

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
OF THE COVENANT

July 25, 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

“Dearest Jesus, We Are Here,” John A. Behnke
“Baptized into Your Name Most Holy”

Leslie Weber

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

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

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

God has called us like Moses in the wilderness,
the prophets in the hills, and the disciples in the cities.

They shared their blessings so that we might know God’s presence here.

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses,
let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely.

**Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us,
looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.**

***Hymn #65**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

(page 5)

P R A Y I N G

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

Rev. Chris Weichman

We hear the call to trust in God always,

**But honestly, some days our stresses and doubts
are even more real to us than God, and trust is elusive.**

We remember how Abram dared to believe in God’s promises,

But belief like that is hard to come by.

We are often inclined to think,

“God helps those who help themselves,”

instead of daring to rely on the word of our Creator.

When the world seems filled with dangers,

we can be quick to protect ourselves,

And we forget the wisdom of scripture,

which reminds us that we find traces of evil both
outside and inside of ourselves.

With God’s help, we confront our fears and struggles,

and we call upon a power greater than our own to resist their pull.

Hear us, Holy One, as we confess our frailty and failings...

Silent Prayer of Confession

Though fear should beset us;
though danger cause us to close up our doors;
though troubles assail and lead us away from the ways of grace;
only one thing is necessary:
just turn back to God's promise of grace.
Remember that God is reaching out with loving arms,
and let yourself be held.
Only ask for forgiveness, and it is ours:
know that in this moment we have asked
and in Christ Jesus, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

***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 worshipping with you in the sanctuary.

L I S T E N I N G

First Reading *Mark 5:25-34*

Seph Kumer

²⁵ Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years. ²⁶ She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. ²⁷ She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, ²⁸ for she said, "If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well." ²⁹ Immediately her hemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. ³⁰ Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my clothes?" ³¹ And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, 'Who touched me?'" ³² He looked all around to see who had done it. ³³ But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. ³⁴ He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

Praise Hymn

In Christ Alone

(page 6 & 7)

Children's Moment

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

Second Reading *Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16*

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Sermon

"Arrivals and Departures"

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

RESPONDING

Sacrament of Baptism

Gabriel John Service
Son of Montgomery & Marie Service

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

Response Hymn #486

Child of Blessing Child of Promise

(page 8)

Prayers of the People

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

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

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

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 #475

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

(page 9)

*Giving of Our Tithes & Offerings

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

*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. Britney L.V. Knight

*Postlude

"Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah" Paul Manz

Leslie Weber

From Ten Chorale Improvisations SET V
©1974 Concordia Publishing House

A gift to the Sunday Supper Ministry in lieu of flowers was made today by Mr. George (Rick) Klapthor in memory of Louise, Carlson and William Klapthor.

Call for a Special Meeting of the Congregation

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant calls for a special meeting of the congregation to be held on Sunday, August 8, 2021 in the sanctuary immediately following the 10:00 a.m. worship service. The stated purpose of the meeting is to hear and act upon a report from the Nominating Committee to fill one vacant position on the Board of Deacons.

Rev. Chris Weichman, Moderator

W. D. Holmes, Clerk of Session

**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

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.

Join Us For Fellowship After Worship Catch up with friends or meet someone new. Come and join us for Fellowship Hour under the Bell Tower. Enjoy cake provided by the Service family in celebration of Gabriel's baptism.

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 12.

Welcome new students to Erie! Can you pick up a new international student (or two) from Erie International Airport, and deliver them to Gannon? Flights range from August 2 to 18, in afternoons and evenings. 12 students from India, Japan, Spain, Mongolia, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Vietnam and France would love to meet a friendly Erie resident upon their arrival. Contact Seph Kumer 814.566.0287 to volunteer or with questions.

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 - Reminder the Kennywood trip is July 28. There are no more spaces available the trip is full (two vans)!

Adults-

Bible Study (Zoom) no Wednesday Bible Study with Pastor Britney on the 28th.

