

September 5, 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

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

Montgomery Service

Gathering Music

"Variations on Amazing Grace," Dale Wood Wood Works for Organ Book 4 @2001Sacred Music Press

Leslie Weber

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Chris Weichman

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

Rev. Chris Weichman

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;

the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;

the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever;

the teachings of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

The law of the Lord is more precious than fine gold;

the goodness of God is sweeter than honey.

*Hvmn #8

Eternal Father Strong to Save

(page 7)

P R A Y I N G

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

Seph Kumer

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

But if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just.

He will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

Prayer of Confession (responsive, read aloud the bold print)

Seph Kumer

God of grace, hear our prayer.

Your good news is for all people.

Forgive us when we limit it to people like ourselves.

Your grace is for all people.

Forgive us when we hoard it, unable to believe in your abundance.

Your love is for all people.

Forgive us when we ignore it, fearing that we might be unworthy of your grace.

Move us to see the world as you know it:

bursting at the seams with your mercy and your love. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon Seph Kumer

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us.

*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 worshiping with you in the sanctuary.

L I S T E N I N G

First Reading Isaiah 61:1-7

Rev. Chris Weichman

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; ² to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³ to provide for those who mourn in Zion— to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. ⁴ They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, devastations of many generations. ⁵ Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, foreigners shall till your land and dress your vines; ⁶ but you shall be called priests of the Lord, you shall be named ministers of our God; you shall enjoy the wealth of the nations, and in their riches you shall glory. ⁷ Because their shame was double, and dishonor was proclaimed as their lot, therefore they shall possess a double portion; everlasting joy shall be theirs.

Hymn#610

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

(page 8)

Children's Moment

Rev. Britney L.V. Knight

Second Reading Luke 4:16-30

Rev. Chris Weichman

¹⁶ When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17 and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,

because he has anointed me

(A) to bring good news to the poor.

(B) He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives

(C) and recovery of sight to the blind, (B') to let the oppressed go free,

(A') to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

(PREACH)

(JUSTICE ADVOCACY)

(COMPASSION)

(JUSTICE ADVOCACY)

(PREACH)

Sermon

"Captives, Outcasts, and Good News"

Rev. Chris Weichman

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³ He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum." ²⁴ And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. ²⁵ But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶ yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷ There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

*Hymn #507

Come to the Table of Grace

(page 9)

Invitation to the Table

Rev. Chris Weichman

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

Rev. Chris Weichman

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

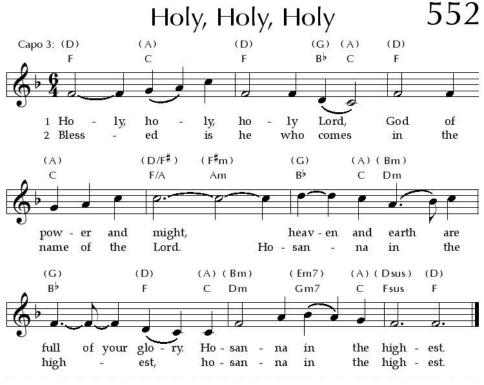
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Praise to you, O God, for all your works. You created the world and called it good and made us in your image to live together in love. You made a covenant with us, and even when we turned from you, you remained ever faithful.

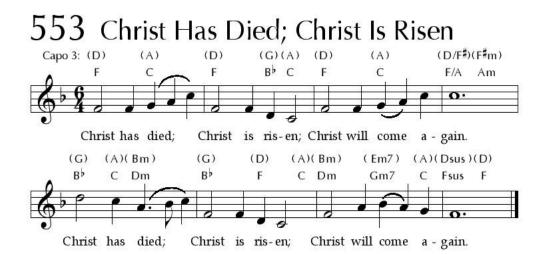
Therefore with all creation we sing your praise:



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Thank you, O God, for sending us your Son. He lived among us and told your story. He healed the sick and welcomed sinners. He shared our pain and died our death, then rose to new life that we might live, and all creation be restored.

Remembering your boundless love revealed to us in Jesus Christ, we break bread and share the cup, giving ourselves to you to live for him in joy and praise. Great is the mystery of Faith:



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Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ and that we may be his body for the world.

By your Spirit unite us with Christ and one another until we feast with him and with all your saints in your eternal realm of justice and peace.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

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

The Words of Institution

Rev. Chris Weichman

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

Communion Music

"The Prayer," C. Sager & D. Foster

Seth Howell and Kendra Parker

Prayer (responsive, read aloud the bold print)

Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me,

bless God's holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul;

and forget not all God's benefits.

