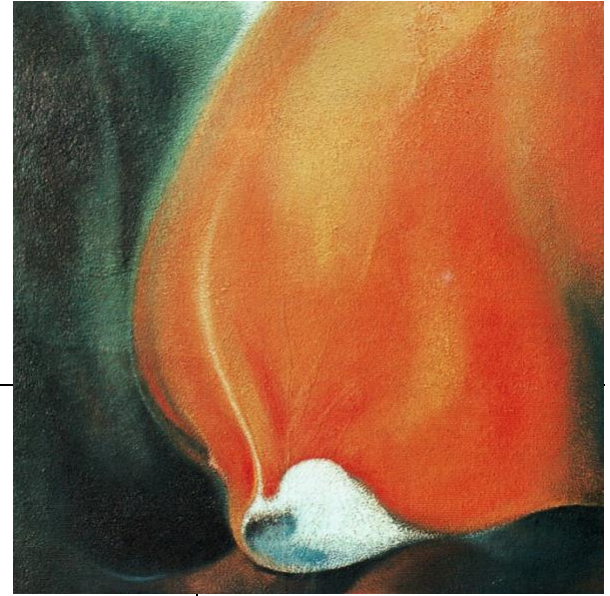


The
**Church of the
Covenant**

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 17, 2024

Service of Worship
for the Lord's Day



Gathering

The McGaffin Carillon

George Leggiero, Carillon

Organ Prelude

Oziah Wales, Chancel Organ

Larghetto

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Greeting

Rev. Jessie MacMillan

Introit

Oziah Wales, piano

Prelude in Gb Major, Op. 11 no. 13

Alexander Scriabin

* *Call to Worship*

(from Psalm 51)

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love;

According to your abundant mercy, blot out our transgressions.

You desire truth in our deepest selves,

so teach our hearts wisdom.

Let us hear your joy and gladness;

let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

Create in us clean hearts, O God;

put new and right spirits within us.

**Sustain in us willing spirits and restore us to the joy
of your salvation. Let us worship God!**

Seed Resurrection

Frank Wesley

WELCOME

Convinced of God's grace,
the Church of the Covenant
seeks to be a welcoming
spiritual home, live God's
inclusive love, express
Christ's compassion, and do
justice in the world.

CHILD CARE

Child care is provided for
infants, toddlers, and pre-K
children in our Crèche.
The Crèche is located on the
second floor of the
Education Wing and is
staffed from 9:30 to 12:30 on
Sundays. Infants and
toddlers may arrive prior to
the service. Children pre-K
through 5th grade are
welcome to start in worship
with their parents and leave
after *A Time for Young
Disciples* to go to the Crèche
for their lessons, crafts, and
other activities. Older
students from 6th through
twelfth grades join in
worship every Sunday and
youth events after worship.

* *Hymn 829*

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

OLIVET

Prayer of Confession

**Living Christ, with whom we journey to the cross,
we confess that we are always looking for an easier way.
We long for the fullness of life with you, but we are slow
to abandon the comforts of the life we know.
Yet you offer the grace of life abundant,
even and especially when our best efforts fall short.
Transform us, renew us, and free us from our attachment
to what was, so that you might bring us into the glory of
what will be. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

Silent Confession of Sin

Declaration of Forgiveness

Friends, hear the good news! We worship a God
who forgives our iniquities and remembers our sins no more.
Proclaim the good news with me:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen.

Response *Son of God, Whose Heart is Peace* TAMA NGAKAU MARIE
Hymn 425, verse 1

**Son of God, whose heart is peace,
Son of God, most holy,
to your presence we have come;
give us now your love.**

The Word

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture **Jeremiah 31:31-34**

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

OT page 735

Ron has been a member of the Covenant since 1995, when he and his wife, Ann Harlan, joined the church. Prior to his retirement, Ron was a lawyer with a large Cleveland law firm. He has served on Session, Trustees, Building and Grounds and Organ Committees, chaired the Endowment Committee, served on the Financial Task Force, and co-chaired our Pastor Nominating Committee. Other civic activities include serving as President of the Museum of Contemporary Art during the creation of MOCA's iconic building. Ron and Ann both enjoy travel, cycling, golf, and tennis, and have completed the Education for Ministry curriculum.

