



July 18, 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

Variations on 'Hyfrydol,' Callahan & Sedio

Leslie Weber

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Chris Weichman

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

Rev. Chris Weichman

Let us worship God, our source of life.

God awakens us from the dust of the earth.

Let us worship God, our sovereign protector.

God is at our right hand, and we shall not be moved.

Let us worship God with hearts that are glad,

for in God's presence there is fullness of joy.

***Hymn #260**

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

(page 5 & 6)

P R A Y I N G

Call to Confession

Seph Kumer

We are the people of God,
but Scripture reminds us that we still sin.

We need to confess our sins and our failures,
knowing that the Lord Jesus intercedes for us with the Father,
who freely forgives us, through his infinite goodness and mercy.

So let us draw near to God with sincerity and confidence, and pray together.

Prayer of Confession (*in unison*)

Seph Kumer

Almighty God,
we confess that we have taken your commandments
and turned them into rules.

We have criticized those who have fallen short
and selfishly proclaimed ourselves righteous.

We have failed to understand the spirit of the commandments
and the way that was shown by you to live,
loving God and loving our neighbors.

Forgive us for turning your law into burdens
for others and ourselves,
instead of a way to love and freedom in you.

In the name of Christ,
who has given us the way and leads us on, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The Heidelberg Catechism: Question 1

Seph Kumer

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**That I am not my own,
but belong body and soul,
in life and in death
to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.
He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,
and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.
Because I belong to him,
Christ, by his Holy Spirit,
assures me of eternal life
and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready
from now on to live for him.**

*Passing of the Peace

Seph Kumer

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.

Moment for Mission

Shawn Harmon: Refugee Ministry

Karola Ranft

L I S T E N I N G

First Reading *Mark 13:1-8*

Montgomery Service

As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!"² Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

³ When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?"⁵ Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶ Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. ⁷ When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

Hymn #687

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

(page 7)

Children's Moment

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

Second Reading *Hebrews 10:19-25*

Rev. Chris Weichman

¹⁹ Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Sermon

"So What?"

Rev. Chris Weichman

RESPONDING

Time of Reflection

"All Things Bright and Beautiful," John Rutter
Soloists: Nina DiPlacido and Peyton Thiem
©1983 Oxford University Press / also Hinshaw Music Inc

Leslie Weber

Prayers of the People

God is Good... All the Time!
All the Time... God is Good!

Rev. Chris Weichman

The Lord's Prayer *(in unison)*

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

Rev. Chris Weichman

*Hymn #546

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

(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 this 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

"O Day of Peace," Charles Callahan
Based on JERUSALEM by C.H.H. Parry
©2003 Birnamwood Publications / MorningStar Music

Leslie Weber

A gift to the Vicary Organ Fund in lieu of flowers was made today by Mrs. Sue Lefever in memory of Howard D. Lefever and June P. Lefever, John F. McDermott and Mary McDermott Scott.

Today's Assurance of Pardon is question one from The Heidelberg Catechism ~ Soon after Luther posted his ninety-five theses, reform movements sprang up throughout Europe. As Lutheran thought moved south through Germany, Reformed thought moved north from Switzerland. They met at Heidelberg, seat of the oldest university in Germany. Tension between Lutherans and Reformed Christians was intense, particularly around the theology of the Lord's Supper. Acting to end the controversy, the political leaders asked two young men of Heidelberg, Zacharias Ursinus, professor of theology, and Kaspar Olevianus, preacher to the city to prepare a catechism acceptable to both sides. Completed in 1562, the Heidelberg Catechism was published in January of the following year. The Heidelberg Catechism is part of the Presbyterian Book of Confessions.

**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



INVITATION TO MINISTRY

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.

Changes may be coming... Church leaders are keeping a close eye on emerging news about national and regional Covid-19 Delta variant cases. Just as protocols have been loosened gradually when circumstances have permitted, some protocols may soon require reinstatement. With all children under 12 ineligible for vaccinations, half of Erie County yet unvaccinated and many in our midst with added health risks, we will continue to operate in ways that take the greater good into consideration. Recent reports indicate that nearly all of those being sickened or hospitalized with Covid are those who are not yet vaccinated or partially vaccinated. Thank you for your willingness to adapt when necessary, and for your commitment to care for the wider community above individual comfort or preference.