*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

"Postlude on National Airs," Charles Callahan @2003 Concordia Publishing House

Leslie Weber

Rev. Chris Weichman

A gift to the Vicary Organ Fund in lieu of flowers was made today by Dr. Barrett Walker in memory of Catherine Walker, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Walker and Mr. & Mrs. Thomas McDonough.

Get Ready for Fall

NEXT WEEK! New worship times and Sunday Faith Formation begin! Worship at 8:30 a.m. in the chapel, 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary and Faith Formation classes at 9:30 a.m.

New Monthly Connections Dinners begin this Wednesday, September 8 at 5:30 in Knox Hall OR take out! Jackie Kemp Jones will prepare a delicious meal. \$6 adults, \$3 students and kids. RSVP required by 9/6 at 9 a.m. to office@firstcovenanterie.org or 814.456.4243. Great chance to see your church friends, and make new ones, with covid protocols in place!

Weekday Faith Formation Opportunities

Adult 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, September 9, 7:30 a.m

Women and the Word ~ (the parlor) with Pastor Britney, free study available in the office, Tuesday, 7:00p.m., starting September 14

Youth Sunday Formation Opportunities

Pre-K-4th ~ (nursery) hands on learning through the Bible

5th-8th Grade ~ (Senior High Lounge) Echo the Story, DVD curriculum based on the Bible

9th-12th Grade ~ (Senior High Lounge) *Re:Form Ancestors*, explores the imperfect people of the Bible Youth Group ~ Begins September 12, 5:30 to 7:30p.m.

Adults Sunday Formation Opportunities

"Themes from the Psalms" with Bill Holmes, room 313

"Faith Discussion" with Rob Baker, explore Native American Christianity, room 116

"What is the Bible?" with Rev. Keith Sundberg, discover how the Bible came together, Fidelis Room



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!* to everyone joining us for worship in the sanctuary and on Facebook LIVE. <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 Fellowship After Worship Join us under the belltower after worship. Catch up with friends or meet someone new.
- Welcome, Gannon Students! If you are joining us for worship today in-person or on Facebook LIVE, we are glad you are with us! We have missed students during this pandemic! May this be a great in-person semester for you! You are always welcome here for anything the church offers. We LOVE students. Please share your contact information with us so we can be in touch: office@firstcovenanterie.org
- *Updates to the 2020 Member Directory* There are updates (printed on yellow paper) available at the sign-in desk Sun days, and in the office.
- The September Covenant Chimes was emailed and USPS-mailed this past week. So many exciting fall plans are listed in the 10 page newsletter. If you didn't receive a copy, they are available at the sign-in desk OR on the church's website: www.firstcovenanterie.org Get us your email or home address, and we will add you to the monthly mailing! October Chimes deadline: September 15.
- *Gannon S.O.S.* Gannon has had an influx of global masters' students this semester, and they are struggling to find housing in walking distance to campus. Do you live near the school and have a "room for rent"? Or do you know a landlord with an apartment for rent that could be helpful? If so, please reach out to Seph Kumer at 814.566.0287.
- Share TGIF (Thank God It's Franks) outdoors with Gannon students in September. Friday nights, weather permitting, 10 p.m. to midnight, in the south church parking lot near 7th and Myrtle. Your help is appreciated greeting and welcoming Gannon students with bottled water, hot dogs and veggie burgers. If you can join the fun, let Richard Sheasley know: rsheasley@gmail.com
- 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*.
- **Couches** Do you have a gently used couch you can donate to the church? We are look for several couches for the youth room and the Kirk House. Please contact Britney Knight: britney.knight@firstcovenanterie.org

*All Fall plans are Covid permitting



The year after this text was written for a student sailing to America, it was included in the most influential British hymnal of the 19th century. The tune especially composed for it preserves the ancient Roman name of the island where Paul was shipwrecked, now called Malta.

