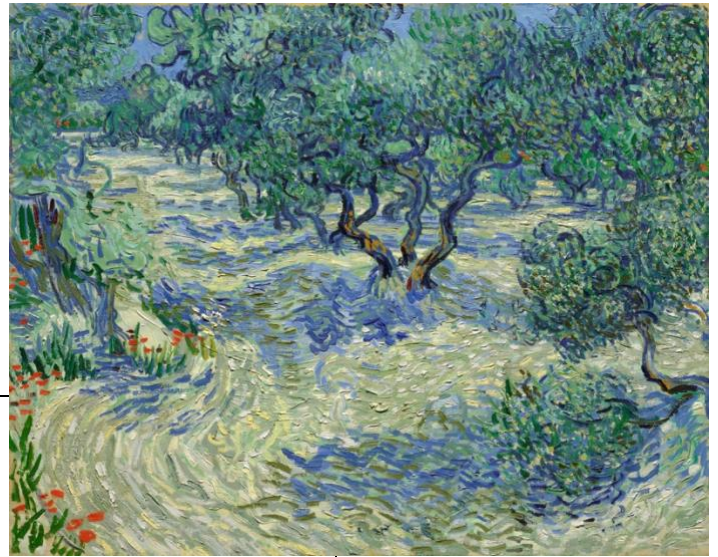


The
**Church of the
Covenant**
Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 12, 2024

Service of Worship
for the Lord's Day



Gathering

The McGaffin Carillon

Keiran Cantilina, Carillon

Olive Orchard

Vincent van, Gogh,
1853-1890

Organ Prelude

Jonathan Moyer, The Newberry Organ

Prelude and Fugue in G major, BWV 541

Johann Sebastian Bach

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.

Greeting

Rev. Jessie MacMillan

Introit

Beckwith Handbell Choir

We Gather Together

arr. Kevin McChesney

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. Infants and toddlers may arrive prior to the service. Children pre-K through 5th grade may leave after *A Time for Young Disciples* to go to the Crèche.

* *Call to Worship*

(based on Psalm 1)

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked.

We delight in God's Word, we meditate on God day and night.

Our worship grounds us in God,
like trees planted by streams of water.

God helps us yield good fruit.

We do not wither when we spend time in God's presence.

* *Hymn 305*

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

DARWALL'S 148TH

Call to Confession

Julie Mailey, Liturgist



An induction loop is provided for the benefit of hearing aid users. To use please switch your hearing aid to 'T'.

Prayer of Confession

Savior God, we invite you into our lives for a season, only to forget and neglect you once again. You beckon us, calling for our attention, but we are distracted and busy taking care of other priorities. Remind us, Holy God, that you are the source of our flourishing. You are the living water by which we have been planted. Forgive our neglect. Forgive our unfaithfulness. Focus us on you, your Word, and all that your Spirit provides. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

Declaration of Forgiveness

Christ forgives. Christ transforms. Christ renews.
Christ leads us down the path of new beginnings.
We are a new creation, ready to sing God's glory
and testify to God's grace.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

* *Gloria Patri*

**Glory be to the Father,⁺
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, amen.**

+ *Or you may sing: "Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, the Spirit,
Three in One;"*

The Word

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture **Psalm 1**

OT page 489

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Anthem

Chancel Choir with Ella Vaughn, *soprano*

A Jubilant Song

Norman Dello Joio

O! Listen to a jubilant song!
The joy of our spirit-it is uncaged, it darts like lightning!
My soul it darts like lightning! Listen to a jubilant song,
For we sing to the joys of youth,

OUR LITURGIST is
Julie Mailey.

Julie grew up on Alliance, Ohio. She came to Cleveland to attend CWRU and the Cleveland Institute of Art. After graduation she worked at the Cleveland Museum of Art in the educational programs for local schools and family art programs. Later she married Fred and they raised two daughters in the Covenant Church family. Now retired from teaching K-12 art in various school districts, she and Fred live in Chesterland.

Today

Sunday Seminar

Dowd Commons, 11:30

Moms Demand Action

is a non-partisan, grassroots organization working on public safety measures that can protect people from gun violence. We know that gun violence is preventable. Our work spans a wide range of initiatives in prevention and survivor support.