Church Baseball Outing: Erie Seawolves Everyone is invited to a home game today at 1:35 PM. A few tickets remaining: \$5/person.

Junior ringers-age 4 through 5th grade will meet to ring chimes on July 28 from 5-6 pm in the Sanctuary, if you are interested please contact Monty (montgomery.service@firstcovenanterie.org) so we can plan accordingly.

National Night Out Help Needed First Covenant will again provide (pandemic-safe) children's activities at the community gathering on Tuesday, August 3, 5-8 p.m. at Gridley Park. YOUR help is needed with 2 large inflatable slides (instead of bounce houses for Covid reasons), water balloon toss and sack races. There are two shifts of helpers needed: 4:30-6:30 and 6:30 to 8:30. 8 helpers needed each shift! An afternoon prep team also needed (water balloons) Noon to 2 p.m. Because of Covid some past years' helpers may be unavailable this year. Can you share the church's and God's love with kids/families? Please email or text/call Seph Kumer if you can help: seph.kumer@firstcovenanterie.org , 814.566.0287.

Cantor Volunteers needed as we move into the Fall we are in need of volunteers to lead us in the singing of the hymns during worship. Practice provided before the service on Sundays. Please contact Monty Service (montgomery.service@firstcovenanterie.org) if you are interested or have any questions.

Carillion Volunteers needed it's been great to use the carillon to welcome us into worship each Sunday morning, as we look to the Fall we are in need of volunteers to play the carillon for 9-10 minutes before worship on Sunday mornings. We've been using hymn melodies and the carillon console is a keyboard (like a piano). Training and orientation provided, volunteers would need to be able to read music and play one-handed melodies. Please contact Monty Service (montgomery.service@firstcovenanterie.org) if you are interested or have any questions.

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.

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 (Eat n' Park) with Pastor Chris, Thursday, **July 29**, 7:15 a.m.

260 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter, his the
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in sor - row
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of an - gels, here on earth our food, our
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o - tent we

throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the vic - to -
 now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be - lieves nor
 stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to you from
 own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your foot - stool,

ry a - lone! Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on
 ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re - ceived him,
 day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of sin - ners,
 heaven your throne. As with - in the veil you en - tered,

The author regarded this text as a communion hymn, a theme that seems eclipsed by the attention to Christ's exaltation, but a helpful reminder that such hymns are not always quiet and meek. This text is sung to various tunes, but this rousing Welsh one is a favorite choice.

TEXT: William Chatterton Dix, 1866, alt.
 MUSIC: Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1831, alt.

HYFRYDOL
 8.7.8.7.D

JESUS CHRIST: ASCENSION AND REIGN



thun - der like a might - y flood: "Je - sus out of
 when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our hearts for -
 earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the songs of
 robed in flesh, our great high priest; here on earth both



ev - ery na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."
 get his prom - ise: "I am with you ev - er - more"?
 all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.

687 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

(Psalm 90)

1 Our God, our help in a - ges past, our
 2 Be - neath the shad - ow of thy throne thy
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are

hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the
 saints have dwelt se - cure; suf - fi - cient is thine
 earth re - ceived its frame, from ev - er - last - ing
 like an eve - ning gone, short as the watch that

storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
 arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 thou art God, to end - less years the same.
 ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever rolling stream,
 bears all our years away;
 they fly forgotten, as a dream
 dies at the opening day.
- 6 Our God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come,
 be thou our guard while life shall last,
 and our eternal home.

Many people sing this hymn unaware that it paraphrases Psalm 90, partly because this text speaks so immediately to the human condition. Since the middle of the 19th century, it has usually been joined to this tune named for the London parish where the composer was organist.