TODAY

Inquirers' Class

Join us for an exploration of membership at the Covenant with Pastor Jessie.

Book Study

The Last Week, a special Lenten book with *The Revs. Susanne Carter* and *Ken Jones* from 11:30 to 12:30 in the Meeting Room.

Eclipse Trip

TODAY is the **LAST** day to sign up for the trip!

Prayer Shawl Dedication

Join us to during service as *Revs. Robin Craig* and *Matthew Bauhof* (chaplain at Seidman) will conduct a dedication of our prayer shawls.

Anthem

Chancel Choir

Wash Me Thoroughly

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness,
and forgive me all my sin.
For I acknowledge my faults,
and my sin is ever before me.

Time for Young Disciples & Dedication of Prayer Shawls

Rev. Robin Craig and Rev. Matt Bauhof

Today's dedication include contributions by 12 knitters and crocheters,
including shawls knitted by others outside the of the congregation:
*Beth Holbein, Hayden Ma, Patty Fowler, Cindy Szafraniec,
Karen Ault, Jesse Cvelbar, Diane Walsh, Louann Lazar,
Jeanmarie Amos, Joyce Rothenburger, Claire Fowler, and Kate Brunn.*

Departing Music

These Treasured Children

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

Hymn 487, verse 2

**Our ancient story we shall tell,
till these our children know it well
within their souls and minds and hearts,
for this is where their journey starts.**

Scripture **John 12:20-33**

NT page 106

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Grain & Fruit

Rev. Jessie MacMillan

* *Hymn 833*

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

ST. MARGARET

Prayers of the People

Rev. Robin Craig

GATHER

We gather to worship God
on the Lord's Day (Sunday),
because the Gospels testify
that Jesus rose from the dead
early on the first day of the
week.

MUSIC NOTES

We feature soloist Anna
O'Connell in a beloved
English church anthem this
week. Samuel Sebastian
Wesley (1810-1876)
composed many hymn
tunes and anthems, as well
as organ and service music
almost exclusively for the
Church of England. He is
the son of composer
Samuel Wesley, and the
grandson of Charles
Wesley, the leader of the
English Methodist
movement and composer
of some 6,500 hymns,
including *Hark! The Herald
Angels Sing*.

The offertory ushers us
deeper into the penitent
nature of Lent. British
composer Henry Purcell
(1659-1695) composed the
musical version you hear
today for the funeral of
Queen Mary in 1695, using
a sentence from the burial
service found in the
*Anglican Book of Common
Prayer*.

**Covenant Children
Singers to Join in Song,
Hosanna!**

Calling all parents and
guardians of Covenant's
young children (ages 7-11).
Drs. Matthew Garrett and
Jenny Conner would like
your help in bringing these
young voices into our Palm
Sunday Service.

The Lord's Prayer:

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,



Statement of Opportunity

Bob Ault

Announcements and Celebration of Community Rev. Jessie MacMillan

Invitation to Offering

[Click here to visit the church's online giving page](#)

Offertory

Chancel Choir

Thou Knowest, Lord

Henry Purcell

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts;
shut not thy merciful ears unto our prayer;
but spare us, Lord most holy,
O God, most mighty,
O holy and most merciful Saviour,
thou most worthy Judge eternal,
suffer us not, at our last hour,
for any pains of death, to fall from thee. Amen.

Rehearsals and Preparation

We had a good first rehearsal with about half a dozen children this past week, and we look forward to continuing and expanding with any additional young singers on March 17th. Rehearsal will be held after worship, during the Sunday School hour in Dowd Commons.

