



July 4, 2021

10:00 a.m., Facebook LIVE

Live: www.facebook.com/FirstCovenantErie/

Recording available after live service: www.tinyurl.com/FPCCYouTube

Welcome! Come, let us worship together—online and in person.

“Worship” is not something we watch. It is something we do. Read aloud bolded responses.

*Please share greetings and comments. Stand if you choose, where you see **

G A T H E R I N G

Ring of the Bell Tower Carillon (9:45 a.m.)

Montgomery Service

Gathering Music

Voluntary on ‘Pisgah’ Dale Wood

Leslie Weber

Organ Book of American Folk Hymns @1970 Sacred Music Press

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer (*responsive, read aloud the bold print*)

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

“An Independence Day Litany” by Rick Morley

As we remember the birth of our nation,
and the gifts of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness,
let us offer our thanks and prayers to God,
the giver of all good gifts.

For the brave women and men who braved the long journey by sea
to come to this new world,

We thank you Lord.

For the tribes and nations who inhabited this land
for generation upon generation,

We thank you Lord.

For patriots who dreamed of, and fought for, a free nation,

We thank you Lord.

For the men and women who laid the foundation of our democracy,
and who pledged liberty and justice for all,

We thank you Lord.

For those who built this country brick by brick,
road by road, and town by town,

We thank you Lord.

For the brave soldiers who have fought for our country,
for all who paid for our freedom by their service,
and those who paid by their sacrifice,

We thank you Lord.

For the innovators and artists, poets and teachers,
farmers and factory workers;
for all who labor and provide for the common good,

We thank you Lord.

For this land, with its peaks and valleys,
coasts and deserts, fields and meadows,

We thank you Lord.

For our own community, for those who came before us in this place,
and for our neighbors near and far,

We thank you Lord.

Lord, we pray for The United States,
that we might always be a nation which defends and promotes
liberty and freedom, truth and justice.

We pray to you Lord.

That we might always be a nation where all are free to worship and pray,

We pray to you Lord.

That those who are elected to govern and lead
would be guided by you,
and be ever aware of the trust that has been given them,

We pray to you Lord.

That we would be a people who repent from our sins,
and who always return to you and to your grace,

We pray to you Lord.

Gracious God, Father of all nations, bless us;
prosper the work of our hands,
and increase in us your grace and compassion,
and our offerings of thanks to you,
our rock and our salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***Hymn #339**

Lift Every Voice And Sing

(page 7 & 8)

P R A Y I N G

Call to Confession

Rachel Moldovan

You have heard what was written about Jesus in Scripture:
how he would suffer and die
and then rise from the dead on the third day;
how, through his death and resurrection,
the forgiveness of sin is now possible
for all who repent.
So let us boldly approach the throne of God,
where we will find grace and mercy.

***Prayer of Confession** *(in unison)*

Rachel Moldovan

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

***Assurance of Pardon**

Rachel Moldovan

There is no wrong that God cannot make right.
There is no chasm
that can separate us
from God's love.
The Lord is patient and kind, generous and good.
God will not forsake you or leave you.
Turn to the Lord with confidence
and put your faith in God's great mercy.
By the power of Jesus Christ,
we are made whole. Amen.

***Passing of the Peace**

Rachel Moldovan

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you
And also with you.

Share greetings of Christ's peace in the comment section on the Facebook livestream or share a nod, a peace sign, a wave of peace with those worshipping with you in the sanctuary.

L I S T E N I N G**First Reading** *Matthew 6:5-13*

Rev. Chris Weichman

⁵“And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁷“When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

⁹“Pray then in this way:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.

¹⁰ Your kingdom come.

Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread.

¹² And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³ And do not bring us to the time of trial,
but rescue us from the evil one.

Children's Moment

Rev. Chris Weichman

Second Reading *Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-10*

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

¹⁴Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Sermon*“A Love That Loves to Bless”*

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

R E S P O N D I N G**Invitation to the Table**

Rev Britney L.V. Knight

Hymn #525Let Us Break Bread Together on Our Knees*

(page 10)

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving *(responsive, please read aloud the bold print)*

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

May the God of steadfast love be with you.

