



July 11, 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

“O God, Thou Faithful God,” Johannes Brahms

Leslie Weber

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Chris Weichman

Call to Worship (*responsive, please read aloud the bold print*)

Rev. Chris Weichman

Take heart! For we are gathered in the God’s presence
to proclaim the wonders of the Lord.

Get up! For we are beckoned by the Risen Son
to respond to grace undeserved.

God is calling us! For we are united by the Spirit
to follow Jesus on the way.

Come, let us worship God.

***Hymn #408**

There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit

(page 5 & 6)

P R A Y I N G

Call to Confession

Rev. Chris Weichman

The Lord hears his people when they call to him for help.
He rescues them from all their troubles.
The Lord is close to the brokenhearted;
he rescues those who are crushed in spirit.
The Lord will redeem those who serve him.
Everyone who trusts in him will be freely pardoned.

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

Rev. Chris Weichman

Almighty God,
You have set before us the path
but we have wandered on our own
to try to find our way.

Sometimes we are like toddlers
and we hear your call and come back.

Other times, we are children testing boundaries,
ignoring your call until fear finally makes us look back.

And still other times we are full of youthful rebellion,
demanding to be cut loose and set free,
not knowing how much we still need
to seek your wisdom and guidance.

But most of all, too often we think we are adults
and have figured it all out and know our own way,
only to stumble and stray so far.

Remind us, God,
that we are always your children,
that we are never fully grown up in your sight,
that we always have much to learn.

Help us to seek you every day,
to acknowledge that we need your wisdom and guidance,
and help us to return to the path and walk with you.
In the name of Christ,
who is our companion on this journey of faith, we pray. Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon** *(responsive, please read aloud the bold print)*

Rev. Chris Weichman

Jesus is able for all time to save those
who approach God through him,
since he always lives to make intercession for them.
Hear then the good news
that in and through Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

***Passing of the Peace**

Rev. Chris Weichman

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 worshiping with you in the sanctuary.

L I S T E N I N G

First Reading *Mark 10:46-52*

Montgomery Service

⁴⁶ They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷ When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸ Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹ Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." ⁵⁰ So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹ Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." ⁵² Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

Hymn #307

God of Grace and God of Glory

(page 7)

Children's Moment

Rev. Chris Weichman

Second Reading *Hebrews 7:23-28*

Rev. Chris Weichman

²³ Furthermore, the former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; ²⁴ but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. ²⁵ Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

²⁶ For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. ²⁷ Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. ²⁸ For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

Sermon

"Highway to Heaven"

Rev. Chris Weichman

RESPONDING

Time of Reflection

"Be Thou My Vision," John Rutter

Leslie Weber

Prayers of the People

Rev. Chris Weichman

God is Good... All the Time!

All the Time... God is Good!

The Lord's Prayer *(in unison)*

Rev. Chris Weichman

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. Amen

*Hymn #772

Live Into Hope

(page 8)

Giving of Our Tithes & Offerings

Rev. Chris Weichman

*Thank you for enabling ministry using the blue **shop now** button on the church's Facebook page or see the box on the bottom of the next page.*

*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. Chris Weichman

*Postlude

"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven," Michael Burkhardt

Leslie Weber

**GIVE
PLUST⁺**

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



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 11 of this bulletin.

The August Covenant Chimes Newsletter deadline is July 15

The July Covenant Chimes Newsletter 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.

Join Us For Fellowship After Worship 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! Following PA Department of Health department CDC guidance, masks are optional for those fully-vaccinated. Those not fully-vaccinated must continue to wear a mask in the building. Congregational singing has resumed, 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 11.

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. There are only a few tickets remaining! 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. Here are a few upcoming opportunities you can walk to after worship:

Erie Downtown Partnership Farmer's Market - Today and every Sunday, stop by Perry Square for a Farmer's Market with live music, cooking demonstrations and kids' yoga until 2 p.m.

Food Truck / Cathedral of St. Paul - TODAY, July 11 "Food for Thought" food truck sponsored by Erie Episcopal Diocese in cooperation with the Charter School of Excellence, will be in the Cathedral parking lot (134 West 7th) from 11:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. They will be offering the full menu, cash or credit card accepted. Help support the kids and have a tasty lunch!

Hagen History Center Grand Reopening (356 West 6th) Saturday & Sunday, July 17 & 18, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. FREE admission

Share a Wednesday evening with neighborhood kids! Shop the Burch Farms market. Meet church neighbors. Enjoy the amazing bay view... These are all part of "West Bay Fit" Wednesdays from 6 to 8 p.m. at Bayview Park, West 2nd & Walnut Streets. If you can help Seph provide some simple games for the 6 and under crowd, text him at 814.566.0387. Even if you are unable to help, stop by and check out the fun!

