

Covenant United Presbyterian Church

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



Matthew 14: 22 - 33

Sunday, August 9, 2026

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Guest Pastor: Brian F Graff, C.P.

Worship Leader: Nancy Rice

Guest TV Producer: David K Loebell

Guest Musician: Melanie Rodgers

~ Order of Worship ~

** = Please stand, as able

The Gathering

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

✦CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Here, in this place, God welcomes all the dreamers, as well as the doubters:

People: **here, the worriers and wanderers can call on God by name.**

Leader: Here, in this time, we can remember all the ways God has graced us:

People: **here, in these moments, we are reminded that God is with us, always!**

Leader: Here are gathered those daring enough to step out of comfort into the unknown:

People: **here, in this faith space, we will find the courage to cry out, 'God, save us!' in every situation.**

**PSALM OF THE DAY 105: 1 – 6, 16 – 22, 45b

**HYMN 264

At the Name of Jesus

KING'S WESTON

✦INVITATION TO CONFESSION & CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

It seems so easy to get into the boat and set sail on our journey, God of Promises. But when the winds of change begin to blow, we want to turn around and head back to the past's safe harbor. When sin's waves crash over the side, we try to wrap ourselves in the cloak of pride thinking we will not get wet. When Jesus calls to us to get out and follow in faith, we look around, hoping he is not speaking to us.

Swamped by our fears, and sinking in doubt, we long for someone to help us
- so save us, Holy One, save us! Stretch out your hand, so we might be lifted
from our despair to hope, from our worries to trust, from our foolishness to
faithful living. Then, we will dare to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior,
even if it means getting out of the sheltered lives we have built for ourselves.
Amen.

A TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: In confessing that Christ is Lord, we let go of the past, and turn to
God's future. We step out of our fears, and walk into the light and
life offered by our God.

People: In trusting Christ's resurrection, we trust all of God's promises,
letting the Spirit work in and through us, healing and making us
whole. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

**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: 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

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.**

NT LESSON Romans 10: 5 – 15 *Pew Bible P.921*

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

**GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 14: 22 – 33 *Pew Bible P.796*

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

SCRIPTURE HYMN 8 *Eternal Father, Strong to Save* MELITA

MESSAGE *Faith & Doubt in Boating* PASTOR BRIAN

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *1st Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Conroe, TX*

**We believe in God,
who made us in His image.
We live, we love, we laugh,
because we are like Him.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
the Son of God, our Lord and Savior.
He had the last laugh on the devil
when He rose from the dead.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
co-equal and co-eternal with the Father and the Son.
Our counselor, our guide, our motivator –
He is our joy!**

**We choose to believe
that light is better than darkness,
sharing is better than hoarding,
truth is better than deceit,
mercy is better than revenge,
love is better than indifference,
God is stronger than chaos.**

We choose to have faith in the God who is love
and we know that choice will be affirmed
on the long and narrow road of life.
By grace, we choose life and we choose faith. Thanks be to God.

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 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.*

CORPORATE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, accept our offerings, and use us to bring life and
health and hope to your world. Make us generous and faithful stewards of your
mysteries, doing your will and proclaiming your word; through Christ we pray.
Amen.

The Sending

**HYMN 353 *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less* SOLID ROCK

**THE CHARGE, BENEDICTION, & POSTLUDE

✠ *The Call to Worship and Confession Liturgy is from Thomas Shuman at
LectionaryLiturgies.Blogspot.com.*

Church Notices:

Wait! Don't Go Yet! Join us for food & conversation in Fellowship Hall. Thanks to
Dorothy Wallace & Ann Morrison for hosting today!

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

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

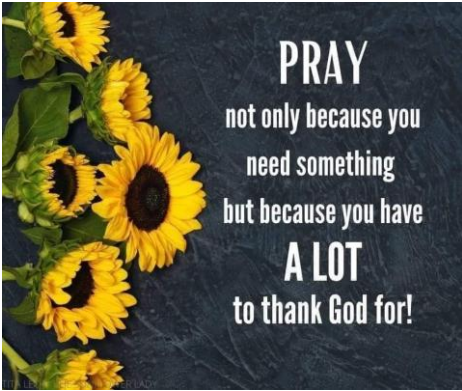
Fall Choir Semester Starts

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.
The campus will provide 4 nice gift baskets to raffle & cookies to sale.



Prayer List

John Pritchard, in a rehab center in Lutz, Florida;
Trinity Church Family, on the passing of dear member Violet Dolmayer on Aug. 3;
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: 28 – 32

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

Word List

IMMEDIATELY FRIGHTENED BEGINNING ANSWERED WALKING STARTED
REACHED NOTICED MATTHEW COMMAND TOWARD STRONG SAYING
LITTLE CEASED CAUGHT BECAME WATER PETER JESUS FAITH DOUBT
CRIED WIND WHEN THEY SINK SAVE SAID NRSV LORD INTO HAND
COME BOAT YOU WHY OUT HIS HIM GOT DID BUT SO OF IF

(Matthew 14:28-32 NRSV) Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." (29) He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. (30) But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" (31) Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" (32) When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.