And also with you.

People of God, offer your hearts to God.

We open our hearts to the One who fills them with grace.

Children of God, sing your praises to the One who has gathered us here.

Our songs of joy travel to the very ends of creation.

...So, we join our voices with all
who have wondered at your steadfast love,
singing your name to the edges of the universe:

Holy, Holy, Holy

552

Capo 3: (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (D)

F C F B^b C F

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of the
2 Bless - ed is he who comes in the

(A) (D/F[#]) (F[#]m) (G) (A) (Bm)

C F/A Am B^b C Dm

pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

(G) (D) (A) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (Dsus) (D)

B^b F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F

full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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...As we remember his calling us to follow,
as we seek to be sent forth to serve,
we proclaim that mystery we call faith:

553 Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen

Capo 3: (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (D) (A) (D/F[#])(F[#]m)

F C F B^b C F C F/A Am

Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.

(G) (A) (Bm) (G) (D) (A) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (Dsus) (D)

B^b C Dm B^b F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F

Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a - gain.

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...And when at the end of all time,
 we discover that it was you who
 had led us all along the way
 and brought us to the Table in glory,
 we will join our voices as one,
 singing our praise to you,
 God in Community, Holy in One,
 even as we unite in praying as we are taught,

**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.**

554

Amen

Capo 3: (G) (A) (Bm) (G) (D) (A) (Bm) (Em7) (A) (Dsus) (D)
 B^b C Dm B^b F C Dm Gm7 C Fsus F

A - men, a - men, a - men.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
 MUSIC: American folk melody; arr. Richard Proulx, 1995
 Music Arr. © 1995 GIA Publications, Inc.

LAND OF REST

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The Words of Institution

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

Communion Music

"Amazing Grace," arr. Jack Schrader
 @1989 Hope Publishing Co

Soloist, Emma Howell

Prayer: (in unison)

O God,
 you have so greatly loved us,
 long sought us,
 and mercifully redeemed us.
 Give us grace that in everything we may yield ourselves,
 our wills and our works,
 a continual thank-offering to you;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise God, all creatures high and low...Alleluia, Alleluia!
 Praise God, in Jesus fully known;
 Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" Text by Brian Wren, Music by Hal H. Hopson ©1989, ©1998 Hope Publishing Company CCLI License #11174474

*Benediction

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

Postlude

Selections from Variations on "America" for Organ, by Charles Ives
 @1949 Mercury Music Corp / Theodore Presser Company

Leslie Weber

INVITATION TO MINISTRY

Welcome! It is good to welcome worshipers back into the sanctuary as Facebook LIVE-streaming continues. Please wear masks in the sanctuary at all times and continue social distancing. Updated in-person worship details can be found on page 13 of this bulletin.

Communion will be served in worship today. If you are worshipping from home be sure to gather “bread” and “cup” at home prior to the 10:00 Facebook LIVE worship service.

The July Covenant Chimes Newsletter was mailed and emailed this past week. Copies are available at the Zahniser Coat Room and Fish Chapel exits today. If you are not receiving monthly copies, please call or email the church (office@firstcovenanterie.org) to be added to the mailing list. August newsletter submission deadline: July 15.

Fellowship Hour Returns TODAY! Catch up with friends or meet someone new. Fellowship Hour will be hosted outdoors, under the belltower, and feature a cold beverage and single-serve snack item each week. Special thanks to the Hospitality & Membership team for this.

Updated Protocols starting TODAY! Following PA Department of Health department CDC guidance, starting July 4th, masks are optional for those fully-vaccinated. Those not fully-vaccinated must continue to wear a mask in the building. On July 4th, congregational singing will resume, however, masks must be worn while singing, even for those fully-vaccinated. *Remember: children have not yet had the opportunity to be vaccinated. And there are some in our midst with extreme health vulnerabilities.* For these reasons, social distancing (seating every third pew) will continue. More details on page 13.

