

Order of Service for the Lord's Day

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ July 6, 2008

Ten O'clock, A.M.

Pastor: Rev. Dr. James E. Swanson Liturgist: John Towns

Organist & Choir Director: Beverly Antis

Our Service of Worship begins with the music of the organ. During the Prelude, kindly pass your written prayer requests to the center so they may be placed into the basket as it is passed. Your requests will be included in the Pastoral Prayer of the Day and also forwarded to the Prayer Cordon for special attention. Thank you.

THE PRELUDE *Variations on "America"* Austin C. Lovelace

*THE RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Deep is God's love;

People: **Wide is God's care.**

Leader: God's joy flows through the valleys;

People: **God's peace rests on the hills.**

Leader: Holy is our God, and worthy of praise.

People: **Mighty is our God! We praise God's Holy Name and join
our voices together in hymns and psalms and spiritual songs!**

*THE OPENING HYMN 262

God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand NATIONAL HYMN

*THE THREE PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE

TO THE CHRISTIAN FLAG

**I pledge allegiance to the Christian Flag,
and to the Savior for whose kingdom it stands,
one Lord, crucified, risen and coming again,
with life and liberty to all who believe.**

TO THE BIBLE

**I pledge allegiance to the Bible, God's Holy Word.
I will make it a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.
I will hide its words in my heart that I might not sin against God.**

TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

**I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America
and to the Republic for which it stands,
one nation under God, indivisible,
with liberty and justice for all.**

THE PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 37:12-25 *(Pew Bible p. 492)*

THE CALL TO CONFESSION

THE PUBLIC PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we are distracted by worry and self-concern, afraid that our faith may not be rewarded, afraid that those whom we judge to be unworthy will gain your favor and receive your blessing instead. Help us to trust in your goodness and to receive the Kingdom that your Son Jesus announced.

We confess that we are too busy with our pursuit of creature comforts; too reluctant to confront evil; too comfortable with discrimination, prejudice and greed. Our lives are a poor demonstration of your unconditional love.

Forgive us, we pray, for what we have done and for what we have left undone to delay peace and to foster suffering in our day.

Forgive us, we pray, and release us to be agents of your love and grace, through Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: ... In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone!

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

*THE GLORIA PATRI 579

GLORIA PATRI

*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

Leader: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say together--

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM *for Conor Ritts Bradrick (See Insert)*

*THE GREETINGS OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you honor and praise, O God. You formed us in your image to love and serve you, but we forgot your promises and abandoned your commandments. In your mercy, you did not reject us but still claimed us as your own.

People: **Around this table we gather: awed by the example of Christ, remembering His sacrifice, confessing our role in His continuing passion.**

Pastor: Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing the glory of your name, saying:

People: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!**

Pastor: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord... Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen.

Great is the mystery of faith.

All: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (using "debts" and "debtors")

THE CONSECRATION OF THE ELEMENTS

THE COMMUNION (remain seated)

*THE UNISON PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

O God, who called us from death to life: we give ourselves to You, and with the church through all ages, we praise You for Your saving love in Jesus Christ, who makes us new and strong, who brings us life eternal.

By the nourishment we have received at this table, help us to have courage; to hold on to what is good; to return no one evil for evil; to strengthen the fainthearted and support the weak; to aid the suffering; to honor all persons; and to love and serve You only, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*THE CLOSING HYMN 564 *O Beautiful for Spacious Skies* MATERNA

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - Hymn #599

Jesus, Remember Me

Jacques Berthier

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

*THE TIME OF SILENCE

*THE CHARGE AND DISMISSAL

Pastor: Now may the blessing of God rest on our heads,
And the Truth of God set us free from all dangers, real and perceived;

So that in our labor and in our leisure,
In our rising up and our sitting down,
In hours of joy or in days of sorrow,
We shall with gladness of heart
Commend our lives wholly unto Him who keeps us from falling.

People: **Through Christ, our Lord! His peace endures!**

THE POSTLUDE

Fugue in D Major a 3

G. F. Handel

*Those who are able please stand.

THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY are given by Larry Morrison in honor of his wife, Ann's, July 4th birthday.

YOU WERE GREETED TODAY by Eleanor Walchesky.

GREETINGS TO ALL this day who have come to worship.

We want to get to know you, especially if you are a visitor!

Please introduce yourself to others sitting nearby during the passing of the peace. Following the worship, everyone is invited to share a time of coffee, tea and fellowship downstairs in the Assembly Room. (exit at the rear of the sanctuary, go down the stairs and past the Library to the entrance near the Sallman painting of Christ knocking at the door.)

FELLOWSHIP HOUR follows this worship service downstairs in the Assembly Room. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. Hosting today's Fellowship Hour is Betty Anderson.

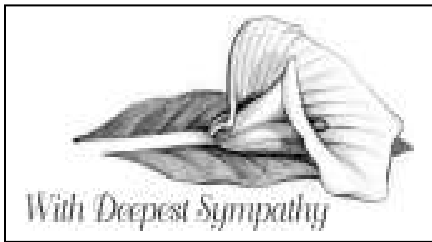


The Sacrament of Baptism

We are happy to welcome Conor Ritts Bradrick, Suzie Hammonds and Sean Bradrick's son, grandson of Mary Hammonds and great-grandson of Eleanor Ritts, received into God's family by baptism today. Thank you to Elder Mary Lee Marten for assisting.

