

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 This Season of Stewardship – “Dig Deep, Depend Deeper!”
Pledge Dedication Sunday

The 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

November 16, 2025, 11:00 AM

Pastor: Rev. John C. R. Silbert

TV Producer: Brian F Graff, C.P.

Worship Leader: Lars Morrison

Music Director: Dominico Reyes

~ Order of Worship ~

** = Please stand, as able

The Gathering

CHORAL INTROIT

Praise Ye the Lord ~ Cleveland

Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah! Everybody praise the Lord.

Praise God on top of the mountains. Praise God both day and night.

Praise God down in the low valleys. Praise God because it's all right.

Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah! Everybody praise the Lord.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE & TIME OF CENTERING

**CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader Hear what the LORD says, I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating.

People: **O sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things.**

Leader I will rejoice and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard.

People: **God has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness.**

Leader: No more shall there be an infant that lives but a few days or an old person who does not live out a lifetime.

People: **O sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things.**

Leader: They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity; for they and their descendants shall be offspring blessed by the Lord. Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear.

People: **God has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness.**

All: **Let us sing a new song to the Lord, let us worship God!**

**OPENING PRAYER

**OPENING HYMN 276

Sing a New Song unto the Lord

SING A NEW SONG

INVITATION TO CONFESSION & CORPORATE PRAYER CONFESSION

Majestic Creator, we fail to believe we carry your image and we fail to behave as those who belong to you. Mighty Savior, we turn from your path of sacrificial love and we turn toward our personal preferences. Merciful Spirit, we forget your call to righteousness and we forget our need of you.

In our sinfulness, triune God, we seek now your forgiveness, praying that you will relieve the burden of our regrets by the power of your patient love.

A TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: God is creating new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered. They shall not even cross God's mind. Be glad and rejoice forever in what God is creating: newness of life.

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are reconciled to God and to one another. Alleluia!**

****CONFESSION 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: May mercy, peace, and love be yours in abundance. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

NOISY OFFERING OF LOOSE CHANGE

The Word

****ILLUMINATION 260 v.4** *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus* HYFRYDOL

***Alleluia! King eternal, Lord omnipotent we own;
Alleluia! born of Mary. earth your foot-stool heaven your throne.
As within the veil you entered, robed in flesh, our great high priest;
here on earth both priest and victim in the eucharistic feast.***

HT LESSON Isaiah 65: 17 – 25 *Pew Bible P.607*

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

HT LESSON Isaiah 12 *Pew Bible P.558*

Leader: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. People: **To God we give our thanks!**

NT LESSON 2 Thessalonians 3: 6 – 13 *Pew Bible P.962*

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

****GOSPEL LESSON** Luke 21: 5 – 19 *Pew Bible P.856*

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

CANTICLE 49 V.4

The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI

***You have eternal life implanted in the soul;
your love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll.
We praise you, living God! We praise your holy name:
the first, the last, beyond all thought, and still the same!***

THE MESSAGE

Love Among the Ruins

PASTOR JOHN

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH IN SONG

**HYMN 818

By Gracious Powers

INTERCESSOR

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 & DEDICATION OF 2026 PLEDGE CARDS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Praise His Holy Name ~ Hampton

Back by Popular Demand!

REFRAIN Sing till the power of the Lord comes down. Shout Hallelujah! Praise His Holy Name! (x2)

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me;

I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind, but now I see.

Jesus, Jesus, how I love Thee! Shout Hallelujah! Praise His Holy name! REFRAIN

Must Jesus bear the cross alone and all the world go free?

No, there's a cross for ev'ry one and there's a cross for me.

Jesus, Jesus, how I love Thee! Shout Hallelujah! Praise His Holy Name! REFRAIN

Let us praise His Name, Hallelujah, Lord! Praise His Holy Name!

Praise His Name! Praise His Holy Name! Oh, oh, Praise His Holy Name!

Praise Him!

**DOXOLOGY 647

Give Thanks

GIVE THANKS

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One;

give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son. (x2)

And now, let the weak say, "We are strong";

let the poor say. "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!" (x2)

Give thanks. Give thanks.

DEDICATION OF OUR STEWARDSHIP PLEDGES, OUR OFFERINGS, AND OUR GIFTS

Liturgist: Creator of all, the earth is yours, the world and all who live in it.
 All: **You have entrusted us with gifts—time, talent, energy, money—and asked us to use them in serving your kingdom come, O Lord. With thanks and praise we respond to your call. Digging deeply in our giving we sow seeds that, we pray, will become part of the new creation that you promise.**

Liturgist: Even so, O God, we bring these gifts you have given, returning your generosity, paying it forward.
 All: **We offer ourselves, our lives, our hopes and fears, our dollars and our hours. We commit ourselves to work for your world, to love and serve wherever you call.**

Liturgist: Holy Lord, we ask your blessing on this, your church, as we seek to follow you with heart, mind, and soul.
 All: **May we always depend more deeply in your love and grace in our journey of faith and trust in you. Almighty God, bless these pledges, offerings and gifts—our investment in your future—that they may multiply in faith, hope, and love. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray, Amen.**

The Sending

**HYMN 700 *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* I'M GONNA LIVE

**THE CHARGE & BENEDICTION

**CHORAL RESPONSE *Go My Children, with My Blessing ~ Welsh Melody*
Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own."

POSTLUDE

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



Wait! Don't Go Yet! Join us for conversation and food in fellowship hall right after the service. Thanks to today's hosts *Dorothea & Don Wallace*.

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

Advent Project: We are looking for several folks to share their thoughts, in writing, on the subject of Advent that may be included in our worship services this December. How does Advent make you feel? What are your Advent traditions? Perhaps speak on Hope, Peace, Love or Joy. You decide what you feel moved to write about. It can be a paragraph, a page or two, a poem, an affirmation, a prayer – whatever fits your thoughts. Let us know if you will participate. Materials will be due to the office by November 23rd (of course, earlier is better).

Christmas Poinsettias: Memorial (or in Honor of) poinsettia orders will be due on Wednesday, December 3 by 12:00 PM. Please hand in directly to the church office. Please do not put them in the offering plate. The big plants for the chancel have been provided for already. Of course, if you still want a large plant, please do order one.

Celebration: November 19 Grace Sechler's Birthday



Christmas Decorating: November 29 10:00 AM Join us to make the season bright! "Many hands make light work."



Prayer List: 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

Please Pray for:

Brenda, Virginia Lokovich's daughter, having surgery Nov.25 to repair discs in her neck/spine.

Sammy Peters, step-son of Linda Peters, came through heart surgery well; prayers for no complications.

Bonnie Readett, Pastor John's sister in East Greenwich, RI, for relief from right shoulder and back pain.

Pam Patterson, residing at Concordia Cabot – Please note her room is #2510.

Jane Faulkner, Ann Morrison's sister in CA, continued prayers for open doors into FEMA housing resolution for her – now in its sixth month! And work-related concerns.

Scotty McAliley, Ann Morison's cousin in NC, for stasis in maintaining treatments for cancer and for good family support.

Isaiah 12: 2

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

Word List

SALVATION STRENGTH SURELY ISAIAH BECOME AFRAID TRUST MIGHT WILL NRSV
LORD THE NOT HAS GOD FOR AND MY

(Isaiah 12:2) Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. (NRSV)