Church Baseball Outing: Erie Seawolves Everyone is invited to a home game on Sunday, **July 18th at 1:35 PM.** This event is sponsored by the Christian Education committee who is making the tickets available for \$5/person. Beginning June 1st sign up your family and pay at the church office. **Sign up ends TODAY,** 40 spots available. Join your church family and enjoy a day out at the park! We look forward to seeing you there!

Church Neighborhood Relevance is one of the church's four guiding ministry principles. One way to embrace and embody this is to be present for, and actively enjoy, church neighborhood activities offered by our community partners. One partner, The Erie Downtown Partnership offers almost daily (free!) activities: Kids' Storytime Mondays, Yoga & Exercise Tuesdays (including classes with our own Kaitlyn Falk!), Wellness Wednesdays, Live Music Thursdays, Lunchtime Music Fridays (all centered around Perry Square-2 blocks from the church). On Sundays after worship, you might want to stop by Perry Square for a Farmer's Market with live music, cooking demonstrations and kids' yoga until 2 p.m. Details and the complete calendar of events can be found here:

www.eriedowntown.org/events

Save the Date: Worship at Presque Isle August 22 Worship and picnic at Presque Isle's Cookhouse. There will be no service at the church that day, but technology-willing the service will be available on Facebook LIVE.

Summer Faith Formation Opportunities

Students - Mark your calendar for the Kennywood trip July 28. The cost is \$26. We will leave at 8 a.m. and return around 9:30 p.m. email Pastor Britney if you are interested britney.knight@firstcovenanterie.org

Adults-

Bible Study (Zoom) with Pastor Britney, Wednesdays at 10:30a.m.

Bible Study (Facebook LIVE) Wednesdays, 12:00 noon, pastors lead.

Men's Bible Study (Zoom) with Pastor Chris, Thursday, **July 15**, 7:30 a.m.

In lieu of sanctuary flowers, a gift to the Vicary Organ Fund was made today by David Briggs and Family in loving memory of Karen Briggs, Bob Briggs Jr., and Chuck Briggs

**GIVE
PLUS⁺**

3 Ways to give tithe or offering... **THANK YOU!**

1. Use the QR code at right.
2. Go to www.firstcovenanterie.org and click the **GIVE NOW** button at the bottom of the homepage.
3. Mail your check to:
First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant,
250 West 7th Street, Erie, PA 16501



339 Lift Every Voice and Sing

1 Lift ev - ery voice and sing till earth and heav - en
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent

ring, ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er -
 rod, felt in the days when hope un - born had
 tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the

ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening
 died. Yet, with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry
 way; thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the

skies; let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 feet come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?
 light, keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

Initially a poem for a school assembly at which Booker T. Washington spoke on Lincoln's birthday in 1900, this text and tune have gained national recognition and devotion, not only within the African American community, but also among all who seek liberation from oppression.

TEXT: James Weldon Johnson, 1900
 MUSIC: J. Rosamond Johnson, 1905

LIFT EVERY VOICE
 Irregular

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;


sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought
we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh -
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get

us. Fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be -
tered, out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at
thee; shad - owed be - neath thy hand may we for - ev - er

gun, let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.
last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

465 What a Friend We Have in Jesus



죄짐맡은 우리구주





1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta - tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?
 3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, cum-bered with a load of care?




What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis-cour-aged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge; take it to the Lord in prayer!

O what peace we of - ten for - feit; O what need-less pain we bear,
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor-rows share?
 Do thy friends de-spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!

all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!
 Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak-ness; take it to the Lord in prayer!
 In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a so-lace there.



This text was written by an Irish-born immigrant to Canada to comfort his mother in Ireland when she was going through a time of special sorrow. The role of prayer as a source of strength and consolation is underscored by its repeated use as a rhyme word in all three stanzas.

