

*Covenant Presbyterian Church
Butler, Pennsylvania*



October 1, 2017
World Communion &
Peacemaking Sunday

The Rev. Dr. James E. Swanson, Pastor
Pastor's Phone: 724-752-8383 / 724-712-1407
Church Office Phone: 724-287-7731
Website: <http://covenantbutler.org>
Social Media: [facebook.com/covenant230](https://www.facebook.com/covenant230)

Order of Service for Worship

October 1, 2017

Eleven O'clock, A.M.

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper



Rev. Dr. James E. Swanson, Pastor
Organist/Music Director: Beverly Antis
Liturgist of the Month: Brian Graff

THIS IS GOD'S HOUSE ~ ALL ARE WELCOME HERE !

Even as the world seeks to judge or divide us according to our economic, racial and ethnic groups, ages, gender, abilities, preferences, politics and theological positions, we believe that in Christ there should be no such division.

Our congregation is strengthened through difference and diversity, and in the name of our Lord, we welcome all who come seeking refuge and healing from condemnation, prejudice and discrimination.

PRELUDE *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* Robert Lau

CHORAL INTROIT

I Will Worship the Lord John Rutter

*I will worship the Lord all the days of my life;
I will tell of his glory and will show forth his praise;
I will sing and rejoice, for the Lord is my stronghold.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

—John Rutter

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN # 306 *Fairest Lord Jesus* CRUSADER'S HYMN

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 34:1-14 (*Pew Bible OT p. 441*)

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**God of compassion and mercy,
we are your wounded and wounding children.
We bring our selves, our divided society,
and our warring world, seeking your healing and
transforming grace for all.**

**It is easy for us to fix the blame on others for
the sins we commit and the evils we allow;
Yet we know that we all need your forgiveness,
so we lift unto you this day not only the victims of conflicts,
but also those we have called enemies.**

**Break down the walls of hatred, distrust and bitterness
and open a way for us to reach one another
in peace and love.
Enable us to build a society where all can belong;
to share our gifts in mutual respect;
and to seek for the new future which you offer us
through Jesus, the Christ, the Prince of Peace.**

A TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: God has heard our prayers. Who is in a position to condemn?
Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ
reigns in power for us, and Christ prays for us.

--Romans 8:34

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel!

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!**

*GLORIA PATRI 579

GLORIA PATRI

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and
earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived
by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under
Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended
into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he
ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the
Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the
communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection
of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

A TIME TO HONOR "REV. J"

~ William A. Jamieson, Beloved Partner in Ministry ~

*GREETINGS OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP

SHARING OF JOYS, CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Bless the Lord, O My Soul Robert Lau

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy name.*

Bless the Lord, my soul. —Psalm 103:1

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 2: 1-5 (*Pew Bible OT p. 550*)

Liturgist: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND LESSON Philippians 2: 1-13 (*Pew Bible NT p. 954*)

Liturgist: Here ends the second lesson.

All: **Praise be to you, O Lord.**

*GOSPEL READING Matthew 21: 23-32 (*Pew Bible NT p. 802*)

Pastor: The Gospel of our Lord.

All: **Glory to You, O Christ.**

*CONGREGATIONAL CANTICLE ~ *Seek Ye First* LAFFERTY

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God And His righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!**

**Ask and it shall be given unto you, Seek and ye shall find,
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!**

SERMON “ *PLEASING THE PASTOR* ” Pastor Jim

Philippians 2:1-5 ~ “If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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.

CHORAL AMEN *Three-fold Amen* Beverly Antis

THE PRESENTATION OF REGULAR TITHES & OFFERINGS

together with the special

PC(USA) PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

Timothy Shaw

*For the bread which you have broken,
for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken,
now we give you thanks, O Lord.*

*By these pledges that you love us,
by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heaven above us,
consecrate our lives, O Lord.*

*In your service, Lord, defend us;
help us to obey your Word;
in the world to which you send us
let your kingdom come, O Lord.*

*By these pledges that you love us,
by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heaven above us,
consecrate our lives, O Lord. Amen.*

—Louis F. Benson

*THE DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*THE UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, through all the generations of this church, in all the seasons of our lives, you have loved us, sought us, and claimed us as your own.

