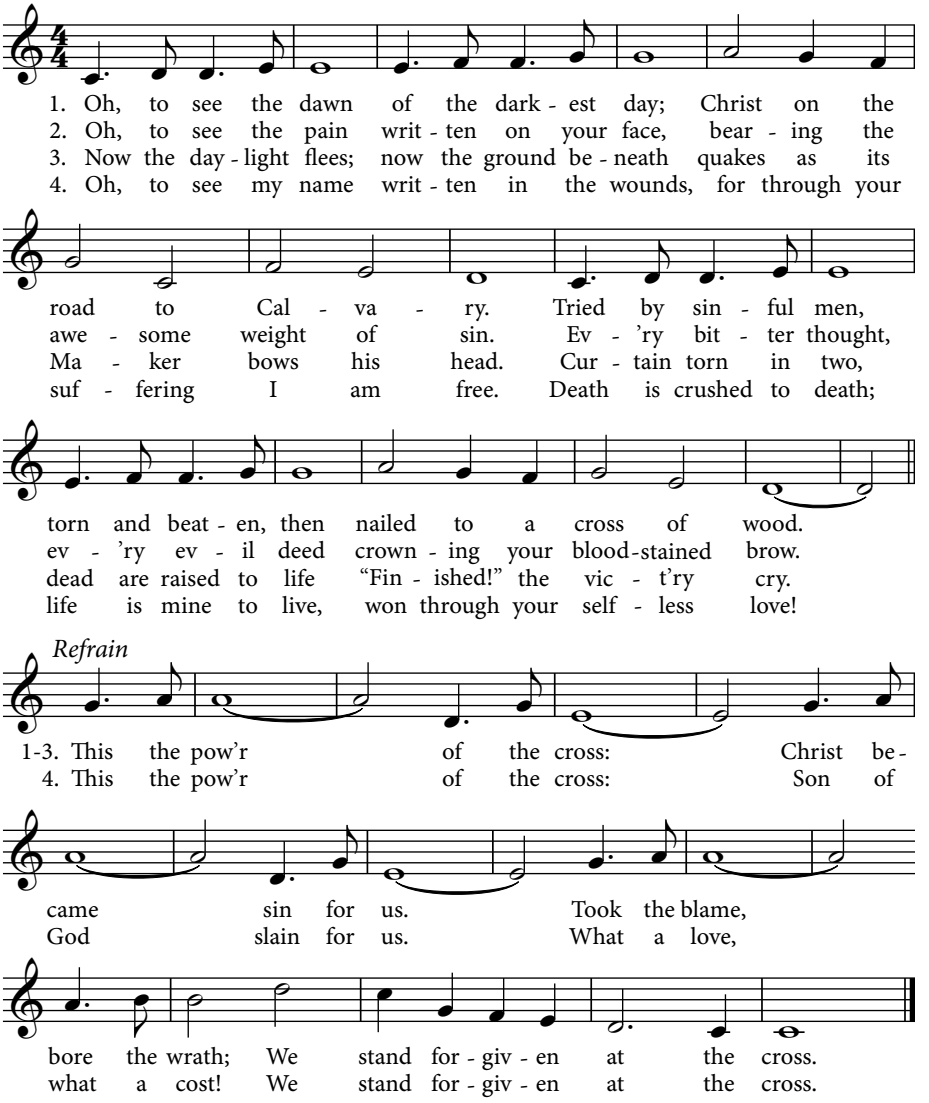
Words and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend | Psalm 119

Kira Buell, vocals

COMMUNION HYMN

The Power Of The Cross

Words and Music: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend | Romans 5:8



† HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing Trinity Hymnal 457

Words: Robert Robinson | Music: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music* | 1 Samuel 7:12

GOD COMMISSIONS US

Our worship concludes with God's sending us into the world with his blessing as we seek to love our community in the power of the Spirit.

† BENEDICTION

2 Thessalonians 3:16

"Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in every way. The Lord be with you all."