Let Us Break Bread Together 525

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees; (on our knees)
 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees; (on our knees)
 3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees; (on our knees)

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees. (on our knees)
 let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees. (on our knees)
 let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees. (on our knees)

Refrain

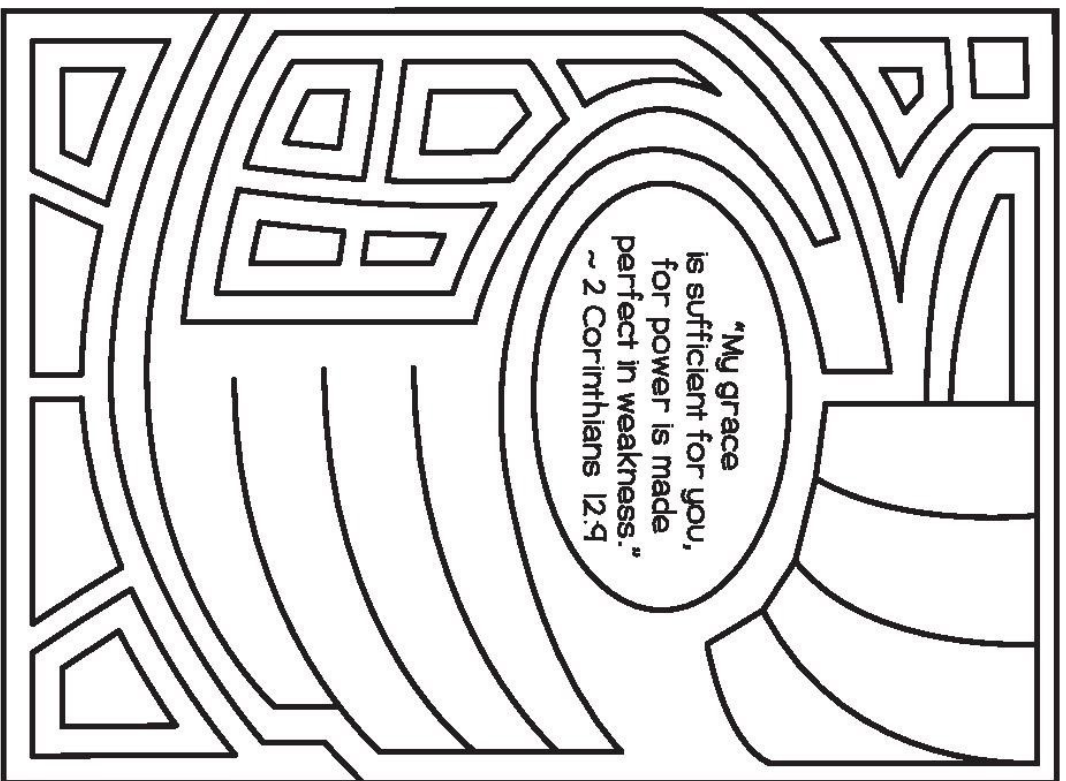
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,

O Lord, have mer - cy on me. (on me)

This African American spiritual quite possibly reflects the circumstances of slaves attending early morning communion services in colonial Anglican churches, but its combination of hope ("rising sun") and supplication ("Lord, have mercy") speaks to many worshippers' experience.

TEXT: African American spiritual
 MUSIC: African American spiritual; arr. Melva Wilson Costen, 1988
 Music Arr. © 1990 Melva Wilson Costen