You have called us to seek peace and pursue it. You have blessed us so that we may be a blessing to others.

Now accept what we offer unto you this day, and bless our special gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering, that in everything we may yield our wills and our works unto you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THE COMMUNION HYMN # 516

Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation

O QUANTA QUALIA

A TIME FOR PREPARATION on approaching The Lord's Table

- ❖ Ye that do truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways:

*Draw near with faith,
and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort.*

Let us pray:

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table.

But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat this bread and drink this cup that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

THE INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Pastor: Then open your hearts to receive the sacrament of bread and cup.

We come to this sacred table,
not because we must, but because we may;
We come not to testify that we are righteous,
but that we sincerely love the Lord Jesus Christ
and desire to be his true disciples;
We come not because we are strong
but because we are weak;
not because we have any claim on the grace of Christ
but because of our frailty and sin.

People of God, let us give thanks to the God who sets this
Table before us.

People: **We praise the Lord our God, who welcomes us.**

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (responsive)

Pastor: We give you thanks O God, for you have made us in your
image: female and male, black, brown, olive, and pale.
You created us and continue to shape us and teach us
to love you, to love our neighbors, and to love ourselves.

People: **Bread of life, cup of peace,
we give you thanks, O God.**

Pastor: You set us in this world to love and to serve you,
to live in peace with your whole creation.
Yet even when we fail to do so, you do not reject us
but continue to call us back to your way.

People: **Bread of life, cup of peace,
we praise you for your mercy, O God.**

Pastor: In Jesus Christ you showed your love for all,
embracing those most often rejected by others—
the poor, the immigrant, the addicted,
the prisoner, the mother who chooses abortion,
those who suffer with mental illness... all those whom
society has deemed impure or unworthy or expendable.

People: **Bread of life, cup of peace,
Help us to love them with your love, O God.**

Pastor: We thank you for your Son, Jesus, who proclaimed
the good news of salvation, healed the sick, fed
the hungry, called for justice, and urged faith guided
by the heart, not legislated by the law.

You showed us the vision of a new community, one in which
the last will be first and your kingdom will become real
among us.

Now we offer thanks to you, O God, for your son Jesus, who
in obedience to you was crucified; and yet, in victory over
death, rose triumphantly from the grave. In his resurrection
we place our hope and expectation of a day when Christ will
come again and the world will know true peace at last.

People: **All glory, praise and thanks be to you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE COMMUNION (*come forward*)

*THE UNISON PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

**Thanks be to You, O God, for your great love which is spread
into all the nations. May we carry the life and peace
embodied in this bread and cup, that we might be a message
of hope and reconciliation to a desperate and hurting world.**

**By your Living Spirit, empower us to work for peace; 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, and You alone. Amen.**

*RECESSIONAL HYMN #356

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

*THE BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

May God Bless and Keep You

Robert Wetzler

*May God bless and keep you
till we meet again; meet again.*

*A TIME OF SILENCE

*THE CHARGE AND DISMISSAL

Pastor: With hearts, minds, and eyes wide open
Let us go from this place to work for God's kingdom.
sustained by God's grace and love;
Be filled with God's spirit;
And be united with your brothers and sisters in Christ
so that we may comfort and encourage one another
with the Peace of Christ, this day and every day.

Be

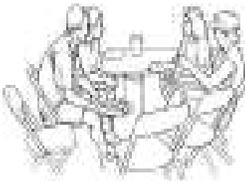
People: **Thanks be to God!**

~ PLEASE BE SEATED FOR A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT ~

* THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND

YOU WERE GREETED TODAY BY Betty Butler.

JOIN US FOR FELLOWSHIP TIME !



***... honoring Bill & Jennie Jamieson
following worship today
downstairs in the Assembly Room***



Celebrating Our Heritage

You will find installment #22 of the book "Through Succeeding Years" - an historical account of the history of First Presbyterian Church from 1813-1938 - in this morning's bulletin. Future installments will be forthcoming.

(Back issues available in the narthex.)

Seekers Class

@ 9:45 am in the Assembly Room

Next Sunday, Oct. 8th!