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.

Memorial Service: Member Mary Nelson passed away on December 24, 2020. Friends are invited to the memorial service Wednesday, July 14 at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant.

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.

GATHERING

408 There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit



1 There's a sweet, sweet Spir - it in this place, and I
2 There are bless - ings you can - not re - ceive till you

know that it's the Spir - it of the Lord; there are
know him in his full - ness and be - lieve; you're the

sweet ex - pres - sions on each face, and I
one to prof - it when you say, "I am

know they feel the pres - ence of the Lord.
going to walk with Je - sus all the way."

This gospel hymn grew out of this African American author and composer's intense experience of prayer with her interracial choir in Los Angeles one Sunday morning before worship. She recalled that sense of "a sweet, sweet Spirit" when she sat down at her piano the next day.

TEXT and MUSIC: Doris Akers, 1962
Text and Music © 1962, ren. 1990 Manna Music, Inc. (admin. ClearBox Rights)

SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT
9.11.9.11 with refrain

Refrain

Sweet Ho - ly Spir - it, sweet heav-en-ly Dove, stay right here

with us, fill-ing us with your love; and for these bless-ings we

lift our hearts in praise; with-out a doubt we'll know that we have

been re - vived when we shall leave this place.

307 God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
 we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

TEXT: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930, alt.
 MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA
 8.7.8.7.8.7.7

772

Live into Hope

1 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed, of sight re -
 2 Live in - to hope! The blind shall see with in - sight
 3 Live in - to hope of lib - er - ty, the right to
 4 Live in - to hope of cap - tives freed from chains of

gained, the end of greed. The op-pressed shall be the
 and with clar - i - ty, re - mov - ing shades of
 speak, the right to be, the right to have one's
 fear or want or greed. God now pro - claims our

first to see the year of God's own ju - bi - lee!
 pride and fear, a vi - sion of our God brought near.
 dai - ly bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.
 full re - lease to faith and hope and joy and peace.

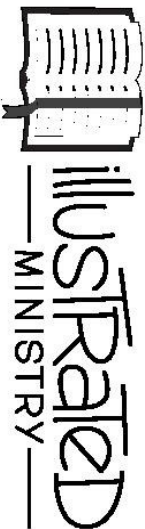
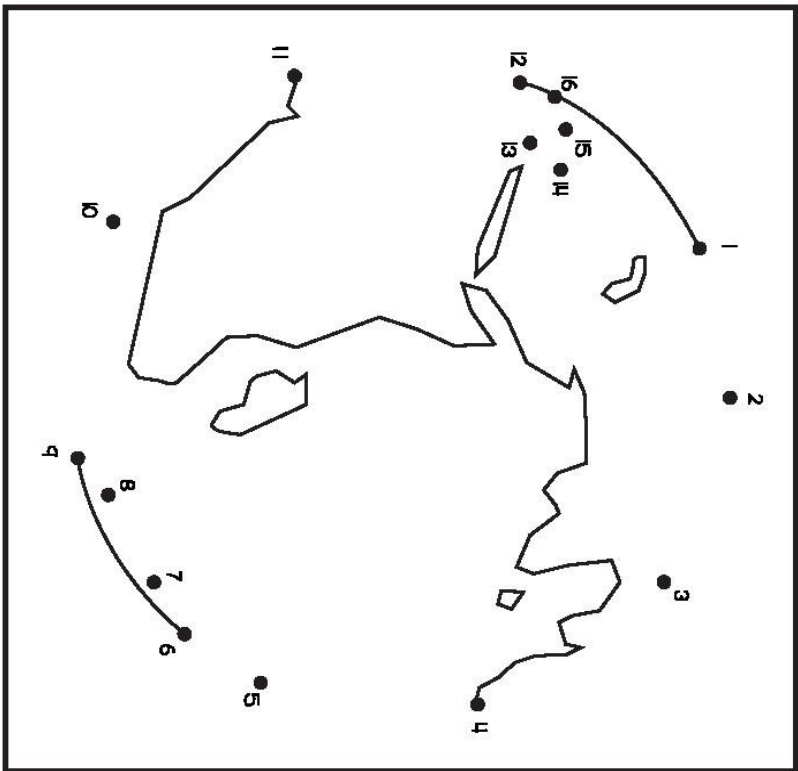
This text on Luke 4:16–20, the author's first, was written for the United Presbyterian Women's National Meeting in July 1976 because the team planning worship could not find a suitable hymn on that passage. She wrote the words with this vigorous 18th-century tune in mind.