WE THANK Sarah Morrison for providing the special music for this morning's worship service. Sarah is a member of Covenant Choir and also plays the cello, dances and is active in many musical theater productions. Sarah will be entering 12th grade in the fall at Butler Senior High School. We also thank Larry Morrison, Sarah's father, who played the Alto Recorder accompanying his daughter Sarah on *Panis Angelicus* by César Franck.

COMMITTEE MEETING: The Administration & Stewardship Committee will meet tomorrow, Monday, July 7th @ 7:00 p.m. in the Connell Room.



In Sympathy

TRACEY JO SCHLICHT

**December 29, 1954 –
July 2, 2008**

The sympathy of the Covenant Church family is extended to Mr. C. Andrew “Andy” Schlicht & Family and to Chuck & Jeanne Schlicht upon the death of Tracey Jo Schlicht at age 53 on July 2, 2008. Tracey is survived by her husband, C. Andrew "Andy" Schlicht, whom she married June 20, 1981; two daughters, Audrey Jo Schlicht of Pittsburgh and Kerry Beth Schlicht of Butler; her parents; a sister, Kerry Dumbaugh of Springfield, VA; her in-laws, Charles and Jeanne Schlicht of Butler; a brother-in-law, Peter Schlicht and his wife Anne of Sewickley; a sister, Dr. Lisa McPeak and her husband Bart of Seattle, WA; two nieces, Celena and Chloe McPeak; and numerous cousins, aunts, and uncles.

Visitation: Saturday July 5 from 7- 9 p.m. and on Sunday July 6 from 2-4 p.m. and from 7-9 p.m. at Thompson-Miller Funeral home, 124 E. North St.

Services will be at St. Peter's Episcopal Church at 218 E. Jefferson Street, Butler, PA, on Monday, July 7, at 10:00 a.m. with the Reverend Bruce Geary officiating. Burial will be at Butler County Memorial Park.

May God’s comfort be with family and friends.

EXTRA COPIES OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL REPORT are available in the narthex. NOTE: The Ordination/Installation Service for the newly-elected church officers, Class of 2010, will be in a few weeks.

In The Life of Our Church

Recent Prayer Concerns:

Gladys Strobel Confined to her home, heart problems
Esther Kriess. Donna Hobaugh’s sister, at Sunnyview Home
for rehabilitation on her broken ankle and heel

For Continued Prayer:

Julie & Bud Bruno; Marion Campbell; Marian and Fred Curren; Mary Elizabeth Goehring; Bob & Joan Moore; Brenda Keith; Tracey Schlicht; Dr. Thomas Stover (Mary Lee’s brother in Texas); Gladys Strobel; Vernon Swanson; Bill Wilson

Birthdays this week:

Christine Reese Cochran - July 6
Ryan Patterson - July 12

Anniversaries this week:

Amy (Voelker) & Greg Arnold - July 7 (Happy 1st Anniversary!)



Covenant Cupboard Community Food Bank

July: cereal

*(Baskets for your donations are located
at the front entrance on E. Jefferson St.)*

The Apportionment Offering

↳ **Outdoor Social**
Sunday, July 20th

*(Side Lawn following the 10 a.m.
worship service in the Sanctuary)*



Members & Friends . . .

Bring a salad or dessert to share !

Meat and beverages will be provided by the church.

...AND don't forget your apportionment offering
which will be received at the picnic!

“YOUR FAIR SHARE” ~ THE APPORTIONMENT OFFERING

The Apportionment Offering will be received on Sunday, July 20
following worship during the Family Picnic on the side lawn.

Each year all Presbyterian Church (USA) congregations are reminded of
their obligation to support the work of their local presbytery, synod and
General Assembly by paying a per-person apportionment—our fair share of
the cost of ministries beyond our walls.

The 2008 per capita assessment is **\$24 for each person on the Active
Roll of Membership** at Covenant Church.



PLEASE SIGN UP TODAY !

We still need donations for refreshment time at the upcoming
July 22nd meeting of Beaver-Butler Presbytery here at our church.

Signup sheets are in the Assembly Room

- **Cookies**
- **Vegetables** (uncut)
- **Dip** (any kind, specify what kind)
- **Crackers, chips**
- **Olives, pickles**
- **Fresh fruit** (uncut)
- **1 lb. chunks of cheese** (any kind)

*Also needed: Volunteers to act as guides and to help with
Registration (from 5:00 pm to 7:00)*

July 6, 2008

While the storm clouds gather far across the sea,
Let us swear allegiance to a land that's free,
Let us all be grateful for a land so fair,
As we raise our voices in a solemn prayer...

God Bless America, Land that I love.
Stand beside her, and guide her
Thru the night with a light from above.
From the mountains, to the prairies,
To the oceans, white with foam
God bless America, My home sweet home.

“God Bless America” Words and music by Irving Berlin
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The Reverend Dr. James E. Swanson, Pastor

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