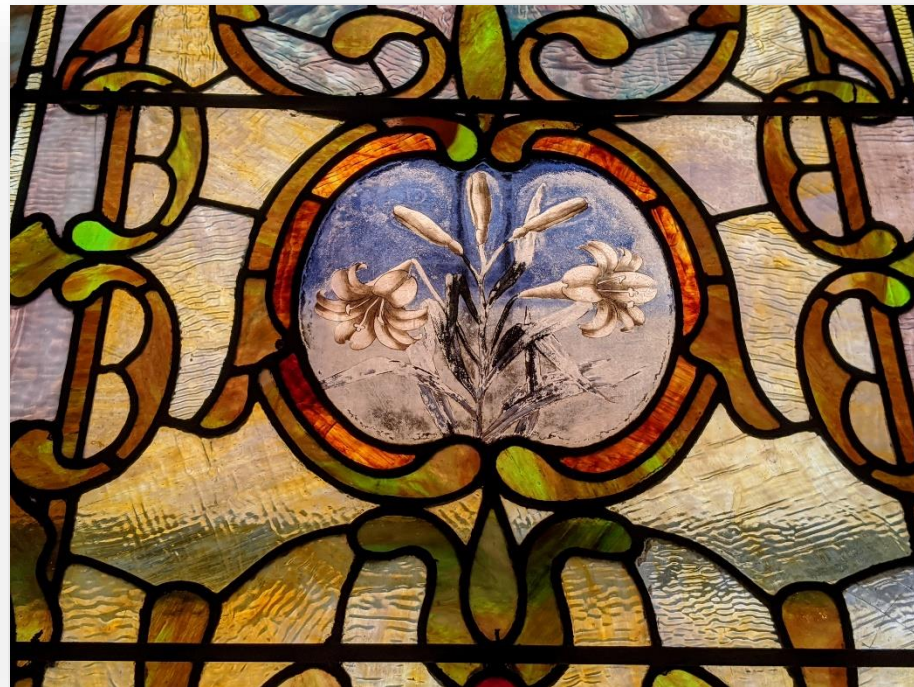


# Covenant Presbyterian Church

230 E. Jefferson St. Butler, PA  
724-287-7731 covenantoffice@zoominternet.net  
Worship with us on YouTube: CovenantTV1813



**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent**  
**March 26, 2023**  
Pastor: Rev. John C. R. Silbert  
Worship Leader: Dr. John Reefer  
Music Director: Steven Yealy  
Broadcast TV Producer: Brian F. Graff

## ~ Order of Service ~

\*\* = Please stand, as able

### The Gathering

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP☩

Pastor: The Spirit of God has brought us here.

People: **The Lord has set us down here, though our bones are tired.**

Pastor: Can these dry bones live?

People: **Yes! The Breath of God will revive us!**

**The Word of God will awaken us!**

Pastor: Today, we come together to experience new life.

People: **In our worship, let us give thanks to the Life-Giving Spirit of God!**

\*\* PRAYER OF THE DAY

\*\*HYMN 826 *Lift High the Cross*

CRUCIFER

INVITATION TO CONFESSION & CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name.**

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, therefore lift up the good news of the gospel!

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Praise the Lord!**

\*\*RESPONSE 581 *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: Bear with one another, and if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you..  
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

## The Word

\*\*ILLUMINATION 224 v.1 *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* ROCKINGHAM  
***When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died;  
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.***

OT LESSON Ezekiel 37: 1 - 14 *Pew Bible P.704-705*  
Leader: This, is the Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM 130 Hymn 791 *For You, My God, I Wait* SPRINGTIME

NT LESSON Romans 8: 6 – 11 *Pew Bible P.919*  
Leader: Here ends the reading of the Epistle.

People: **Praise be to You, O Lord!**

\*\*GOSPEL LESSON John 11: 1 – 45 *Pew Bible P.873-874*

Pastor: The Gospel of our Lord.

People: **Glory to You, O Christ!**

\*\*CANTICLE *My Spirit Longs for Thee* FINGAL

***My spirit longs for Thee within my troubled breast,  
though I unworthy be of so divine a guest.  
Of so divine a guest unworthy I be,  
yet has my heart no rest, unless it come from Thee. Amen.***

SERMON *A New Dawn for the Living Dead* PASTOR JOHN

SERMON RESPONSE 583 *Glory to God* GLORIA (Taizé)  
***Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!  
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!***

\*\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH  *From the Heidelberg Catechism,  
Question #1*

Liturgist: What is your only comfort, in life and in death?