Laura Pulliam will provide an overview of Moms Demand Action, our local strategy and what we are doing to make a difference in Cleveland, as well as our legislative work in Ohio.

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.

and the joy of a glad light-beaming day.
For we sing to the joy of life, and youth,
and the joy of a glad light-beaming day.
O! Our spirit sings a jubilant song that is to life full of music,
a life full of concord, of music, a life full of harmony.

We sing prophetic joys of lofty ideals.
We sing a universal love awaking in the hearts of men.
We sing of love, a universal love.
O! to have life, a poem of new joys,
to shout! to dance, exult, and leap.
O! to realize space and flying clouds, O! to realize space,
the sun and moon,
O! to be rulers of life, O! to be rulers of destiny,
of life, of destiny, and of life.

O! O! la la la la la...
Listen, O! Listen to a jubilant song.
Listen to our song, the joy of our spirit is uncaged.
We dance, exult, we shout and leap.
O! Listen to our song. O!

Adapted from A Song of Joys by Walt Whitman (1819-1892)

MUSIC NOTES

Walt Whitman's *A Song of Joys* is a poem about the joys of life, of being alive, and of appreciation for all the many things that are in the world around us. Norman Dello Joio selects and adapts various passages of Whitman's poem to express the joys he notices. His composition is divided into three sections. The first is fast and exuberant, exhibiting the "uncaged spirit." The second section is more thoughtful, reflective, as he talks about lofty ideals and universal love. The third section returns to the energy of the first section, as the singers' joy in life cannot be caged. The choir must shout and exult about life. (Helene Whitson, San Francisco Lyric Chorus program notes, 2018).

Time for Young Disciples

Rev. Robin Craig

BELIEVING GOD CALLS US TO BE PEACEMAKERS

Departing Music *These Treasured Children* PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

Hymn 487, verse 5

**Then, tender God, each child embrace;
God give them blessings, grant them grace.
Surprise them, God, with wonders still,
And gently guide them to your will.**

Since a gunman opened fire at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14, 2012, killing 26 people, 20 of them children; 2,343 people in Cuyahoga County have been killed by guns. Since last month, **14 more individuals** have died by gun violence in Cuyahoga County.

Angela Marcia Bates,
Leo Joseph Joyce,
Piankhi Bruce,
Shannon P. Collins,
Kandace Marie Straub,
Dale Oscar Mann,
Thomas Stanton Edwards,
Colton Ray Scharf,
Michael R. Anderson,
Elan Eichler,
George Hawkins, and
Christian Curtis Ricardo
Collier.

Scripture **John 17:6-19**

NT page 111

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon *That They May Be One*

Rev. Jessie MacMillan

* *Hymn 543* *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me* GREEN TYLER

Prayer Against Gun Violence

*Includes ringing of the Prayer Bell for those impacted by gun violence
(14 more individuals in Cuyahoga County died from gun violence in April).*

Ringling of the Prayer Bell.

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,**



Announcements and Celebration of Community

Rev. Jessie MacMillan

Invitation to Offering



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

Offertory

Beckwith Handbell Choir

Come My Way, My Truth, My Life

Ralph Vaughan Williams, arr. McChesney

* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**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!**

* *Prayer of Thanksgiving*

**O God, maker and provider, you have blessed us with many gifts.
Use us, and what we have gathered, to feed the world through your love;
through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

* Charge and Benediction

Organ Postlude

"Paeon" from Six Pieces for Organ

Jonathan Moyer, The Chancel Organ

Herbert Howells

Carillon Postlude

Keiran Cantilina

* Please stand as you are able

Our ushers today are: *Marilyn and Chris Langmack.*

Our greeter today is: *Ann Williams.*

The custodian on duty is: *Damytrez Vazquez.*

The audio/visual technicians today are: *Ken Wendt 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 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 in memory of
Thelma and Maxine Everhart, by Gayle Everhart.