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.

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah 65

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but thou art might - y. Hold me
 stream doth flow. Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side. Death of death, and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with thy power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es

feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.
 be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

Few Welsh hymns are as well known or loved as this 18th-century text that did not gain its popular tune until the early 20th century. In both its original text and in English translation, it is a stirring hymn of pilgrimage filled with vivid imagery from Hebrew Scripture.

TEXT: William Williams, 1762; stanza 1, trans. Peter Williams, 1771; stanzas 2–3, trans. William Williams, 1772
 MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA
 8.7.8.7.8.7.7

In Christ Alone

Words and Music by
Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

♩ = 60

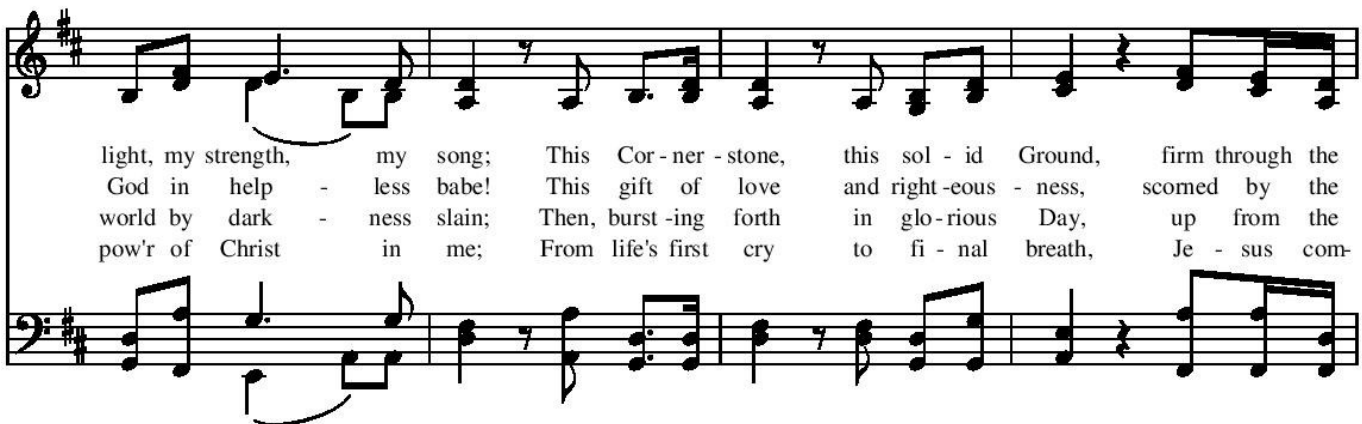
VERSE

G D G A D/F#



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my
2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of
3. There in the ground His bod - y lay, Light of the
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the

3 G D/F# Em⁷ G/A D G D G A D/F#



light, my strength, my song; This Cor - ner - stone, this sol - id Ground, firm through the
God in help - less babe! This gift of love and right - eous - ness, scorned by the
world by dark - ness slain; Then, burst - ing forth in glo - rious Day, up from the
pow'r of Christ in me; From life's first cry to fi - nal breath, Je - sus com -

7 G D/F# Em⁷ G/A D D/F# G D/F# A^{sus} A D/F#



fierc - est drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are
ones He came to save. Till on that cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of
grave He rose a - gain! And as He stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has
-mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er

11 G Bm⁷ A^{sus} A G D G A D/F[♯]

stilled, when striv-ings cease. My Com-fort - er, my All in All, here in the
 God was sat - is - fied. For ev - 'ry sin on Him was laid; Here in the
 lost its grip on me; For I am His and He is mine, bought with the
 pluck me from His hand; Till He re - turns or calls me home, here in the

INSTRUMENTAL

15 G D/F[♯] Em⁷ G/A D Am⁷

love of Christ I stand.
 death of Christ I live.
 pre - cious blood of Christ.
 pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

