

August 22, 2021

10:00 a.m., Facebook & Cookhouse Pavilion, Presque Isle State Park www.Facebook.com/FirstCovenantErie/

Cookhouse Pavilion located on bayside of peninsula, across from Yellow Bike Rentals

Due to the rise in Covid Delta Variant masks are required to be worn at all times in worship.

"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

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

Call to Worship Kia Howell

The Spirit is coming to bless us all with a new song:

Let our joy be complete!

Gifts for the good of all, poured out on all to teach us a new song:

Love one another!

Strangers and neighbors, foreigners and family will join in the new song:

No longer servants but friends!

Come, let our worship make a joyful noise,

Rejoicing in the friendship of God!

*Praise Hymn In Christ Alone (page 5)

P R A Y I N G

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

Rev. Chris Weichman

Children of God, let us love,

Not in word or speech,

But in truth and action.

And by this we will know

That we are from the truth

And will reassure our hearts before God

Whenever our hearts condemn us;

For God is greater than our hearts,

And God knows everything.

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Loving and Merciful One,

we thank you for the community in which you have placed us,

for the brothers and sisters with whom we walk this pilgrim journey.

Yet, we confess that we fail to love as you love.

We push aside those whom we believe are the least in your Kingdom.

We fail to see your Kingdom in parables

because we fail to see your Kingdom in each other.

Form in us a new vision of community

in which there is neither East nor West, neither South nor North.

We pray for the sake of your Kingdom

that both is and is not yet. Amen.

Rev. Chris Weichman

Praise Hymn All for Love (page 6)

Assurance of Pardon Rev. Chris Weichman

You are loved.
Love is the Way.
When you love God, you love others.
When you truly lay down your life for others, you lay down your life for God.
Give yourself to God by serving others.
Know that in God's love there is forgiveness, healing, and reconciliation. 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 Facebook or share a nod, a peace sign, a wave of peace with those worshiping with you.

*Praise Hymn

Amazing Grace / My Chains are Gone

(page 7)

LISTENING

First Reading 2 Kings 7:1-11, 16

Seth Howell

¹ But Elisha said, "Hear the word of the Lord: thus says the LORD, Tomorrow about this time a measure of choice meal shall be sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, at the gate of Samaria." ² Then the captain on whose hand the king leaned said to the man of God, "Even if the LORD were to make windows in the sky, could such a thing happen?" But he said, "You shall see it with your own eyes, but you shall not eat from it."

³ Now there were four leprous men outside the city gate, who said to one another, "Why should we sit here until we die? ⁴ If we say, 'Let us enter the city,' the famine is in the city, and we shall die there; but if we sit here, we shall also die. Therefore, let us desert to the Aramean camp; if they spare our lives, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall but die." ⁵ So they arose at twilight to go to the Aramean camp; but when they came to the edge of the Aramean camp, there was no one there at all. ⁶ For the Lord had caused the Aramean army to hear the sound of chariots, and of horses, the sound of a great army, so that they said to one another, "The king of Israel has hired the kings of the Hittites and the kings of Egypt to fight against us." ⁷ So they fled away in the twilight and abandoned their tents, their horses, and their donkeys leaving the camp just as it was, and fled for their lives. ⁸ When these leprous men had come to the edge of the camp, they went into a tent, ate and drank, carried off silver, gold, and clothing, and went and hid them. Then they came back, entered another tent, carried off things from it, and went and hid them.

⁹ Then they said to one another, "What we are doing is wrong. This is a day of good news; if we are silent and wait until the morning light, we will be found guilty; therefore let us go and tell the king's household." ¹⁰ So they came and called to the gatekeepers of the city, and told them, "We went to the Aramean camp, but there was no one to be seen or heard there, nothing but the horses tied, the donkeys tied, and the tents as they were." ¹¹ Then the gatekeepers called out and proclaimed it to the king's household.

¹⁶ Then the people went out, and plundered the camp of the Arameans. So a measure of choice meal was sold for a shekel, and two measures of barley for a shekel, according to the word of the Lord.

Praise Hymn

Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly

(page 8)

Children's Moment

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

Second Reading John 15:12-17

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

¹² "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶ You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷ I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Sermon

"The Beloved Community"

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

RESPONDING

Installation of Officers

Rev. Chris Weichman

Elders ~ Cass Shimek
Deacons ~ Cathy Anderson
Trustees ~ Tim Tracy & Margaret Matthews

Prayers of the People

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

God is Good... 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

*Praise Hymn

One Thing Remains

(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!

