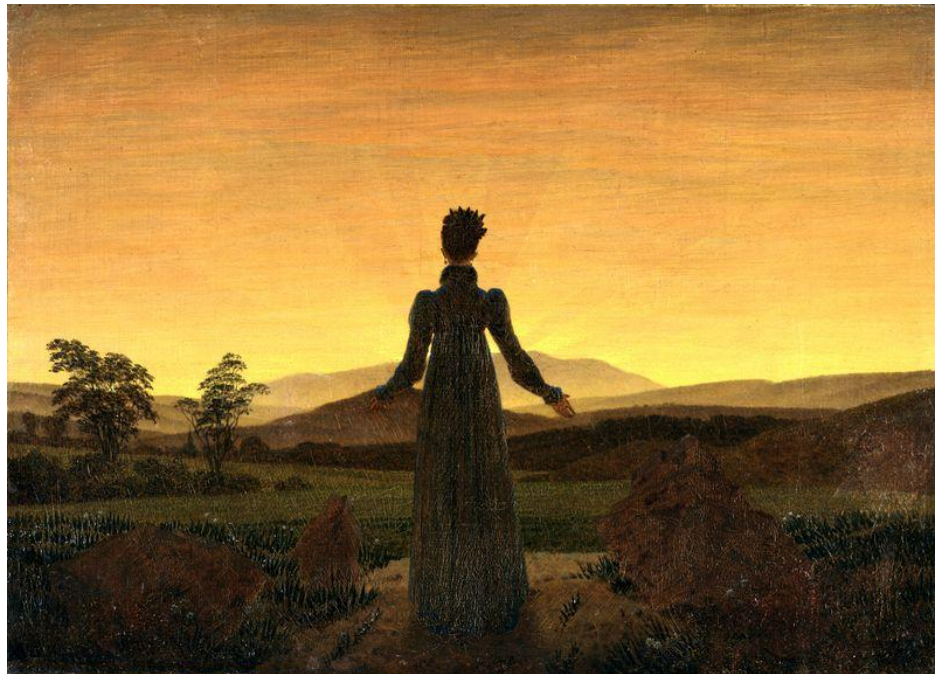


Covenant United Presbyterian Church

107 Staley Ave. Butler, PA 16001

724-287-7731 covenantoffice@zoominternet.net

Worship with us on [YouTube.com/@CovenantTV1813](https://www.youtube.com/@CovenantTV1813)



Woman before the Rising Sun, Caspar David Friedrich, 1818 ☩
Oil on canvas; Museum Folkwang, Essen, Germany

Sunday, October 11, 2026 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Pastor: Rev. John C. R. Silbert

TV Producer: Brian F Graff, C.P.

Worship Leader: Ione Mathias

Musician: Melanie Rodgers

Choir Director: Chrystal Sircely

~ Order of Worship ~

** = Please stand, as able

The Gathering

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: When the path leads nowhere, we become disoriented,
and skies darken,
People: **how do we find peace, O God?**
Pastor: When farewells are too many, tears won't stop, and
strength is gone,
People: **how do we rest, O God?**
Pastor: When hope is hard, love is lost, and light is dim,
People: **you give us one more breath, O God.**
Pastor: So we gather here --
All: **to worship God, together!**

**OPENING PRAYER

**HYMN 363

Rejoice, the Lord Is King!

DARWALL'S 148TH

INVITATION TO CONFESSION & CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

True God from True God, we have not built a golden calf, but we have worshiped idols. We have put our trust in what we build with our own hands. We find security in what we can hoard instead of trusting your provision. We listen to lies that spread hatred and division instead of the radical truth of your word.

Forgive us. Melt down our idols until we see only you and fix our sight on your way alone.

A TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: God shows us a different way—a way of truth, honor, justice, purity, and excellence. This path is open to all of us if we reach out and accept God’s forgiveness.

People: **Through our Lord Jesus Christ, we will live as God’s people, forgiven and freed -- Thanks be to God!**

**RESPONSE K9 *Glory Be to the Father* GLORIA PATRI (Meineke)

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.

**THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: A harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

The Word

**ILLUMINATION 267 v.1 *Come, Christinas, Join to Sing* MADRID

Come, Christinas join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!

Loud Praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen!

Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice; praise his gracious choice: Alleluia! Amen!