† DISMISSAL

Let us go out and serve the world and our city as those who love our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

POSTLUDE

Grand Chœur — Théodore Dubois

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Eli German, audio; Ford Hulgan, livestream

WELCOME

Here for the baptism of Sam Houston Moran III, we welcome the Dreher family, the Hasty family, the Moran family, and the Rasmussen family. Here for the baptism of Susan Josephine Rush, we welcome Jack Bridges, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Bridges, Jimmy Bridges, Mr. and Mrs. Hall Bryant Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Hall Bryant III, Mr. and Mrs. Dobbins, Rush Dobbins, Mr. and Mrs. Jon Murray, and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Rush.

RECYCLING AND TRASH

Please place your bulletins in the baskets for reuse, or in the bins for recycling. A digital bulletin is always available on our CovenantNashville app or our website: covenantpres.com. Please help us keep the Sanctuary clean by throwing away your communion cups and other trash in the bins in the Narthex.

NAME TAGS

If you would like a name tag, please scan the QR code to the left. They will be available for pick-up in the Narthex.

WAYS TO CONNECT

Events marked with an * require registration.
Visit covenantpres.com/events or scan the QR code to register.

CHURCHWIDE

Member Photo Refresh
Sundays through October 10, Church Library
Help us keep our church records up to date! Stop by to have your member photo taken for our internal directory and church database. It only takes a few minutes, and an updated photo helps our pastors, staff, and members connect with one another.

Save the Date

- November 8 - SMC Connect: Educating Our Emotions with Jonathan Pennington
- November 8 - Lunch & Learn: Becoming a Disciple of the King with Jonathan Pennington
- November 29 - Advent Vespers
- December 6 - Advent Vespers
- December 13 - Christmas at Covenant
- December 13 - Churchwide Christmas Party
- December 20 - Advent Vespers
- December 24 - Christmas Eve Services

PRAYER

covenantpres.com/prayer

Mondays with the Maker
Monday, October 5, 7:00 a.m., Room 110B
Join us for a 30-minute time of prayer and connection every first Monday morning in the Pie Room. Gather with others to pause, reflect, and lift up whatever's on your heart as we begin each month in God's presence.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

samuelm@covenantpres.com & sloany@covenantpres.com

Reformation Service
Sunday, October 25, 5:00 p.m., Sanctuary
We invite you to join us for a special evening of worship as we gather with sister churches from across the Nashville area to celebrate the beauty and power of the gospel reclaimed in the Reformation. Together, with pastors and choirs from local congregations, we will lift our voices in gratitude to God for his faithfulness in every generation.

This service will feature brass, organ, and a combined choir made up of members from Covenant, First Baptist Church (Nashville), Christ Presbyterian Church, Trinity Presbyterian Church (Murfreesboro), Cornerstone Presbyterian Church, and New College Franklin.

Pastors from Covenant, Edgefield Church, Immanuel Church Nashville, Trinity Presbyterian Church (Murfreesboro), Westwood Baptist Church, Woodmont Baptist Church, and First Baptist Church (Nashville) will lead us in prayer and proclamation.

MISSIONS

aspengraces@covenantpres.com

2027 Belize Mission Trip
Registration is open and closes Thursday, September 24 at 12:00 a.m. Half of the total spots available will be reserved for first-time team members, with returning members offered spots on a first come, first served basis. Children must be in first grade or above to participate.

City Serve Day*
Saturday morning, October 17, Men of Valor
Join us for a City Serve Day at Men of Valor. There will be opportunities for both indoor/outdoor projects, including clearing up a walking trail and helping with indoor organization. Sign-up is required. Contact AspenGrace if you have any questions.