(Final class of the Series)



Rev. Jim Campbell

“Science and Theology Shake Hands”

~ All are welcome! ~ Refreshments at 9:30 am ~



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Peace & Global Witness Offering

...will be received Today, October 1st

The Table is Set. Come to the Table of Peace!

Today, Christians from around the world gather in worship to partake of the Eucharist in remembrance and celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and to bear witness to the unity of Christians everywhere as we seek to live out Christ's command to work for justice and peace in a world that is deeply divided by conflict and war.

*“SO HE CAME AND PROCLAIMED PEACE TO YOU WHO WERE FAR OFF
AND PEACE TO THOSE WHO WERE NEAR.” – EPHESIANS 2:14-17*

The letter to Ephesians tells us that Jesus came to proclaim a universal peace. While the earthly ministry of Jesus occurred in a specific age and place, the peace he shared is limited by neither time nor geography. As followers of Christ, our call to work for peace begins in our own neighborhoods and extends to the end of the earth. It is a demanding call, but one that Presbyterians at all levels of the church are seeking to follow.

A brochure and offering envelope is available in today's worship bulletin. Please make checks payable to Covenant Presbyterian Church marked "Peace Offering" in the memo section and place your contribution on the morning offering plate, mail it to the church or drop it off at the church office.

25% of the total collected will remain with our congregation for local peacemaking efforts (to be determined by Session).



Pastor Jim & Family

will be on vacation

October 6th through October 13th

During the Pastor's vacation, you may leave a message with Elsie in the church office @ 724-287-7731 who will forward any of your concerns . . . or **in case of an immediate need**, please contact the Clerk of Session (Nancy Blewett, 724-287-0169). Rev. Merry Meloy and Rev. Jim Steiner are "on call."

Next Sunday, October 8th @ 11 am Worship

Guest Preacher will be: Elder *Brian Graff*



“If we are to have peace on earth, our loyalties must transcend our race, our tribe, our class, and our nation; this means we must develop a world perspective.”

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

“Peace is a daily, a weekly, a monthly process, gradually changing opinions, slowly eroding old barriers, quietly building new structures.”

~ John F. Kennedy



Interfaith Worship Service
“Social Justice Sunday”
Sunday, October 15 @11am
“A service of Messages & Music”

Presented in partnership with
The Butler Interfaith Network

A time for fellowship and food follows the service in the
Assembly Room hosted by *Friends of the Interfaith Network*

Butler Interfaith Network is a collaboration of area religious leaders, lay leaders, and community organizers who affirm the spirituality of all persons of faith, particularly members of the LGBTQ community. For the past six years, they have provided peer pastoral support, community support and programs of inclusion. For information or to join us email butlerinterfaith@zoominternet.net

Coming Soon !

**FELLOWSHIP &
MOVIE MATINEE**

Saturday, October 7, 2017

Note: For comfort while attending Movie Night, please bring a cushion for the chairs or a lawn chair from home!

Food at 4:00 pm

(Main Dish is Provided)

“Bring a side dish or snack to share!”

☆ **Movie at 4:30 pm** ☆

“The Intern”



Comedy (2015) - Rated PG-13 for some suggestive content and brief strong language

STARRING: Robert DeNiro, Anne Hathaway, Rene Russo,
Adam DeVine, and Anders Holm

All are welcome! Invite your Friends!

Save this important date!

☆ **Saturday, October 21st** ☆
@ 6 pm ~ Assembly Room

**“A Celebration of Pastor Jim
& Karen’s Ministry”**

(Pastor Jim’s Pre-Retirement Dinner)



Dr. Swanson’s official retirement as Pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church begins January 1, 2018 ...but due to the busy Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays this year, the Transition Team wisely selected October 21st to honor and celebrate the Swansons’ 14 years of service to the members & friends of Covenant Presbyterian Church and to the Butler community.

A special catered (buffet-style) dinner has been arranged with Patty Kate Caterers of Prospect, PA. **You may make your reservation by using the card that you received in the mail or you may use the multi-colored half sheet insert in today’s bulletin.** If you know of others who are not members or relatives but who have a special connection to Pastor Jim and would like to attend his retirement celebration, please contact the church office at 724-287-7731.



Clergy
APPRECIATION
month

On Sunday, October 22 during the Fellowship Hour, you will have the opportunity to **express your appreciation to Pastor Jim** (and his family!) for all the blessings and benefits of their ministry, love and friendship!