18 Em⁷ D D^{sus} D

BAPTISM

486 Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

1 Child of bless - ing, child of prom - ise, bap - tized
 2 Child of love, our love's ex - pres - sion, love's cre -
 3 Child of joy, our dear - est trea - sure, God's you
 4 Child of God, your lov - ing Par - ent, learn to

with the Spir - it's sign, with this wa - ter God has
 a - tion, loved in - deed! Fresh from God, re - fresh our
 are, from God you came. Back to God we hum - bly
 lis - ten for God's call. Grow to laugh and sing and

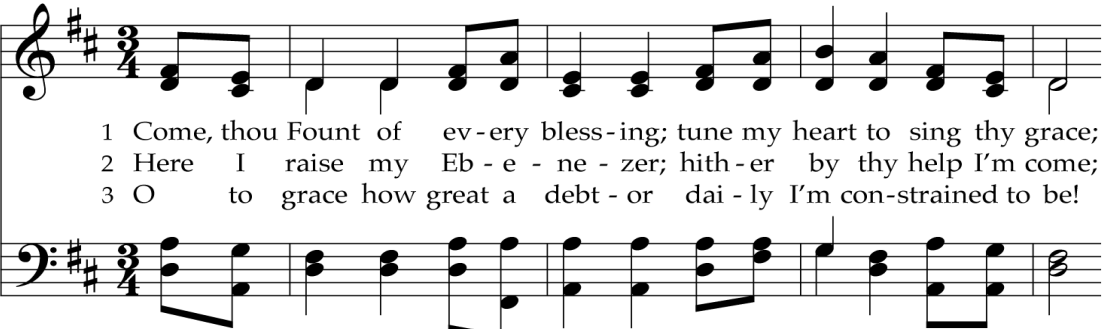
sealed you un - to love and grace di - vine.
 spir - its; in - to joy and laugh - ter lead.
 give you: live as one who bears Christ's name.
 wor - ship; trust and love God more than all.

This hymn addressed to a newly-baptized child begins each stanza with a facet of the child's identity, culminating in "child of God." By being directed to one person rather than the whole congregation, this text occupies a special category among the "songs of encouragement."

TEXT: Ronald S. Cole-Turner, 1980
 MUSIC: V. Earle Copes, 1959
 Text © 1981 Ronald S. Cole-Turner

KINGDOM
 8.7.8.7
 (alternate tune: STUTTGART)

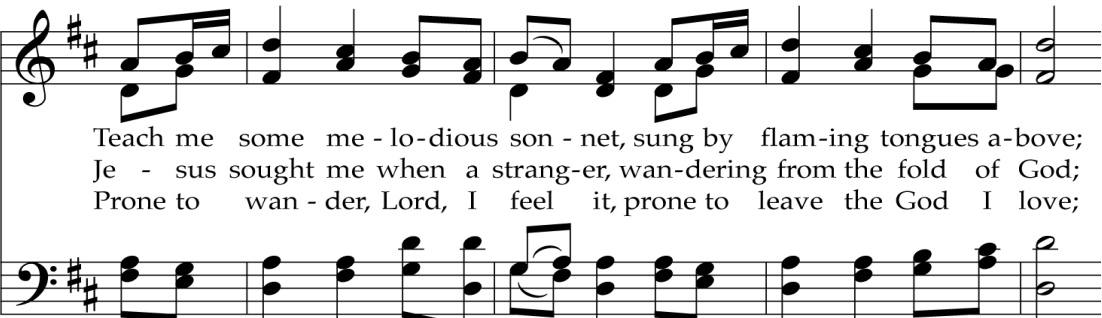
Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475



