

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)



In the foreground photo, is the Areopagus (Mars Hill) where Paul preached in Athens.
The large hill in the background is the Acropolis, site of the Temple of Athena.

Eastertide VI

May 10, 2026, 11:00 AM

Pastor: Rev. John C. R. Silbert
Worship Leader: Lars Morrison

TV Producer: Brian F Graff, C.P.
Guest Musician: Don Wallace

~ Order of Worship ~

** = Please stand, as able

The Gathering

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard, who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip.

People: **For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried. . . Yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.**

Pastor: Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for us. . . Truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of our prayers.

People: **Blessed be God, because he has not rejected our prayer or removed his steadfast love from us.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

** OPENING PRAYER

**HYMN 624

I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

TOULON

INVITATION TO CONFESSION & CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to you, confessing our faults, confiding in your grace, and finding in you our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ your Son.

A TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON ✠

Pastor: The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good. Beloved, this is the good news of the gospel!

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven -- Alleluia! Amen.**

**RESPONSE C54

To God Be the Glory

MY TRIBUTE

***To God be the glory, To God be the glory,
To God be the glory for the things He has done.***

With His blood He has saved me; With His pow'r He has raised me.

To God be the glory for the things He has done.

****THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Leader: Be kind to one another, and tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

The Word

****ILLUMINATION 240 V.1** *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*

ALLELUIA NO. 1

Alleluia, Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give Praise to his name.

1. Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation.

NT LESSON Acts 17: 16 – 34

Pew Bible P.902

Leader: Here ends the reading from Acts of the Apostles. People: **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM 66 Hymn 54 *Make a Joyful Noise to God*

DIX

NT LESSON 1 Peter 3: 13 – 22

Pew Bible P.985

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

****GOSPEL LESSON** John 14: 15 – 21

Pew Bible P.877

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

CANTICLE 239 v.1 *Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing*

GELOBT SEI GOTT

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing! Now is the triumph of our King!

To all the world glad news we bring; Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

MESSAGE

Audience Analysis

PASTOR JOHN

****AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

From selected verses in Romans 8

**We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together for good
for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose.
We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

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

**DOXOLOGY B593 *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* DOXOLOGY 1967

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creature here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. A-men.***

**CORPORATE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O Lord our maker, defender, redeemer and friend, accept and multiply the gifts we give today to be for your glory and for the good of your people. Amen.

The Sending

**HYMN 282 *Come Down, O Love Divine* DOWN AMPNEY

**THE CHARGE & BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE

Wait! Don't Go Yet! Join us for food & conversation in Fellowship Hall. Thanks to *Mother Hubbard's Cupboard* for hosting today!

Membership at Covenant United Presbyterian Church

If you are reading this information in our Worship Bulletin, you already belong here at Covenant United Presbyterian Church. Here, all are welcome, and membership in the congregation is not required to participate in any of our activities and ministries. By becoming a member, you will have voice and vote in congregational meetings and can better express your commitment to Jesus Christ through this church. Welcoming people as members helps us to get to know them better and to support you more fully – letting all of us stay engaged and grow in faith together. Individuals may join the church by Profession of Faith and Baptism (for those who have never been baptized), by Reaffirmation of Faith (for those who are not currently active members of another Christian church), or by Transfer of Church Letter (for those on the active roll of another church.) Contact Pastor John to find out more.

Church Announcements

Donations: "Tithely" at covenantbutler.org or "Tithely" Smartphone App

ABBE: Adult Brown-Bag Education: The group will meet again Thu. May 13, 2026.

Lighthouse Item of the Month: – **MAY** Condiments

Worship Accompanists Needed! All Sundays are open for Summer Session Now – Sept 13.
Piano, Organ, Any Instrument OK! See Church Administrator ASAP.

Celebrations:

May 11 Sandy Graff's Birthday

May 13 Pam Patterson's Birthday



Free Lunch: Sat. May 16 12:00 PM Fellowship Hall

Sloppy Joe, Potato Salad, Dessert

from our friends at Trinity PC.

Covenant is responsible for dessert;

see Ione Mathias to help.

Please Pray for:

Scott, Linda Peter's neighbor, battling cancer;

Pam Patterson, has returned to her place at Concordia (Cabot);

Carolyn Starkey, Dave Loebell's aunt from Ohio, adjusting to a new pacemaker;

Sherry Bartman, cousin of Sandra Graff, from Auburn, GA, battling cancer

Leo Deblack, new-born great grandson of Nancy Rice's brother, with a rare, but treatable genetic disorder called MSUD. . . prayers will be appreciated for the family going forward;

Audrey Carlson, continuing with physical therapy after hip replacement at Concordia Cabot;

Jane Faulkner, Ann Morrison's sister in CA, receiving assistance with her FEMA housing file from Congressman Kelly's office, while she is managing treatment for persistent lung-related illness (MAC);

Scotty McAliley, Ann Morrison's cousin in Marietta, Georgia, continuing chemo-therapy for the remainder of her life, while caring for her 99-year-old mother, herself with health issues;

Maria, Miquel & family, known to Dave Loebell, Miquel has been diagnosed with aggressive bladder cancer.





Blessings to all Mother's and those who serve us with their Mothering Spirit.

A Prayer for Mother's Day, by Traci Davenport
(From the liturgy for this Sunday in the Presbyterian Outlook)



Loving God, on this Mother's Day, we are mindful of the tremendous calling of being a mother, and we thank you for our mothers: biological, adoptive, and in community, who have nurtured and cared for us, fed us and led us, selflessly served us and rooted us on. What a gift they have been, and we thank you for those faithful women you have placed in our lives. For those whose mothers have passed from this life, we ask your compassion and comfort and look forward to that glad reunion to come.

We pray for mothers who are struggling right now with all the demands of motherhood: on sleepless nights with uncomforted newborns, with exploring toddlers and shy preschoolers, with curious elementary students and youth wrestling with identity and independence. Give these mothers wisdom and patience, perseverance and strength, along with much-needed rest. We pray for mothers of adult children that they will know how to best share experience without being bossy, how to support and encourage without inhibiting growth.

We pray for those women who wanted children but did not or could not bear them, that you would remind them of their great value and purpose when judged by the world. We pray for women undergoing infertility treatments, that you would make procedures successful and bless their homes with the laughter of children, as is their great hope.

And lastly, mothering God, we pray for all those who did not have a great relationship with their own mother and for all needing tender, loving care this morning: the sick, the outcast, the dying, and the grieving. Remind us of your unconditional love for us, your desire to gather us as a mother hen gathers her chicks, and your stubborn refusal, like any nursing mother, to forget her own. We ask these blessings in the name of Jesus, who cared for his mother and whose mother stayed with him to the very end on the cross, Amen.