"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

A gift to Sunday Suppers Ministry in lieu of flowers was made today by the McLaren family in loving memory of Dr. Harold J. McLaren



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

1. Use the QR code at right.

2. Go to <u>www.firstcovenanterie.org</u> and click the *GIVE NOW* button at the bottom of the homepage.

3. Mail your check to:



INVITATION TO MINISTRY

- *Welcome!* to everyone joining us for worship at Presque Isle and in the sanctuary and on Facebook. <u>Masks must be worn at all times in the church building.</u> Updated in-person worship details can be found on page 12 of this bulletin.
- Join Us For Brunch After Worship Catch up with friends or meet someone new.
- **Thank you to Everyone** who gave to First Covenant through Erie Gives on August 10th. A total of 66 donors gave \$69,097 to the mission and ministries of the church. We are grateful for your generosity.
- *Kirk House/Welcome Back Picnic September 1* (Outdoors/social-distanced) Help welcome a small group of Gannon Students with an outdoor picnic on Kirk House porch/yard on Wednesday, September 1 from 5 to 7 p.m. Help needed with set-up, serving, distance-mingling/hospitality. If you can assist, contact Marlene Spires at mchris man0312@yahoo.com
- *Mark your calendars! Sunday, September 12, we return to two worship services, The Chapel Service returns to McBrier Chapel at 8:30a.m. And the Sanctuary service moves to 11:00a.m. Faith Formation, from 9:30 to 10:30, returns for Adults, Children, and Youth.
- Church Work Day September 18 Work alongside a small team of Gannon volunteers on Saturday morning, September 18, from 9 a.m. to noon to spruce up the church grounds for fall. This is Gannon "GIVE Day", when students and staff share their energy and time across Erie. Great chance to meet/welcome students. Great chance to thank them for their assistance twice a year in this way. Can you assist in some way? Contact Matt Allen from the Cam pus Ministry team at matthew.L.allen@gmail.com
- Are you good at talking and listening? Be a "Conversation Partner" Meet once a week for one half hour with a Gannon University ESL (English as a Second Language) student...at Gannon, indoors or outside. Pick a subject to talk about each week (family life, school, careers, Erie, holidays, food, sports, hobbies, etc.); develop open-ended questions. You get to know a student and their culture. Students get to know an American and their culture--plus practice conversational English! Once students are proficient in English they can begin their academic studies! One semester commitment. Contact Seph Kumer (text or leave message) at 814.566.0287.
- *Erie County CROP Hunger Walk* On Sunday, September 26th, First Covenant will once again participate in the CROP/Hunger Walk. This year we will walk in the neighborhood due to Covid-19. First Covenant has a rich history of being a leader in this cause. Please help us keep this tradition alive by generously sponsoring those who walk for FPCC. Donations will be received in the Church Office and sponsor forms can be mailed to you or donate online at www.crophungerwalk.org. Tim Tracy, Derick Sweet and Bill Tauber can address your questions regarding the CROP/Hunger Walk. For more information see the September *Chimes*.
- 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.
- Carillon 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.

Summer Faith Formation Opportunities

Adults-

Bible Study (in person) Genesis with Pastor Britney, Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. **Bible Study** (Facebook LIVE) Wednesdays, 12:00 noon, pastors lead. **Men's Bible Study** (Zoom) with Pastor Chris, Thursday, August 26, 7:30 a.m.

*All Fall plans are Covid permitting

In Christ Alone

Verse 1

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

Verse 2

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

Verse 3

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

Verse 4

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

CCLI Song # 3350395

Keith Getty | Stuart Townend

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All For Love

Verse 1

All for love a Father gave
For only love could make a way
All for love the heavens cried
For love was crucified

Pre-Chorus

Oh how many times
Have I broken Your heart
But still You forgive
If only I ask
And how many times
Have You heard me pray
Draw near to me

Chorus

Ev'rything I need is You My beginning my forever Ev'rything I need is You

Verse 2

Let me sing all for love I will join the angel song Ever holy is the Lord King of glory King of all

Pre-Chorus

Oh how many times
Have I broken Your heart
But still You forgive
If only I ask
And how many times
Have You heard me pray
Draw near to me

Chorus (2x)
Ev'rything I need is You
My beginning my forever
Ev'rything I need is You

Verse 3

All for love a Savior prayed
Abba Father have Your way
Though they know not what they do
Let the cross draw man to You
To You to You to You

Chorus (2x)

Ev'rything I need is You My beginning my forever Ev'rything I need is You

CCLI Song # 4455220

Mia Fielde

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Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

Verse 1

Amazing grace how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me I once was lost but now I'm found Was blind but now I see

Verse 2

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear And grace my fears relieved How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed

Chorus

My chains are gone I've been set free My God my Savior has ransomed me And like a flood His mercy rains Unending love amazing grace

Verse 3

The Lord has promised good to me His word my hope secures He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures

Chorus (2x)

My chains are gone I've been set free My God my Savior has ransomed me And like a flood His mercy rains Unending love amazing grace

Verse 4

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

CCLI Song # 4768151

Chris Tomlin | John Newton | Louie Giglio
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Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly

Verse 1

It all comes down to this

What you require of me

Love my neighbor as myself

And You above all things

Chorus

Act justly love mercy walk humbly

With You God

In all things in all ways walk humbly

With You God

Verse 2

It all comes down to this

To be Your hands and feet

Good news to all the world

The truth will set us free

Chorus

Act justly love mercy walk humbly

With You God

In all things in all ways walk humbly

With You God

Bridge (2x)

It's beauty for ashes

It's mourning to dancing

It's closer and closer

The Kingdom of heaven

Verse 3

Years from now we'll see

The fruit our hands have sown

Faith just like a seed

The only way it grows

Chorus

Act justly love mercy walk humbly

With You God

In all things in all ways walk humbly

With You God

CCLI Song # 7168697

Chris Tomlin | Jason Ingram | Pat Barrett

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One Thing Remains (Your Love Never Fails)