Please bring a thank you card...extend a hand in friendship... write a personal note... and/or bring a gift card to present to the Swansons as a token of your appreciation.

NOTE: *This is a separate celebration from the Retirement Dinner and we hope you can be present for both occasions!*



Operation
**Christmas
Child**
A PROJECT OF SAMARITAN'S PURSE

Collection Week ~ November 13-20, 2017

For anyone interested in participating in this wonderful project again this year, colorful "shoeboxes" are available in the Assembly Room.

Fill the shoebox with fun toys; hygiene items, such as comb, soap, washcloth, hand towel, hair brush; and school supplies.

Important to Note: Do NOT include: candy; toothpaste; used or damaged items; war-related items, such as toy guns, knives or military figures; seeds; chocolate or food; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items, such as snow globes or glass containers; or aerosol cans.

This year a donation of \$9 is requested to cover shipping and project costs.

Thank you,

Audrey Carlson,

Mission Committee Chair



Math Mondays

For Students in grades 5 and 6

Mondays from 3:40pm - 5:00pm

Classes held in the Shaffer Memorial Room - 2nd floor

- Use Entrance on E. New Castle St. -

To volunteer, or for more information:

Call Peggy Cartwright, Director @ 724-421-9141

Prayer Concerns:

Dr. John Prichard & Family during their time of grief at the passing of John's father, James W. Prichard, age 92, on September 23, 2017 in Tucson, Arizona.

If you would like to send a personal note or sympathy card to John, his address is:

Dr. John S. Prichard
6790 East Calle La Paz, Apt. 3105
Tucson, AZ 85715-9006

PRAYER CORDON: Tuesdays at 12 noon in the Church Library.
To request prayer, contact Virginia at 724-287-3920.

Celebrating Birthdays:

David Blewett (*October 2*) **Leah Swanson** (*October 8*)



Notice:

The Butler City Department of Streets will be **paving the alley roadway tomorrow, Monday, October 2nd**. If you had planned to stop by the church, parking may be prohibited in the alley. Please park on Franklin St.

“Hatred paralyzes life; love releases it.
Hatred confuses life; love harmonizes it.
Hatred darkens life; love illuminates it.”

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

“The moment we begin to fear the opinions of others and hesitate to tell the truth that is in us, and from motives of policy are silent when we should speak, the divine floods of light and life no longer flow into our souls.”

-- Elizabeth Cady Stanton



IN MEMORIAM

James William Prichard

Born ~ January 8, 1925

Joined the Church Triumphant September 23, 2017

The love, prayers and sympathy of the congregation are extended to Dr. John S. Prichard & family upon the death of his father, James W. Prichard, age 92, on September 23, 2017 in Tucson, Arizona.

James William Prichard, 92, of Tucson, died Saturday, September 23, 2017 from End Stage Renal Disease. He was born in St. Louis, Missouri, on January 8, 1925 to Leslie E. and Ann Schoenemann Prichard. He grew up in nearby Webster Groves and enrolled at Yale University in 1941. At Yale he majored in physics and enlisted in the Navy V-12 program, earning a Bachelor's degree and Navy Officer Commission in 1944. He separated from the Navy in 1946.

Also, in 1946 he married Christine Alexander of Connecticut; they remained married until her passing in 2015. After military service he held numerous positions with the U.S. Government mostly in the field of supplies and logistics with the U.S. Navy. He was awarded the Navy Superior Civilian Service Award. During this time he also earned an M.S.B.A from George Washington University. Upon retirement from the U.S. Government he worked for two Government contractors. He co-authored the book Modern Inventory Management.

Mr. Prichard resided in the Virginia suburbs of Washington, DC from 1951 to 2005. In 2005 he and his wife moved to Tucson to be with their son. He is survived by two sons, John and William; both of Tucson; one grandson, William of Florida, one great-granddaughter, Anna Rose, of Florida; and one sister, Mary Ann Partridge of Virginia.

Visitation was held on Friday, September 29 from 9:00 AM to 9:30 AM; followed by a service at 9:30 AM; and then burial at 10:30 AM at East Lawn Palms Cemetery in Arizona.