We Keep in our Prayers: Zoe Ann Brown, Cary Arden, Venerine Branham, Corky Carl, Edward A Crooks, Joan Drushel, Sonia Golden, Min Gressley (Dave Gressley's mother), Ruth Hatcher, Fritz Haiss, Patrick Hoover (Ann Williams's nephew), Conor Joyce (Kathy Farkas's nephew), David Keltner, Mike Maldonado, Reathel McWhorter, Cathy Miller, Richard (Dick) Miller, Lois Miller (Nessa Gressley's mother), Nancy Miller (Nessa Gressley's sister), Luther Moss, 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, Ann Mary Repasi (Frank Repasi's sister), Gabriel (Jenny Conner's grand-nephew), and Echo (grandson of Barb Clint's friend), and North Presbyterian Church. We pray for those struggling with illness, convalescing, or homebound and for patients, family, and staff in surrounding hospitals.

Believing God Calls Us to be Peacemakers

Since a gunman opened fire at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14, 2012, killing 26 people, 20 of them children; **2,343** people in Cuyahoga County have been killed by guns. Since last month, **14 more individuals** have died by gun violence in Cuyahoga County. The names of those at least 18 years of age are: Angela Marcia Bates, Leo Joseph Joyce, Piankhi Bruce, Shannon P. Collins, Kandace Marie Straub, Dale Oscar Mann, Thomas Stanton Edwards, Colton Ray Scharf, Michael R. Anderson, Elan Eichler, George Hawkins, and Christian Curtis Ricardo Collier. **Six** of the victims **died by suicide**, one homicide victim was **under eighteen**, and a **three year old** sadly, was a gun accident victim.

TODAY! Sunday Seminar, Dowd Commons, 11:30. Moms Demand Action.

Laura Pulliam. Laura and her family are no strangers to The Church of the Covenant. She and David joined the church and got married here in 1987. Daughters Hannah and Brooke both were baptized here and attended until they left for college. David passed away in 2017 after a long battle with cancer. Both Hannah and Brooke are happily married and live in New York City and Albuquerque, New Mexico, respectively. Since retiring after 40+ years in the chemical industry, Laura now gets to apply all of those learnings in the non-profit sector for causes that are near and dear to her heart. She is here today as the local group lead for Moms Demand Action in Cuyahoga County. Their mission is to work in a non-partisan way to prevent gun violence and keep people, especially children, safe.



Mark Your Calendars

Habitat Faith Build - Saturday, May 18, Saturday, August 24, Saturday, September 28, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Join us again this year to help build houses through the *Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity's Faith Build*. We will be working to help build a new home, and spruce up the neighborhood in the Buckeye-Woodhill area on the east side of Cleveland. If you are interested, please contact Jim Prince at princeco4@aol.com for further information.

Spring To It And Have Tea With Us!

Please join us, *The Ad Hoc Tea Ladies*, on **Saturday, May 18**, in The Reception Room from 1 to 3 pm to celebrate Spring and share Buckingham Palace Garden Party Tea, sandwiches, scones and sweets. **Reservations are required;** we would appreciate hearing from you as early as possible so we can plan for lots of great food for all. The cost is \$10 for those 15 and over and \$5 for those under 15. We will be charging \$15 for those registering after **Sunday, May 12**. Payment can be made in the office. Cordially yours, *Jean Ganger*.



Chancel Choir Celebrates Graduates!

Sunday, May 12th will be the last worship service in which *all* of our high school and college singers will be present. Please join us in congratulating our three Chancel Choir graduates:

Katie Arata: Graduate Diploma in Voice from the Cleveland Institute of Music

"After graduating, I will be returning to my hometown of Nashville, TN, and look forward to auditioning for new

performance opportunities as well as rejoining the Nashville Symphony Chorus and other ensembles in the city. I will also continue in my current role as Sr. Director of Development & Philanthropy for the Virginia Law Foundation, an organization that promotes access to justice and civic engagement.

It has been a true gift to be part of Covenant's community these past two years, and it has been a church home away from home. Endless thanks to Dr. Garrett, Dr. Peters, and Dr. Moyer for their musical leadership and support, and my sincere thanks to the choir and church members for their kindness and fellowship."