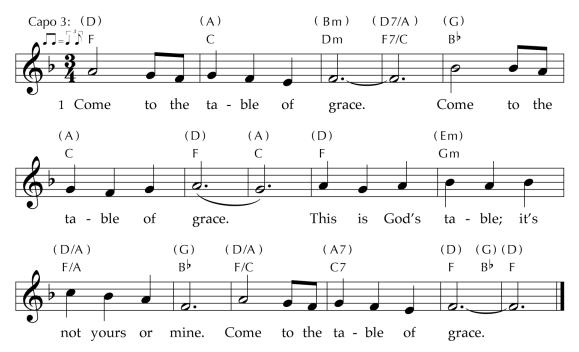
O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing 610



This text comes from an eighteen-stanza hymn the author wrote to mark the first anniversary of his life-changing conversion experience. It is now customarily the first hymn in Methodist hymnals worldwide. This tune, adapted from a German composer, is the usual North American setting.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.; Spanish trans. Federico J. Pagura;
Korean trans. The United Methodist Korean Hymnal Committee, 2001
MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839
Spanish Trans. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)
Korean Trans. © 2001 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)

Come to the Table of Grace 507



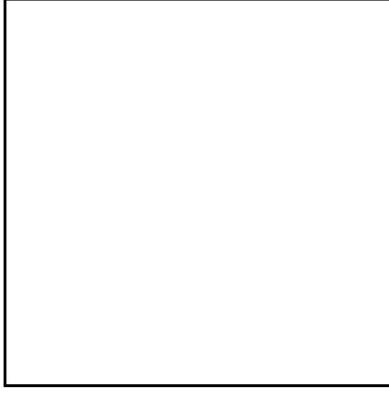
- 2 Come to the table of peace...
- 3 Come to the table of love...
- 4 Come to the table of hope...
- 5 Come to the table of joy...

The simple, formulaic nature of this song makes it especially suitable for use during the communion portion of the Lord's Supper. Because it can be learned readily and does not require reference to a printed source, it frees people to sing before and after receiving the elements.

TEXT and MUSIC: Barbara Hamm, 2008 Text and Music © 2008 Hope Publishing Company TABLE OF GRACE 7.7.10.7

DRAW IT

Mark 7 describes two amazing healing stories from Jesus' ministry—one about a little girl, and one about a man who couldn't hear. Draw a picture of someone in your life who needs healing.

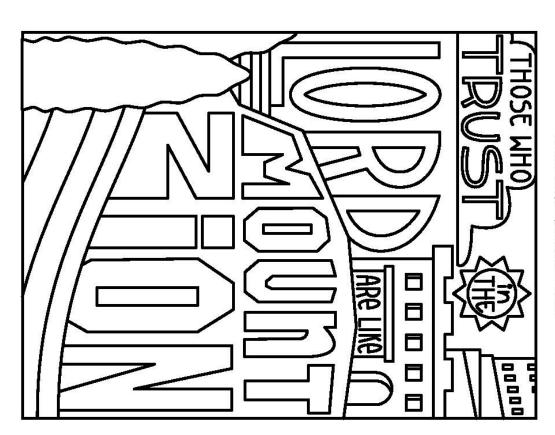


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ISTRY

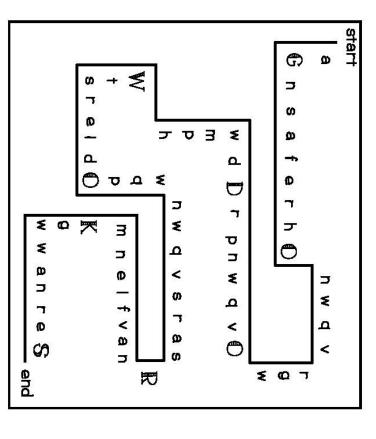
CHILL DREIN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-4, 22-23, Psalm 25, James 2:1-10, (11-13), 111-17, Mark 7:24-37.



FOLLOW the PATH

What does the author in James 2 say are the sign of true faith? Follow the path of letters, and each time you come to a capital letter, write that letter down at the bottom of the page. When you get to the end of the path, see the answer spelled out below.



WORD)SEARCH

Try to find the words from Proverbs 22 in the word search below. Words may go diagonal, up OR down and forward OR backward.

M A C B C B X M N N N Z V 0 0 U m S S B 0 0 G N G G I S T S N S B 0 G 0 N S MZ S N G 0 B III III N W N N S ⋜ ₹ W エ $\subset \subseteq Z$ IZNL < B

1							
	BLESSED	GENEROUS	GOLD	SILVER	NAME	GOOD	
	LIFE	LORD	RICH	POOR	BREAD	SHARE	
	INJUSTICE	GREAT	CHOSEN	GATE	FAVOR	MAKER	
-							

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 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

Name	Worship Date				
Phone number	Vaccinated?	YES	NO	ОТН	R
Experiencing any of the following: Shortness of breath, coug taste, headache, nausea, vomiting? YES NO In the last 14 days have you been within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more with anythave you been tested, with a positive result, for Covid-19?	one that has tested YES NO	positive f	or Covid?	? YES	N
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