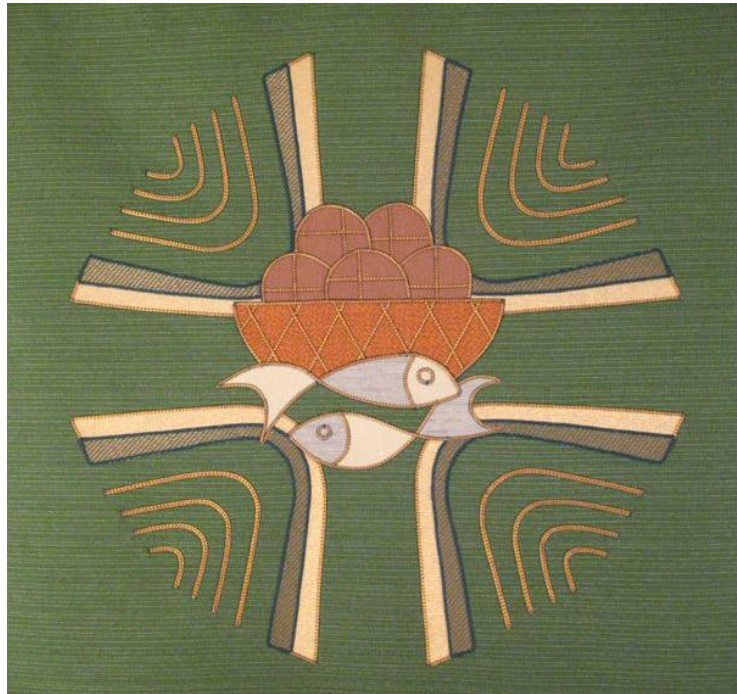


Covenant United Presbyterian Church

107 Staley Ave. Butler, PA 16001

724-287-7731 covenantoffice@zoominternet.net

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



Altar Cloth from the Catholic Section of the USAF Academy Chapel
Colorado Springs, CO

Sunday, August 2, 2026
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

TV Producer: Brian F Graff, C.P.
Guest Musician: Kathy Kemerer

~ Order of Worship ~

** = Please stand, as able

The Gathering

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP ☩

Pastor: We are hungry, Lord! We come to church today with
different types of hunger for you.

People: **Some of us sit down at the table eagerly,
because we are hungry;
Some of us have come because we know we should eat,
even though we don't feel like it;
Some of us are ravenous;
And some of us have lost our appetite,
and we don't even know why.**

Pastor: And yet you have drawn us to your welcoming table, one
and all, your arms open to embrace us just as we are.

People: **As we settle in this morning, fill us with your presence
so that when we leave today, we can leave saying,
"That is exactly what I needed!"**

Pastor: Amen, saints!

People: **Let us worship God!**

**OPENING PRAYER

**HYMN 270

O Lord, You Are My God and King

JERUSALEM

INVITATION TO CONFESSION & CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Generous God, you freely offer us all we need. You offer us the bread of life, so we may never be hungry again. You offer us living water, so we will never thirst. But we scoff at your gifts, wasting our money, time, and energy on things that do not satisfy. Forgive us and call to us again, reminding us of your gifts of new life that are ours if we would only accept them.

A TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Incline your ear, listen: the Triune God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit makes an everlasting covenant with us.

People: **God forgives us, renews us, refreshes us, and leads us onward. 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: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

The Word

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION *from the United Methodist Hymnal, 1989*

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

^HT LESSON Isaiah 55: 1 – 5 *Pew Bible P. 598*

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

PSALM 145:8–9, 14–21 *Cantored* TONE 3: LORDSHIP



Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord. Praise the name of the Lord. ____

NT LESSON Romans 9: 1 – 5 *Pew Bible P.919*

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

**GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 14: 13 – 21 *Pew Bible P.805*

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

MESSAGE *Food Network* PASTOR JOHN

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Nicene Creed*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Eucharist

PRESENTATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, & GIFTS

****DOXOLOGY 717** *For the Life That You Have Given* PLEADING SAVIOR
***For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known,
with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own:
here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring;
give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.***

THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
Celebrant: Blessed are you, O Lord our God: You have made an
 everlasting covenant with us, the promise of your
 faithfulness and steadfast love. Even when we struggle
 against you, you never let us go. Therefore we praise you,
 joining the song of the universal church and the heavenly
 choir:

Congregation: *Holy, Holy, Holy (Hymn 552)* LAND OF REST
***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.***

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: Blessed is Jesus Christ, our Savior: You sent Jesus to show
 the abundance of your love. With five loaves and two fish
 he fed a multitude; still he feeds us with the extravagance
 of his grace. The words of institution are included here.
 Remembering your goodness and grace, we offer ourselves
 to you with gratitude as we share this joyful feast – indeed,
 great is the mystery of faith for all:

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

Celebrant: Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and
 cup; make us one in the body and blood of Jesus Christ our
 Lord.