SENDING

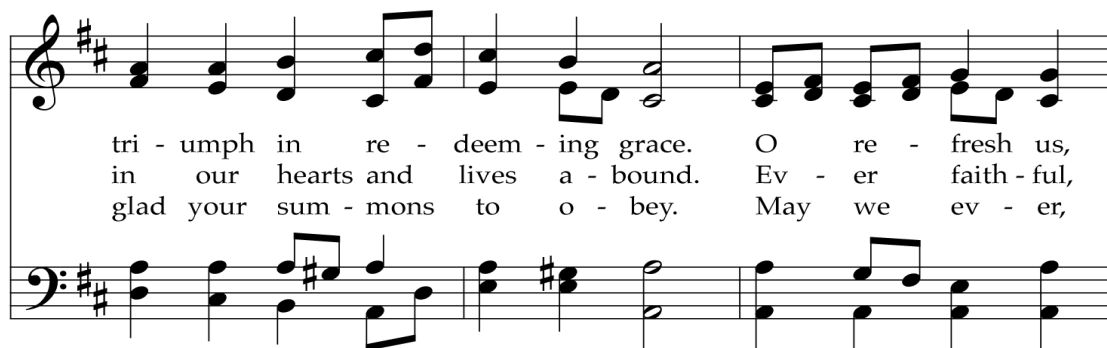
546 Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing; fill our hearts with
 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's
 3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us, from our strug - gling



joy and peace; let us each, your love pos - sess - ing,
 joy - ful sound; may the fruits of your sal - va - tion
 pil - grim way, let no fear of death ap - pall us,



tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us,
 in our hearts and lives a - bound. Ev - er faith - ful,
 glad your sum - mons to o - bey. May we ev - er,



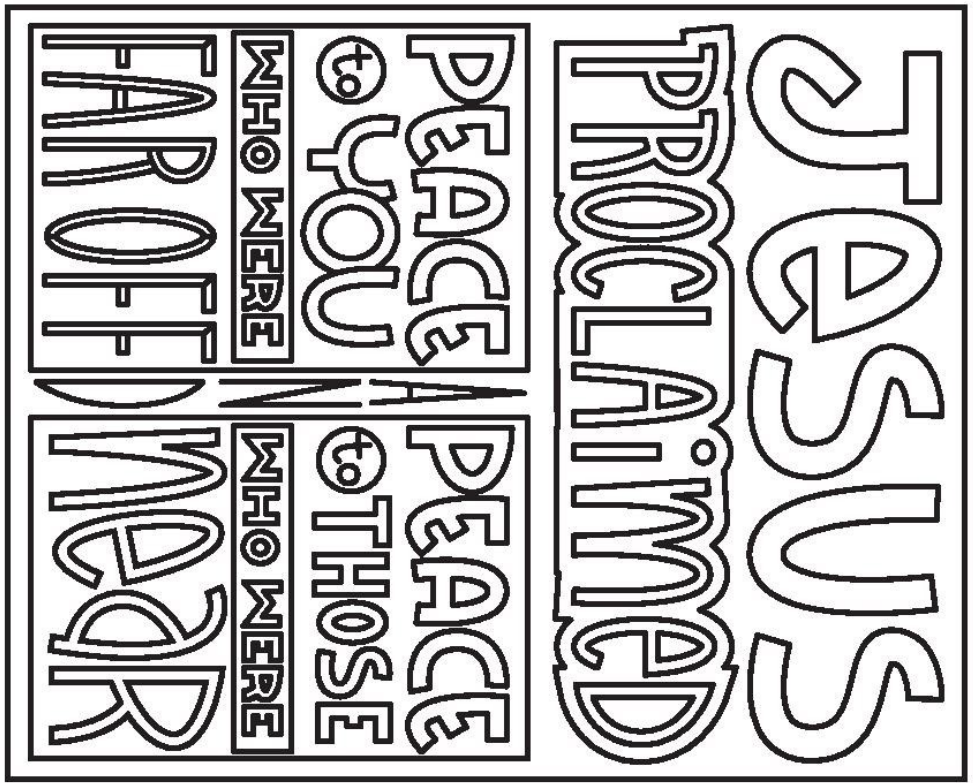
O re - fresh us, trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
 ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.
 may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

This hymn of corporate benediction is one of several using the same first line. It was written by a Baptist pastor who dedicated his entire ministry to a small church in rural Yorkshire. The tune used here was first transcribed from Sicilian sailors in the late 18th century.

TEXT: Attr. John Fawcett, 1773, alt.; stanza 3, alt. Geoffrey Thring, 1880, alt.
 MUSIC: Sicilian melody, 18th cent.