Verse 1

Higher than the mountains that I face Stronger than the power of the grave Constant in the trial and the change One thing remains One thing remains

Interlude

Your love Your love will never change

Verse 2

On and on and on it goes
It overwhelms and satisfies my soul
And I never ever have to be afraid
One thing remains
One thing remains

Chorus (3x)

Your love never fails It never gives up Never runs out on me

(last time) Your love

Bridge (2x)

In death in life I'm confident and
Cover'd by the power of Your great love
My debt is paid there's nothing that
Can separate my heart from Your great love

Verse 1

Higher than the mountains that I face Stronger than the power of the grave Constant in the trial and the change One thing remains One thing remains

Ending

Your love

CCLI Song # 5508444

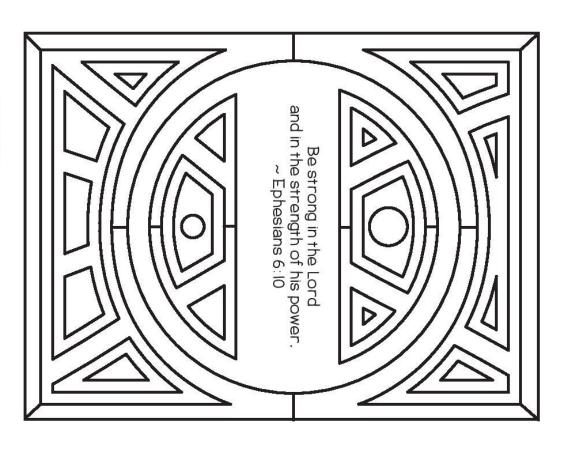
Brian Johnson | Christa Black Gifford | Jeremy Riddle

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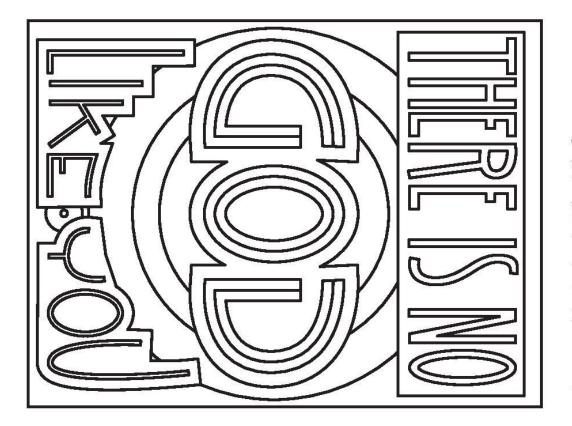
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Activities based on 1 Kings 8 (1, 6, 10-11), 22-30, 41-43, Psalm 84, Ephesians 6:10-20.

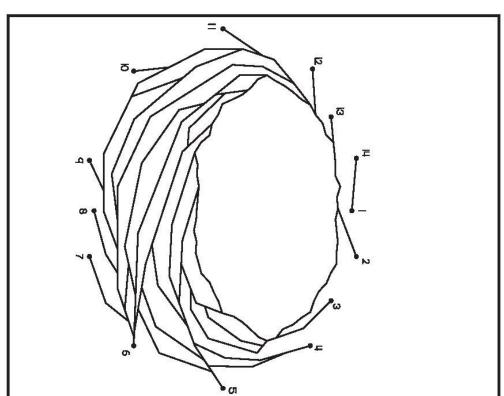




Ephesians 6 describes the "armor of God." These are things that protect us and help us live the lives of justice, kindness, and mercy God wants for us. Draw a picture of you wearing the belt of truth, shoes of peace, and carrying a shield of faith. How does this make you feel?

CONNECTHE

Psalm 84 describes how God lovingly provides a home in God's close presence for all creation, including nests for the sparrows. Connect the dots of the nest. Inside, write or draw a way you feel God's nearness.



Pandemic In-Person Worship Protocols (updated August 10, 2021)

It is good to 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 increasing. 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 will be incrementally adjusted as the situation dictates.

LATEST UPDATE

• Masking. Distancing. Pews. Seating. <u>Due to the rise in Covid Delta Variant Masking is no longer optional</u>. Masks must again be worn at all times. 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

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 contract 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.
- **Singing and spoken responses.** Singing is only 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

Phone number	Worship Date				
	Vaccinated?	YES	NO	ОТН	ER
Experiencing any of the following: Shortness of breath, cought taste, headache, nausea, vomiting? YES NO In the last 14 days have you been within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more with anyo have you been tested, with a positive result, for Covid-19? Y	ne that has tested	•			nell or
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In-Person Worship Atte	ndance Form	1			
Please print. Hand-in at entrance to sanctuary. For health screen	ning and contract	tracing p	urposes on	ly. Than	k you.
Name	Wors	hip Date	e		
Phone number	Vaccinated?	YES	NO	OTHE	R
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Please print. Hand-in at entrance to sanctuary. For health screen	_	•	-	•	•
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Name					
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