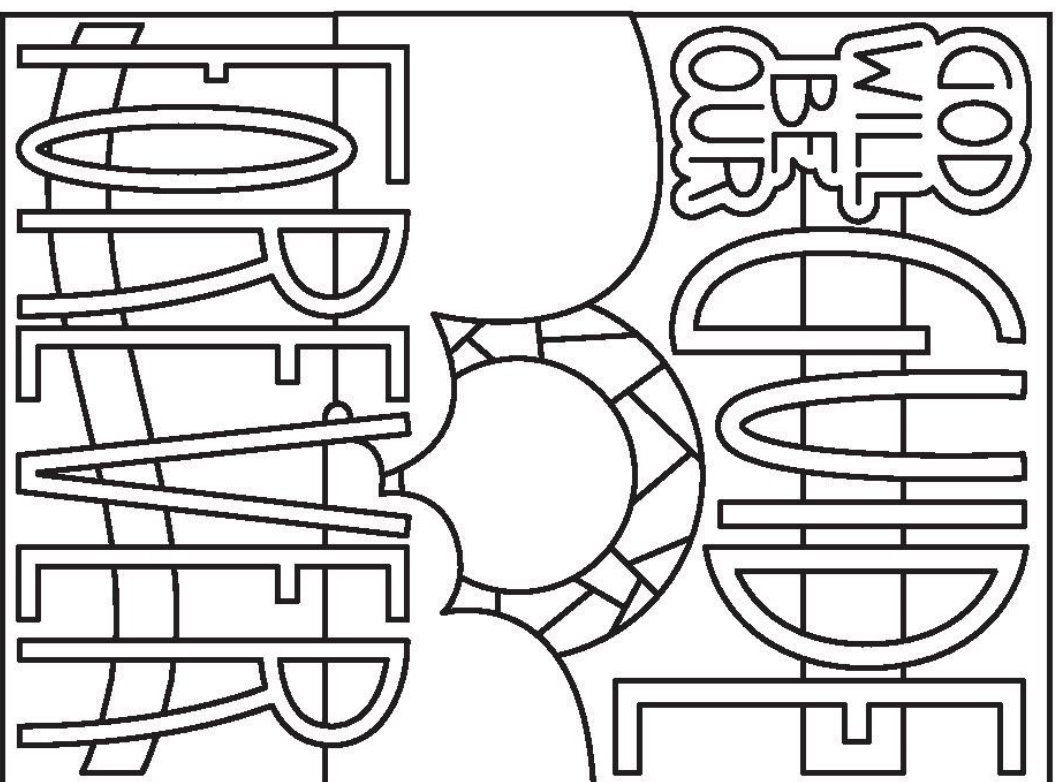
LET US BREAK BREAD
 10.10 with refrain



Suggested for use on July 4, 2021 based on the RCL.
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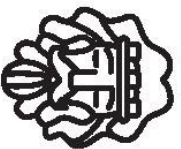
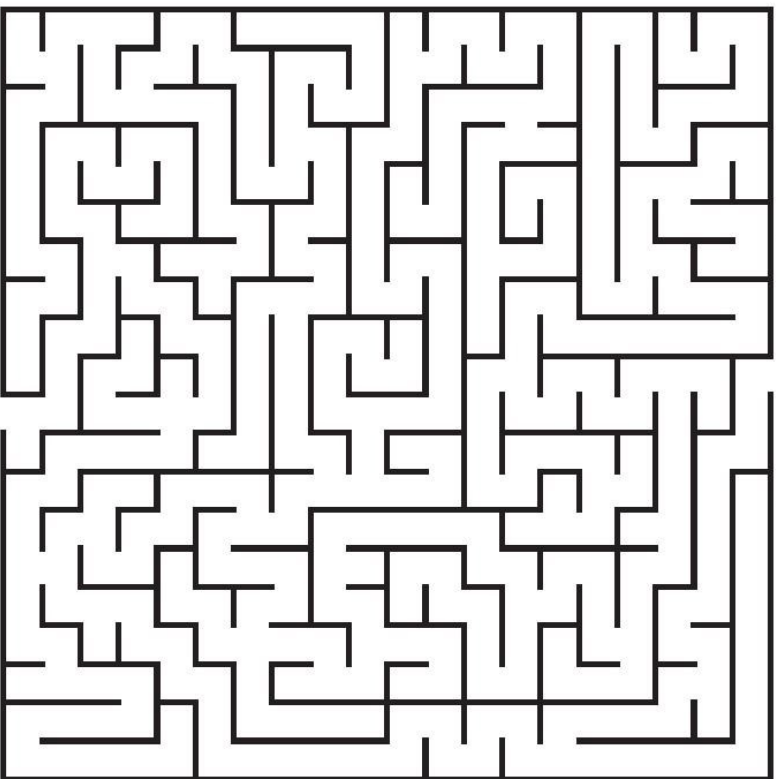
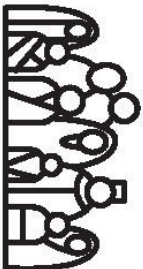
CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10, Psalm 48,
2 Corinthians 12:2-10, Mark 6:1-13.



SOLVE the MAZE

In 2 Samuel, the leaders of the Israelite people go to see King David. Help them find their way through the maze.