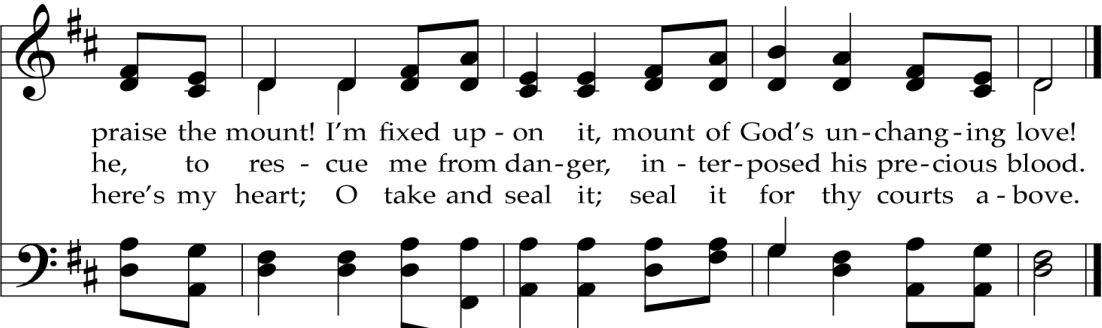
1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith-er by thy help I'm come;
 3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.
 Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.



Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove;
 Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un-chang-ing love!
 he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter-posed his pre-cious blood.
 here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

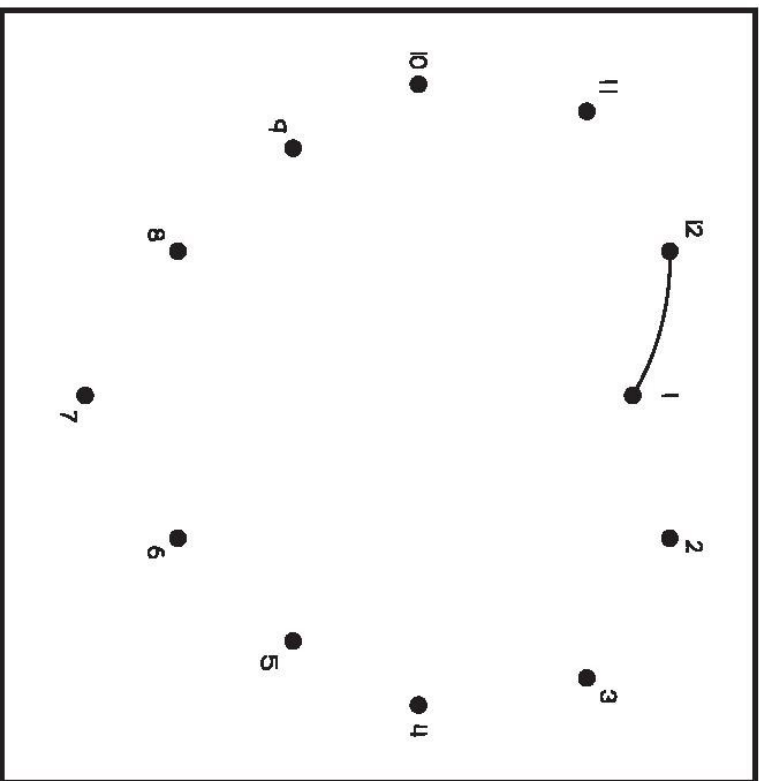
Written for Pentecost by a British Baptist pastor, this text is full of biblical terms like "Ebenezer" (1 Samuel 7:12), Hebrew for "a stone of help" set up to give thanks for God's assistance. The tune name honors hymnal compiler Asahel Nettleton, who probably did not compose it.