Children Sing Palm Sunday, March 24th

On Palm Sunday, the Children Singers will help open the service with a procession of waving palms, just as citizens of Jerusalem greeted Christ upon his entry to the city over two thousand years ago. Parents and guardians will need to bring their young singers to church at **9:30am on March 24th**. This earlier arrival time will allow us one last rehearsal before the worship service.

ENCOUNTER

We receive the good news of God's love, mercy, and justice revealed to us through the Bible.



Use the QR Code above
to access our online
giving page.

* *Offertory Response*

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

BEACH SPRING

Hymn 716, verse 1

**God, whose giving knows no ending,
from your rich and endless store,
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
costly cross, grave's shattered door:
gifted by you, we turn to you,
offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever,
gracious donor of our days.**

* *Prayer of Thanksgiving*

Rev. Jessie MacMillan

**Gracious God, it is our joy to return the gifts of our lives to you.
May our offering this morning forever bring glory to your name, and may we
continue to work tirelessly for the well-being of your whole creation. Amen.**

* *Hymn 223*

When I Survey the Wonderous Cross

HAMBURG

* *Charge and Benediction*

Choral Postlude

Stay with Me

Chancel Choir

Jacques Bertheir

Stay with me; remain here with me; watch and pray.

Carillon Postlude

George Leggiero

* *Please stand as you are able*

Our ushers today are: *Nikki Elliott and Ann Williams.*

Our greeter is *Dara Elliott.*

The custodian on duty is: *Damytrez Vazquez.*

The audio/visual technicians today are: *Phaik Tzhi Chua and Gina Yang.*

We welcome everyone who is joining us for worship online on Sundays and throughout the week. We're thankful that our congregation is expanded through digital ministry! Complete announcements are available in the weekly E-NEWS and **COVENANT LIFE**. Contact the office to sign up.



Contact One of Our Pastors

To schedule an appointment, call the office at 216-421-0482, or email Pastor Jessie at Pastor@Covenantweb.org or Pastor Robin at rcraig@covenantweb.org.

The Flowers In The Chancel Urn are given to the glory of God, and to the celebration of Spring, by *Jean Ganger*.

We Keep in our Prayers: Zoe Ann Brown, Cary Arden, Venerine Branham, Corky Carl, Joan Drushel, Sonia Golden, Min Gressley (Dave Gressley's mother), Russell Hack, Ruth Hatcher, Fritz Haiss, Patrick Hoover (Ann Williams's nephew), Kitty Jarjisian, Conor Joyce (Kathy Farkas's nephew), David Keltner, Julie Longfield, Mike Maldonado, Reathel McWhorter, Cathy Miller, Richard (Dick) Miller, Lois Miller (Nessa Gressley's mother), Nancy Miller (Nessa Gressley's sister), Susan Moyer (Jonathan Moyer's mother), Nicole Murray, Tonia Myers, Crystal Pryor (Nicole Murray's daughter), David Nelson (Suchi Nelson's brother), Diane Papp, Mark Perrings and family, Gabriel (Jenny Conner's grand-nephew), Echo (grandson of Barb Clint's friend), and North Presbyterian Church. We pray for those struggling with illness, convalescing, or homebound and patients, family, and staff in surrounding hospitals.

The Church of the Covenant extends its deepest sympathy to the friends and family of *Frank Repasi* on the death of his sister *Anne Mary Repasi* on Saturday, March 9th. The service is on Monday, March 18th at 11:00 am. Go to: LatekFuneralHomes.com for more information.

The Church of the Covenant extends its deepest sympathy to University Circle Methodist Church on the death of their gospel music director *Helen Turner-Thompson* who died on Tuesday, March 5th. The service is Saturday, March 23rd, 11:00 am at Greater Abyssinia Church.



Holy Week at The Church of the Covenant

Palm/Passion Sunday worship with communion:
March 24, 10:00 am

Maundy Thursday worship with communion:
March 28, 7:30 pm

Good Friday worship:
March 29, 12:00 pm

Easter Sunday breakfast: 8:30 am
Worship: March 31, 10:00 am
Easter egg hunt: after service



Watch *THE ECLIPSE* with your Covenant Friends.