As you love and bless your chosen people, Israel, let your
church be a sign of Christ’s blessing and love, calling all
people into your gracious covenant.

Through the Lord Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Spirit,
we bless you, God of glory, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

Celebrant: And now, let us pray for the coming of the Kingdom as our
 Lord has taught us:

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 WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**THE COMMUNION *Seated (follow Pastor’s Instructions)*

**THE RESPONSE AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

HYMN 535	<i>Bless the Lord, O My Soul</i>	BLESS THE LORD
Celebrant:	Bless the Lord, O my soul;	
People:	And all that is within me, bless God's holy name!	
Celebrant:	Bless the Lord, O my soul;	
People:	And forget not all God's benefits.	
Celebrant:	Let us pray:	
All:	Holy Spirit, you have filled us with your life.	
	Christ our Savior, you have embraced us in your love.	
	God our Father, you have fed us with your grace.	
	Now send us out into your beloved world	
	to share your life, your love, your grace with all.	
	Blessing and honor and glory to you,	
	holy, holy, holy Lord. Amen.	

The Sending

**HYMN 498 *Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken* BEACH SPRING

**THE CHARGE & BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE

⌄ -- The Call to Worship (adapted for the service today) is “Copyright Carol Penner www.leadinginworship.com.” Carol Penner is a Mennonite Pastor who teaches theology at Conrad Grebel University College in Waterloo, Ontario. She has served churches in the provinces of Ontario and Alberta Canada.

^ -- This is the alternate reading in the Hebrew Testament in the Lectionary today.

Church Notices:

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

Worship Accompanists Needed! Fall Semester - September 13 – December 27.
Piano, Organ, Any Instrument OK! See Church Administrator ASAP.



Prayer List

John & Pat, friends of Bill & Nancy Rice, John diagnosed with pancreatic cancer;

Pam White, a church neighbor, is in the hospital suffering from a broken wrist and poor health in general;

Sammy, Stepson of Linda Peters, had a kidney removal recently; **Barb**, Linda’s friend, is in the hospital with heart problems and other health issues, and **Scott**, Linda’s neighbor, is battling cancer;

Ed and Tom Butler, sons of Betty Butler, are doing better;

Jane Faulkner, Ann Morrison’s sister in CA, still is battling recalcitrance in FEMA processing her housing needs and requests -- pray for a crack in the stonewall of FEMA Senior staff. . . Jane may need to relocate from her current living situation because her 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.

Matthew 14: 19 – 21

T A K I N G A V E B M D F
I D L O A V E S A A S O U
S T U O B A O S T D F W L
E U P D V H K T W D T N L
D D S N T E H O E A N Y E
I S E A T E R L H E N E F
S E L S W C L W R N E H T
E C P U S I E D B E K T D
B E I O F E L V S V O E A
E I C H H I L S L A R M T
V P S T H W A B L E B E O
I I I C N R S V D H W H O
F N D U G W E R E O W T K
L O O K E D O I W O M E N

Word List

DISCIPLES THOUSAND CHILDREN ORDERED MATTHEW BLESSED BESIDES
BASKETS TWELVE TAKING PIECES LOOKED LOAVES HEAVEN FILLED
CROWDS BROKEN WOMEN THOSE GRASS ABOUT WHAT WERE TOOK
THEY THEN THEM OVER NRSV LEFT GAVE FULL FIVE FISH DOWN
WHO WAS TWO SIT ATE ALL UP ON OF

(Matthew 14:19-21 NRSV) Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. (20) And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. (21) And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

August 22 12:00 – 4:00 PM

Car Cruise

Trinity Parking Lot

Rodfather's Cars, Food Trucks, Vendor Booths

Come work the Covenant Booth!

August 23 10:30 AM

Worship Without Walls

Masonic Shelter @ Alameda Park

Led By Hill Church with BAP Participants

No service at Covenant this day.

September 13 9:15 AM

Fall Choir Semester Starts

Come join us in praising the Lord!

September 26 11:0 AM – 6:00 PM

Butler Fall Festival

Main Street Downtown Butler

Come work the campus booth in front of the old Dollar General.