TEXT: Robert Robinson, 1758, alt.
 MUSIC: Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813

NETTLETON
 8.7.8.7.D

CONNECT the DOTS

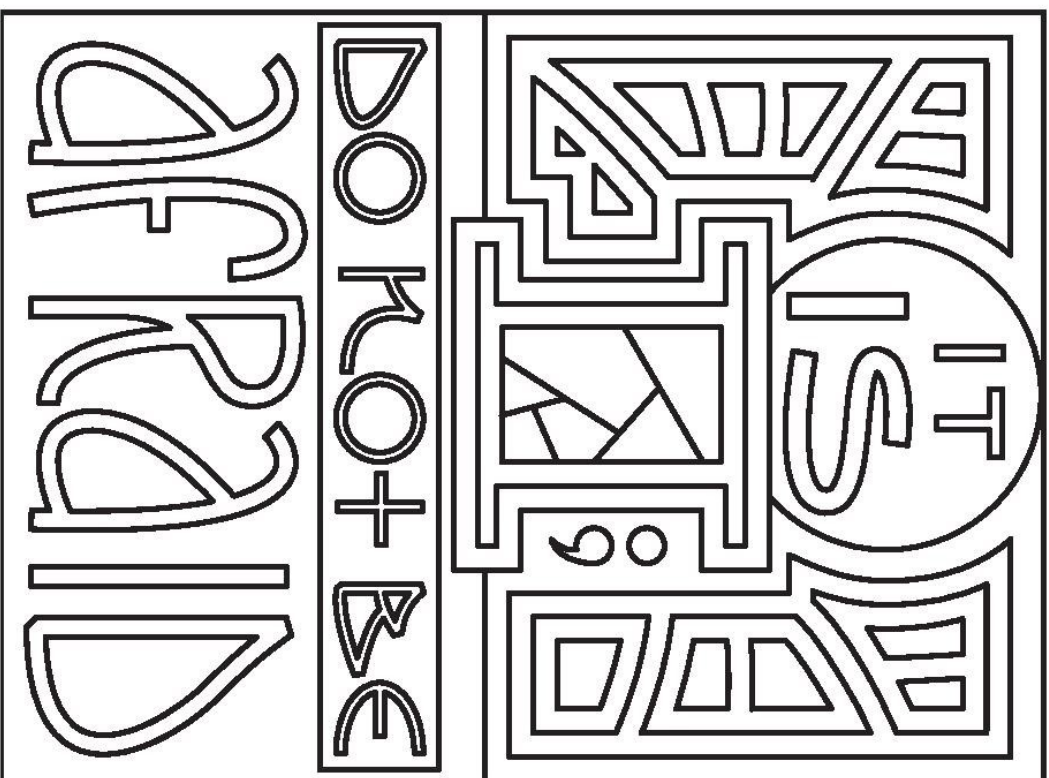
In Ephesians 3, Paul prays we will know the breadth and length and height and depth of God's incredible love. Connect the dots to form a heart. Inside, write or draw a way you can share God's love.



Suggested for use on July 25, 2021 based on the RCL.
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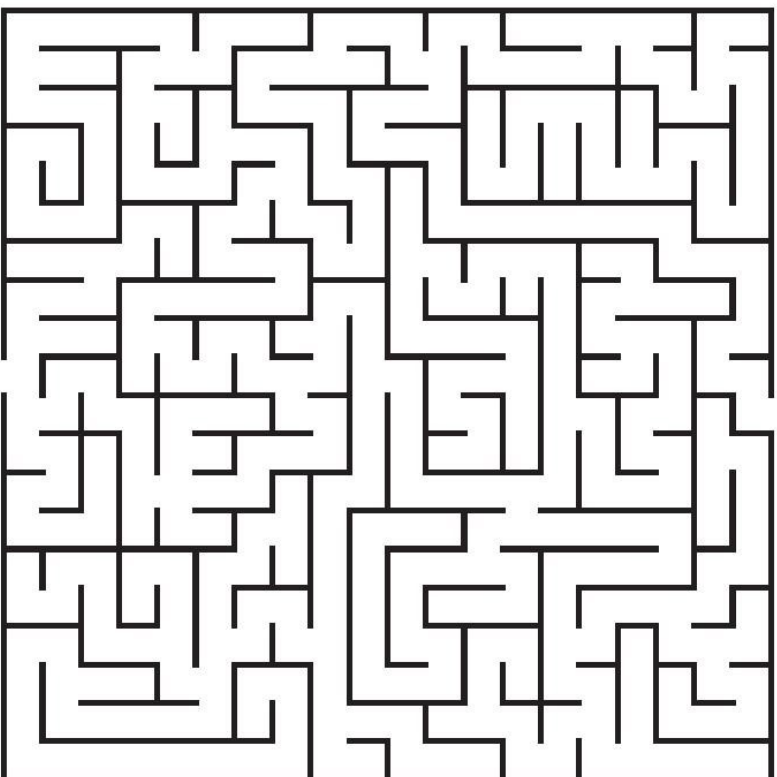
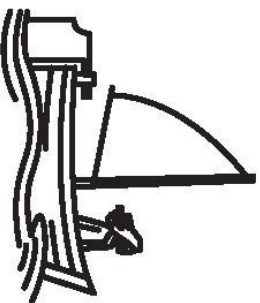
CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Ephesians 3:14-21 and John 6:1-12 L