People: **That I belong--body and soul, in life and in death--not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ, who at the cost of his own blood has fully paid for all my sins and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil; that he protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that everything must fit his purpose for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also assures me of eternal life, and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

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 ANTHEM *Incline Thine Ear* ~ Himmel

*Incline Thine ear, incline Thine ear to me, (2)*

*O Lord, make haste to deliver me, Incline Thine ear, incline Thine ear to me,*

*O Lord, make haste, make haste to deliver me,*

*O save me for Thy mercy's sake, O save me, save me for Thy mercy's sake.*

\*\*DOXOLOGY 717 *For the Life That You Have Given* PLEADING SAVIOR

***For the life that you have given, for he 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 and bless these gifts which we offer in response to the gracious gift of your life-giving Spirit to us. May these gifts and our lives be used to flesh out your love and justice, mercy and peace as they are revealed in and through Jesus, your Son and our Savior. Amen**

## The Sending

MINUTE FOR MISSION *One Great Hour of Sharing* AUDREY CARLSON

\*\*HYMN 250 *In The Bulb There Is a Flower* PROMISE

\*\*THE CHARGE & BENEDICTION

\*\*POSTLUDE

† *Today's Call to Worship is adapted from Amy Loving at the Worship Closet. The Prayer of Dedication is adapted from Moira Laidlaw at Kir-Shalom. About the Heidelberg Catechism: Completed in 1562, this catechism was a mutual affirmation of faith among the Lutheran and Reformed traditions in the Rhineland.*

**Offerings, Tithes, & Gifts:** Mail to 230 E. Jefferson St.; **Online** at [www.covenantbutler.org](http://www.covenantbutler.org); **Mobile** via Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement App

Fellowship Hour: Today is "Father Hubbard's Spring Picnic". Thank you to all who participated.

Mission: Lighthouse Food Pantry item of the month for April – CONDIMENTS

Easter Items to Consider:

**Wed. Apr. 5 12:00 Noon**

Easter Breakfast reservations (Free) are due in church office

**Thu Apr. 6 7:00 PM**

Joint Maundy Thursday Service at Trinity UPC

**Fri Apr. 7 12:00 Noon**

Joint Good Friday Service at St. Andrews UPC

**Sun. Apr. 9 9:30 AM For RSVP Guests**

Easter Breakfast Fellowship Hour (with 10:30 AM Prayer Circle)

Prayer Concerns: If you have a prayer request, please contact the Prayer Cordon: Virginia Lokovich 724-287-3920, Jane Hall 724-287-5410, Pastor John 412-779-6148, or [covenantoffice@zoominternet.net](mailto:covenantoffice@zoominternet.net)

Let us remember to pray for:

**Virginia Williams**, (Gina Loebell's mother) for healing, calm, and discernment after recent medical treatment;

**Megan**, (Gina's niece) for the safe arrival of baby Luna Julianne on St. Patrick's Day!

**Peggy DeCecco**, neighbor of Bill and Nancy Rice, mourning the loss of her husband last week;

**Alene Campbell**, lone Mathias' mother, as she convalesces from a recent fall (on the other hip!) while in rehab;

**A UK service unit**, (known to Sir Lars Morrison) in rescue and recovery operations in Syria;

**Anna**, a young woman with serious pulmonary issues (known to the Silberts), is now on the approved list for a double-lung transplant;

**Lisa**, a professor colleague of Pastor John, as she helps her family through a very difficult passage in life;

**Neil & Sandy Nucci**, Elaine Nucci's parents recovering from a recent accident at home (in KY);

**Matt**, known to the Silberts, in rehab for addiction issues;

**Norman and Cheri Haworth**, friends of the Silberts, for healing and wholeness;

**Pastor Jim**, for continued recovery after knee surgery;

**Pam Patterson**, in ongoing rehabilitation at Concordia Cabot was pleased to have a recent visit from lone who brought Corry (Pam's pooch!) with her;

**All people affected by the environmental disaster** in and around East Palestine, OH, **by the earthquakes** in the Mideast and in Ecuador, **and the ongoing belligerence** in the Ukraine; and

**The continuing guidance and leading of the Holy Spirit in Covenant's future!**