On April 8, arrangements have been made for us to travel to the secluded Hemlock Springs Golf Club (4654 Cork Cold Springs Rd.) in Geneva, Ohio for our own **Private Eclipse Watching Party!** There is a heated, indoor clubhouse available for our use. (Approved viewing glasses provided!)

Reservations *ABSOLUTELY REQUIRED TODAY!!!*

We also must know if you will be taking the bus. Family and friends are welcome! Contact the church office by phone, email, or in person. Questions? Call *Chris Langmack* 216 406 644

Easter Egg Hunt

After worship on Easter Sunday, youth under 12 years old are invited to our annual Easter Egg Hunt on the front lawn at **11:30**. (Rain location – Dowd commons.)



This Week at Covenant (March 17– March 23)

Today: Child Care, Crèche, 9:30 am;

Sunday School, Crèche, Infants –Age 6, 9:30 am;

Carillon and Organ Prelude, 9:45 am;

Worship, Sanctuary, 10:00 am;

Reception, Reception Room, 11:00 am;

Swahili Service, Yost Chapel, 11:00 am;

Inquirers' Class, Library, 11:30 am;

Sunday Seminar, *The Last Week*, Meeting Room, 11:30 am;

Sunday School, Ages 7–11, Interfaith/Prayer Room, 11:30 am;

Sunday School, Ages 12+, Living Room, 11:30 am;

Children's Singers, Dowd Commons, 12:00 pm;

Cleveland Community Guitar Orchestra Rehearsal, Van Horn Choir Room, 1:15 pm.

Monday: Parking Lot Task Group, Zoom, 10:30 am;

Book Club: *An Altar in the World*, Meeting Room, 12:00 pm;

Nominating Committee Meeting, Zoom, 7:00 pm.

Tuesday: Staff Meeting, Office, 9:30 am;

Cache, Lower Level, 10:00 am;

Tuesday Noon Organ Plus Concert, *Oziah Wales*, organ, Sanctuary, 12:00 pm;

Trustee Meeting, Meeting Room/Zoom, 6:30 pm.

Wednesday: Bible Study Young Adults, Library, 12:00 pm;

12 Steps to Freedom, Beckwith Hall, 5:30 pm;

Session Meeting, Meeting Room/Zoom, 7:00 pm.

Thursday: Midday Prayer, Zoom, 11:00 am;

Makers Space, Crèche, 2:30 pm;

Beckwith Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Beckwith Handbell Room, 6:15 pm;

Lenten Reflection, Zoom, 7:00 pm;

Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary, 7:30 pm.

Friday: Carillon Concert, McGaffin Carillon, 12:15 pm.

Saturday: Saturday Tutoring Program, Dowd Commons, 10:00 am;

ESL Class, Library, 10:00 am;

Cleveland Community Guitar Orchestra Rehearsal, Van Horn Choir Room, 10:00 am.

The Church of the Covenant Staff

Pastoral

Covenant Pastor: Reverend Jessie MacMillan

Executive Assistant to The Pastor/Church Secretary: Sarah Andexler

Pilgrim in Residence: Rev. Robin Craig

Coordinator of Ministries to Students & Young Adults: Katherine Chilcote

Music and Programs

Music Director & Children/Youth Music: Matthew Garrett, PhD

Organist & Associate Music Director: Jonathan Moyer, DMA

Handbells & Associate Music Director: Michael Peters, PhD

Music Intern: Oziah Wales

Audio Visual Services Manager: Ken Wendt, DMA

Carillonneur: George Leggiero

Assistant Carillonneur: Keiran Cantilina

Music Librarian: Jennifer Conner, DMA

Administration and Operations

Administrative Services Manager: Willie Howard

Manager of Finance & Operations: Este Pozza

Communications Manager: Dennis Matz

Technology Coordinator: Michael Peters

Website Manager: JW Keckley

Custodian: Shannon James

Custodian: Damytrez Vazquez

Custodian: Pela Abumba Almasi

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