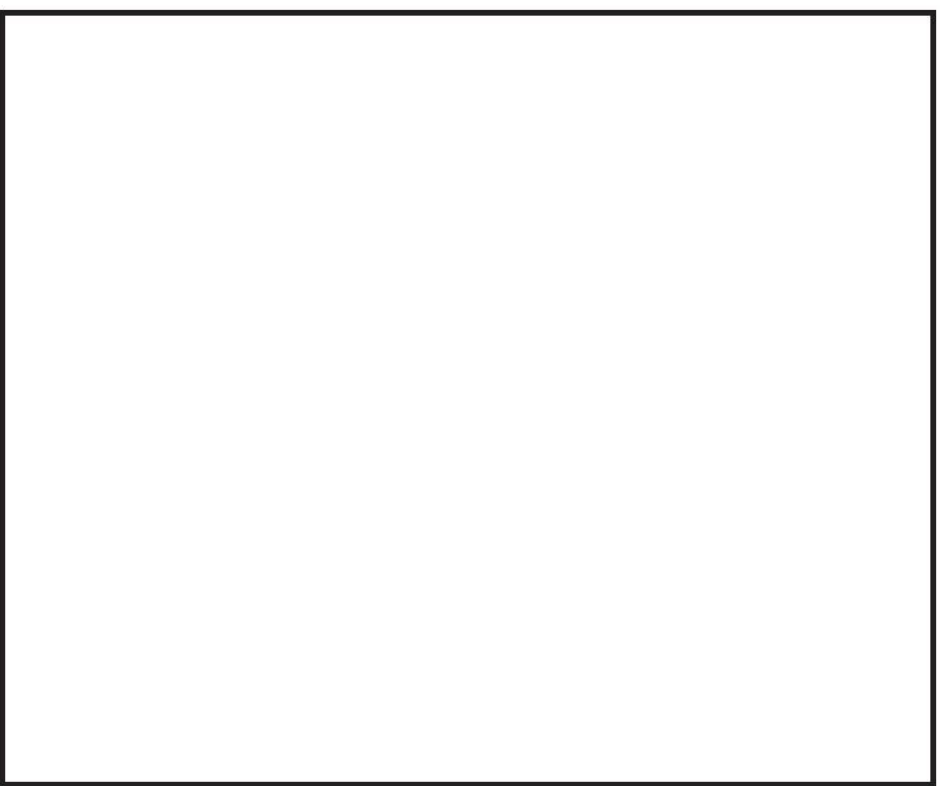
SOLVE (the) MAZE

In John 6, Jesus travels to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. Help him through the maze in his boat!



DRAW IT

Jesus did many miracles, including feeding hundreds of hungry people from a lunch a young boy shared. A kid gave Jesus his loaves of bread and fish, and Jesus used it to help a huge crowd! Draw what you imagine this scene looked like. Jesus can do beautiful things with what you offer and share too!



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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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