DRAW IT

In Mark 6, Jesus sends out his disciples, two by two, to share the Good News and bring healing in God's name. Draw a picture of you and a friend doing this same work. Where can you share Jesus' healing and Good News?



Pandemic In-Person Worship Protocols *(updated July 2, 2021)*

It is good to once again have the option to worship together in the sanctuary!

Full vaccinations for Erie County residents continue to increase. Daily new case counts and hospitalizations are declining. Thank God! Warmer weather allows for open doors and ample ventilation in the sanctuary.

Our worship protocols listed below were developed after consultation with Dr. Nadworny and the Erie County Health Department and they will be incrementally adjusted as the situation permits.

The more vaccinated we are, the more protocols can be loosened.

Here's what to expect:

- **Facebook LIVE-streaming** of services will continue. Attend online or in-person: it is your choice based on your comfort. If you attend in-person, keep this in mind. Talking / noises will be picked up by mics.
- **Complete an attendance / health assessment form in advance—each time you attend.** Find the form on page 14 to cut out and bring with you to turn in at the entry door. You'll also find it in the Chimes newsletter and each worship bulletin. Copies are also available at the entry door. In addition to stating you are feeling well, this form will register in-person attendance and be used if contact tracing is necessary.
- **Limited entry/exit doors.** There will be ONE entry to the sanctuary at 9:30: *Zahniser Coat Room* doors. These doors are at the northeast corner of the church, on the east side (by the Wright House). They enter into the Narthex. The glass "breezeway" doors nor any others will be available for entry. Exit doors will be the same *Zahniser Coat Room* doors and the nearby *Fish Chapel* doors. Other doors will be opened for ventilation purposes and emergency exit only.
- **One-Way traffic lane.** For drop-off and pick-up by car, the lane along the east side of the church will be one-way. One-way into the parking lot from 6th Street BEFORE the worship service. And then as worship concludes it will flip to one-way OUT from the parking lot to 6th Street.
- **Bulletins. Hymnals. Pew pads.** You will be handed a worship packet as you enter. It is the same as what is emailed weekly, containing all bible texts and music. Nothing touched by multiple people will be used: hymnals, bibles, pew pads are stored until further notice. Attendance is received via the health forms.
- **Masking. Distancing. Pews. Seating.** Beginning today, masking will be optional for all who are vaccinated. Those not yet fully vaccinated are asked to continue masking. We will continue to practice social distancing. Some pews are blocked off with chairs to allow for 6-foot distancing between rows. The centers of available pews have a 6-foot "no seating" section marked off. Seating will be at the ends of each available pew. **Volunteers needed to welcome and guide worshipers:**
chris.weichman@firstcovenanterie.org
- **Singing and spoken responses.** Beginning today, singing is permitted with masks. Monty will continue as our cantor. Quietly spoken liturgy responses and unison prayers *are* permitted.
- **Narthex bathrooms only.** Only the two bathrooms in the narthex will be available. The rest of the building will remain locked-off. Make a final pit stop at home before leaving.
- **Communion, offering.** On first Sundays you will be handed a communion kit with wafer and juice. Or you may bring your own elements from home. Dispose of packaging as you exit. Offering will be received as you exit. Or continue to give via the church website, the *Give-Plus* app, or U.S. mail.

During a pandemic nothing is risk-free.

Indoor, in-person worship participation, even with all of the protocols and precautions outlined above, still bears the risk of Covid-19 transmission.

In-Person Worship Attendance Form

Please print. Hand-in at entrance to sanctuary. For health screening and contract tracing purposes only. Thank you.

Name _____ Worship Date _____

Phone number _____ Vaccinated? YES NO OTHER

Experiencing any of the following: Shortness of breath, cough, fever, chills, body aches, loss of sense of smell or taste, headache, nausea, vomiting? YES NO

In the last 14 days...

have you been within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more with anyone that has tested positive for Covid? YES NO

have you been tested, with a positive result, for Covid-19? YES NO

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have you been within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more with anyone that has tested positive for Covid? YES NO

have you been tested, with a positive result, for Covid-19? YES NO