TEXT: Jane Parker Huber, 1976
 MUSIC: *Musica Sacra*, c. 1778
 Text © 1980 Jane Parker Huber (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

TRURO
LM

CONNECT the DOTS

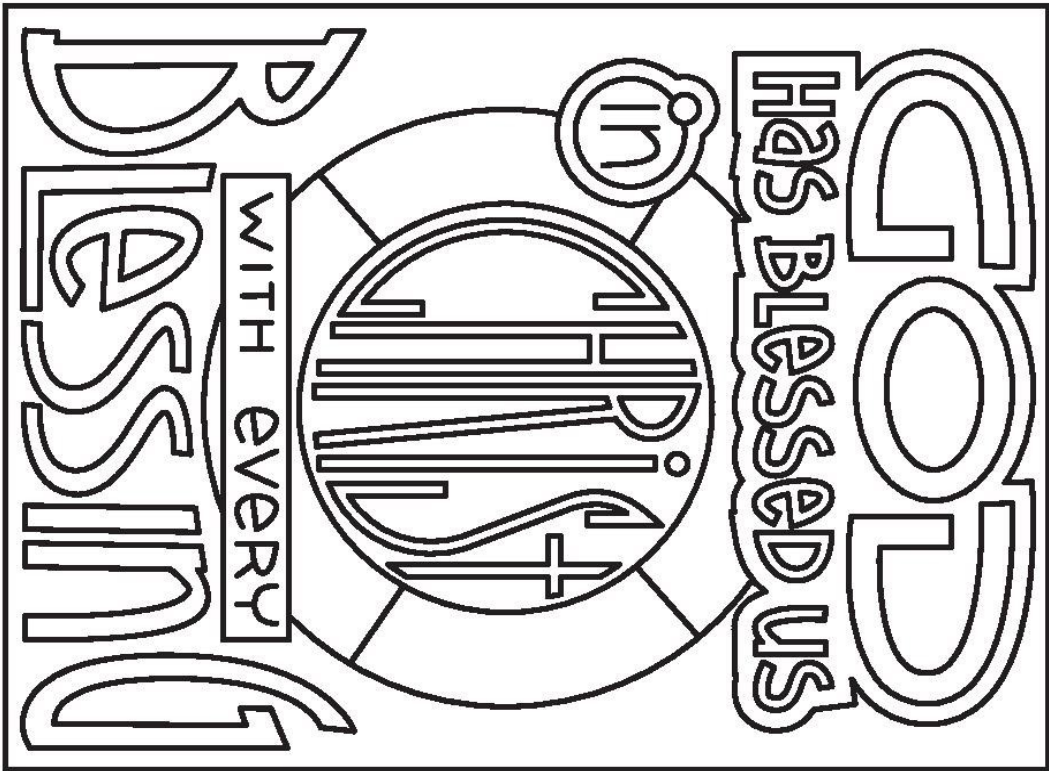
Psalms 24 says, "The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it!" Connect the dots to form the world. Inside, write or draw parts of creation you'd like to praise and thank God for!



Suggested for use on July 11, 2021 based on the RCL.
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CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19, Psalm 24, Ephesians 1:3-14.



DRAW IT

2 Samuel describes how King David danced with all his strength and energy for God! In the first box, draw a picture of David dancing for God. In the second box, draw a way you like to praise and worship!

WORD SEARCH

Try to find the words from Ephesians 1:3-14 in the word search below. Words may go diagonal, up OR down and forward OR backward.

C E K W P G A T H E R U D Y S
 S E S S G L S L G C U D E M E
 U Q Z V M S P I R I T O D R S
 S W D O G N L W P H K Z L P A
 E T I M E F H P Y P T N U S L
 J W P C H I L D R E N R S R B
 B H O L Y H T U R T P E A P L
 E K N J R N B T L O N F S E E
 H X E U P Q J B S E G J E P S
 Y H V I B A G E V I X R Y R S
 D X A D O P T I O N F D C A E
 P J E Z R G G M W N F G F I D
 J Q H U Q R A K K H O P E S G
 Z Q C M O F F C B G O S P E L
 V Q U F R L I Y R O L G D D Z

BLESSSED	PRAISE	PURPOSE
GOD	FREE	HOPE
JESUS	FORGIVENESS	GLORY
HEAVEN	TIME	TRUTH
CHILDREN	GATHER	GOSPEL
ADOPTION	EARTH	HOLY SPIRIT

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.** Masking is 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.** 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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