Missions Prayer
Heavenly Father, we pray for Oliver and Kim Pierce as they begin the new ministry of RUF-G Brussels, that you would give them wisdom, courage, and deep love as they share the hope of Christ with university students from around the world. May your Spirit bless their partnership with Hope International Church to bear lasting fruit for your kingdom.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

philr@covenantpres.com & annas@covenantpres.com

Servo
Friday, October 2, 4:00 p.m., Offsite
Students will meet at the church and travel to the venue. Drop-off will be at Covenant, and pick-up will be at the Green Hills Chipotle at 6:30pm. Bring money for dinner. RSVP to Phil.

The Maze
Saturday, October 24, 6:00 p.m., Gym
Can you find your way through 80 refrigerator boxes in the dark? Come and see! Friends welcomed!!

HIGH SCHOOL

buckb@covenantpres.com & annagracen@covenantpres.com

High School Sunday Night Fellowship
Sunday, October 18, 5:30 p.m., Offsite
Join us for an evening of fun and fellowship. Contact Buck for location.

YOUNG ADULTS

kendallm@covenantpres.com & carolinec@covenantpres.com

Young Adults Conference*
Friday – Saturday, October 9 & 10, Covenant
Join us for a conference designed for young professionals who want to live out their faith in their work, relationships, and daily rhythms. **Registration closes Sunday, October 4.**

MEN

nathanielb@covenantpres.com

Men's Bible Study*
Tuesdays, September 15 – November 17, 6:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall
Spend the semester unpacking lessons on Practical Spirituality during a short table discussion following teaching by our pastors.

Men's Chili Cookoff*
Saturday, October 3, 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall B
Come see how your home chili recipe stacks up against other men from Covenant or just come to enjoy good chili and conversations. Prizes for the top three chilis! Sign up to attend and/or compete.

WOMEN

frondaa@covenantpres.com & melaniem@covenantpres.com

Women's Bible Study*
Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall A or Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m., Room 206
Join our study on I Samuel.

Prime Timers
Tuesday, October 6, 11:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall B
Monthly lunch for senior women following Women's Bible Study.

Moms' Coffee*
Thursday, October 8, 9:30 a.m.
Come for coffee and a devotion relating to motherhood for moms of young and not-so-young children.

SUNDAY MORNING COMMUNITIES 9:45 A.M.

ADULTS

Ecclesia
The Storyline of Scripture
Fellowship Hall A

Grace for the Journey
The Parables of Jesus
Room 206

Life Abundant
James
Room 207

One Another
The Acts of Faith
Room 205

Loved and Light
Life With One Another: A New Testament Study
Cafe

Young Adults
Ecclesiastes
Fellowship Hall B

College-Aged
Ten Commandments
Room 218

Sunday Circle
The Atonement
Room 204

YOUTH

High School: Room 110B
Middle School: Room 109

CHILDREN

Parents, check in preschool and elementary children (PreK4-Rising 5th Grade) at 9:45 a.m. at the stations by the Kids' Ministry Entrance (Entrance C). Check out at 10:45 a.m.

Parents, check in nursery children (0-3 years) at the stations by the Kids' Ministry Entrance (Entrance C). The nursery is open from 8:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

5:00 - 6:00 p.m. **MidWeek Dinner | Fellowship Hall**

$8 Adults | $5 Children | $20 Max per family
First-time guests eat free! Credit card payment only.

5:15 - 7:00 p.m. **Covenant Kids Preschool & Elementary**

Children's Choirs
(Kids eat with parents before choir.)
5:00 - 5:15 p.m. | Arrival & Check-in: The Commons
5:15 - 6:00 p.m. | Rehearsal

Kids' Quest
(Kids eat with parents before check-in.)
5:55 - 6:00 p.m. | Arrival & Check-in: The Commons
6:00 - 7:00 p.m. | Activities
Pick-up: 7:05 p.m.

6:00 - 7:00 p.m. **Adult Classes** (Some require registration)
Youth D-Groups

7:00 - 8:30 p.m. **Chancel Choir**
Covenant Bronze (Rehearses seasonally)
Covenant Strings (Rehearses seasonally)

Find out more and register for classes at covenantpres.com/midweek or scan QR code.