SICILIAN MARINERS
 8.7.8.7.8.7

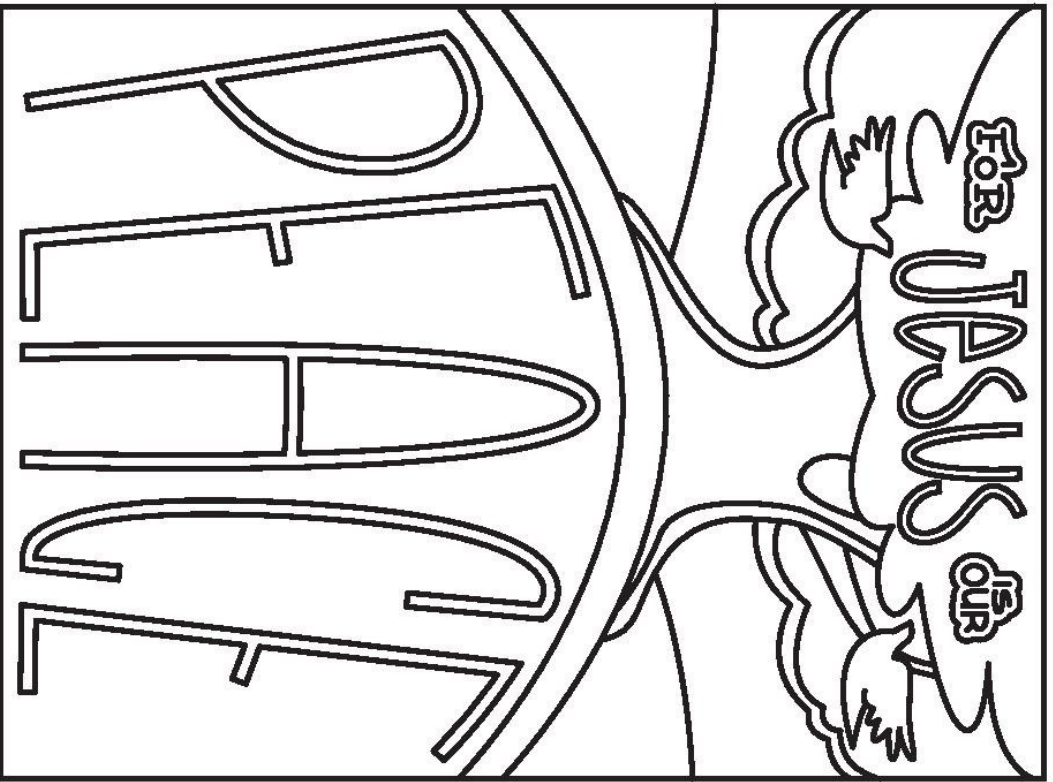
COLOR IN THE WORDS



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CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on 2 Samuel 7:1-14a, Ephesians 2:11-22, Mark 6:30-34, 53-56.



DRAW IT

In Mark 6, Jesus invites his disciples to go to a quiet place to rest. They were so tired after caring for the crowds in need! Jesus needed breaks too! Draw a picture of a place you go to for rest and renewal. Thank God for that place.



UNSCRAMBLE IT

In 2 Samuel, God tells David what one of his children will someday do. This child will become a king too. Unscramble the words to learn what God shares about David's son!

EH LAHLS BDLUI A OSUEH

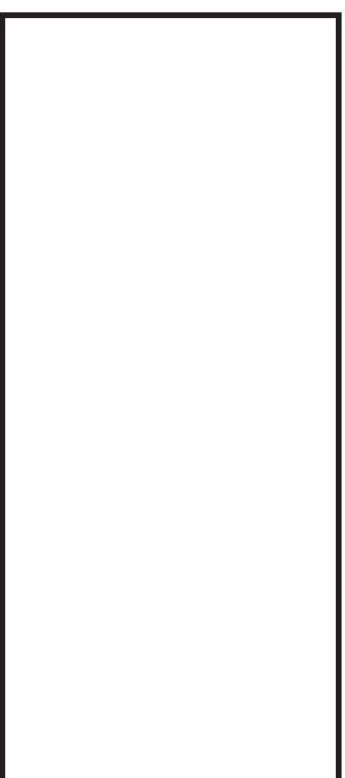
ROF YM MEAN' DNA I LWLI

SIHABLETES HET ENORTH FO

SHI GNMODKI ERROFVE

 DOODLE AREA

Draw a picture of what you want to thank God for.



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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