HT LESSON Exodus 32: 1 – 14 *Pew Bible P.69*

Leader: This, is the Word of the Lord. People: **Thanks be to God!**

^PSALM 42 -- HYMN 778 *As Pants the Deer for Living Streams* SEACHRIST

NT LESSON Philippians 4: 1 – 13 *Pew Bible P.955*

Leader: Here ends the reading of the Epistle. People: **Praise be to You, O Lord!**

**GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 22: 1 – 14 *Pew Bible P.803*

Pastor: The Gospel of Our Lord. People: **Glory to You, O Christ!**

CANTICLE 448 *Rain Down* RAIN DOWN

Rain down; rain down; rain down your love on your people.

Rain down; rain down; rain down your love, God of life.

MESSAGE *The Hope By Which We Cope* PASTOR JOHN

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH IN SONG

HYMN 734 *Hope of the World* DONNE SCOTUS

THE PASTORAL PRAYER with 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. Amen.

The Eucharist

PRESENTATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, & GIFTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC

**DOXOLOGY 609 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* LASST UNS ERFEUEN

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! ~Brian Wren

THE CORPORATE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of steadfast love, your blessings overwhelm us. For the abundant gifts in our lives, we thank you. For the peace that passes all understanding, we praise you. For keeping our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus, we honor you. Receive the gifts we bring you this day, and help us stay focused on things that are excellent and admirable, holy and just, righteous and pure. Amen.

The Sending

**HYMN 804 *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart* MARION

**THE CHARGE & BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE

^ Non-Lectionary Psalm selection for today

☞-- About the cover: This artwork by the German Romantic landscape painter, Caspar David Friedrich (1774-1840), is also known as “*Woman Before the Setting Sun*” due to the *ambiguous* luminescence of the sun she faces. Friedrich frequently pictured contemplative figures silhouetted against vast horizons that orient the viewer towards the metaphysical dimensions of existence. . . Such was the move being made in the Romantic period – the shift from the materialism of society to the spiritual and divine aspect of nature itself. That today’s theme is focused on hope (Psalm 42 and Philippians 4) -- the hope by which we cope through Jesus Christ – we have the confidence to face both the rising and setting of the sun without fear.

Church Notices:

Wait! Don’t Go Yet! Join us for food & conversation in Fellowship Hall. Thanks to *Linda Peters* for hosting today!

Worship Accompanist Needed!

Nov 15 Piano, Organ, Any Instrument OK! See Church Administrator ASAP.

Mission

Light house Item of the Month for October is cake/pie/brownie mixes & pie shells

Calendar

- Oct 16 America 250 Film Series “*Great Awakening*” 7:00 PM
- Oct 18 Noisy Offering and *Pastor & Ministry Appreciation Sunday*
- Oct 25 Reformation Sunday
- Nov 1 All Saints/All Souls Sunday
- Nov 8 Stewardship Sunday
- Nov 15 Pledge Dedication & Noisy Offering Sunday
- Nov 20 America 250 Film Series “*King of Kings*” 7:00 PM
- Nov 27 “Christ the King” Sunday with Holy Communion



Prayer List

Trinty Presbyterian Congregation, on the loss of active member Virginia "Ginny" Latini on Mon. Oct. 5;

Alene Campbell, mother of Ione Mathias, in failing health, arranging for hospice care

Zoanne Weckerly, Melanie Rodger's Mother, for healing & transitions

Elaine Nucci, recovering from shoulder surgery;

John Pritchard, in a rehab center in Lutz, Florida;

Jane Faulkner, Ann Morrison's sister in CA, fights recalcitrance in FEMA processing her housing needs & requests -- pray for cooperation from FEMA Sr. staff. . . Jane's persistent lung-related illness (MAC) may be triggered by her current living situation in Sebastopol, CA; **Scotty McAliley**, Ann's cousin in Marietta, Georgia, continues bi-weekly chemo-therapy for the remainder of her life.

American Red Cross Fall Blood Drive

Friday, October 16
11:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Hill Presbyterian Church
501 2nd St. Butler City
in Fellowship Hall

Pre-Register 1-800-733-2767 or
www.redcrossblood.com & enter Hill UP

Psalm 23: 1

M Y L L A H S I
D R E H P E H S
Q W A N T H E L
V S R N L O R D
S M L A S P N S

Word List

SHEPHERD PSALMS SHALL WANT NRSV LORD THE NOT MY IS
(Psalms 23:1 NRSV) *The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.*