Chloe Marzluf: High School Graduate from The Cleveland School of the Arts

"I plan to go to Cleveland State University to study music education, and I hope to earn a PhD someday. I have appreciated my time with the Church of the Covenant Choir very much. I have learned a lot and I hope to continue interacting with Covenant throughout my college career."

Evelyn Rossman: High School Graduate from Shaker Heights High School

"I will be attending Boston College to study theater and psychology. I am really grateful for this experience at Church of the Covenant—being surrounded by passionate artists has been really inspiring!"

Join us during the reception on May 12th to engage with the graduates over celebratory cake and refreshments!

Sunday Artist Series: Wales Plays Vierne.

Music Department Intern Oziah Wales presents an artist recital on Sunday afternoon, May 12 at 4:00 p.m. at the Church of the Covenant. The program showcases a complete performance of Louis Vierne's Organ Symphony no. 2 in E minor, on the Chancel Organ, along with a suite by the 17th century French composer Jacques Boyvin on the Newberry Organ. Oziah will be attending Yale starting in the Fall of 2024 to pursue a Master's degree in organ performance. Thank you Oziah for a wonderful job as Covenant's Music Intern over the past year!

CSA Year-end Vocal Recital

The Cleveland School of the Arts annual vocal recital is on **Monday, May 13th at 7 p.m.** in the Covenant Sanctuary. Come hear and support these talented young singers!

Children Singers | Youth Sunday | May 19th

Calling all parents and guardians of Covenant's young children (ages 7-11). **Dr. Matthew Garrett** is leading children in musical preparation for **Youth Sunday, May 19**. Singing rehearsals will be held during the Sunday School hour in the Education Wing on Sunday, **May 12** at 12:00pm. Parents and guardians of the **Children Singers** will need to bring their children to church at **9:00 am on May 19** for one final rehearsal.

Covenant will celebrate the children and youth of our church during the 10:00 am **Youth Sunday** worship service. Children and youth will help lead this service through a combination of scripture, their own shared stories, and through music.

This Week at Covenant (May 12– May 18)

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;

Swahili Service, Yost Chapel, 11:00 pm;

Reception, Reception Room, 11:00 am;

Sunday Seminar, *Moms Demand Action-Our mission and our work in Cleveland*,
Dowd Commons, 11:30 am;
Sunday School, Ages 7–11, Interfaith/Prayer Room, 11:30 am;
Sunday School, Ages 12+, Living Room, 11:30 am;
Children/Youth Singers, Meeting Room, 12:00 pm;
Organ Recital: *Oziah Wales*, Sanctuary, 4:00 pm.

Monday: Parking Lot Task Group, Zoom, 10:30 am;
Book Club: *An Altar in the World*, Meeting Room, 12:00 pm;
Cleveland School of the Arts Vocal Recital, Sanctuary, 7:00 pm;
Ministry of Faith Formation, Zoom, 7:30 pm.

Tuesday: Staff Meeting, Office, 9:30 am;
Cache, Lower Level, 10:00 am;
Tuesday Noon Organ Plus Concert, *Wit's Folly*, Sanctuary, 12:00 pm;
Sunday Seminar Meeting, Meeting Room, 2:30 pm;
Personnel Committee Meeting, Zoom, 6:00 pm.

Wednesday: Young Adults Bible Study, Library, 12:00 pm;
12 Steps to Freedom, Beckwith Hall, 5:30 pm.

Thursday: Midday Prayer, Zoom, 11:00 am;
Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary, 7:30 pm.

Friday: Carillon Concert, McGaffin Carillon, *Sheryl Modlin*, 12:15 pm.

Saturday: ESL Class, Library, 10:00 am;
Indoor Garden Tea Party, Reception Room, 1:00 pm.

Notices Permission to broadcast the music in this service is obtained from
One License with license #A-727869 *Christian Solutions* with license #13342 and *Olive Orchard*, Vincent van Gogh,
from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the
Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN



(ECCs) *Earth Care Congregations* are congregations that have committed to the "Earth Care Pledge" and accomplished a specific number of actions toward caring for God's earth in four categories: worship, education, facilities, and outreach.



The Church of the Covenant
11205 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44106
216.421.0482 • CovenantWeb.org
Covenant@CovenantWeb.org