

LIVE STREAMING

CCPC live streams worship services every Sunday morning. Please join us in spirit by going to www.covenantcommunitypc.org/live-stream. You can give, fill out a Connection Card, and also view archives of past services and sermons all from the comfort of your home.

Ministers - All members of the congregation

Staff:

Pastor - Jim Gates

(757) 615-1799 or jim@covenantcommunitypc.org

Director of Children & Family Ministries - Amanda Fuls

(715) 573-6296 or amanda@covenantcommunitypc.org

Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries - Dan Frost

(815) 262-5273 dan@covenantcommunitypc.org

Director of Music Ministries - Les Fraaza

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Communications & Evangelism Coordinator - Drew Bouché

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Office Manager/Bookkeeper - John Jacobs

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Choir Director - Deb Perrin

deb@covenantcommunitypc.org

Accompanist & Bell Choir Director - JeHae Kim-Bixby

jehae@covenantcommunitypc.org

Housekeeper - Carol Anklam

Church Office

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www.covenantcommunitypc.org



COVENANT COMMUNITY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embracing all. Feeding spirits. Reflecting Christ...

Changing lives forever!



SUNDAY, JANUARY 2ND, 2021 - 10 A.M.

THE PROPHETIC WAY:
PROCESS

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude: "In the Bleak Midwinter" Les Fraaza

Quiet Reflection and Preparation for Worship:

Scripture challenges us to walk by faith, not by sight; to see the world through the eyes of Christ. What present, and future, does Jesus see when looking at our world? At your life? Where does God's vision compliment or conflict with the dreams you have for yourself, or the expectations others have for you? Prayerfully reflect this morning on how you might come to see God's vision with greater clarity.

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Candles

Call to Worship:

Go and tell what you have seen and heard:

The blind receive their sight, the lame walk,

The lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear,

The dead are raised, the poor have good news brought to them.

And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at Jesus.

For we are witnesses that Christ has come; let all creation join in praise.

***Hymn:** "God Rest You Merry Gentlemen" See Screen

***Call to Confession:**

Even after the majesty of Christmas, we find ourselves drifting from Christ. Like John the Baptist, we ask of Jesus, "is this it?" Let's gather up our inconsistent hearts today, and ask God to hear us as we together offer our prayer of confession.

***Prayer of Confession:**

In the wake of the Christmas excitement, after the thrill of the New Year has come and gone, we find ourselves on the fringe of "ordinary" life again. Busyness creeps in, and our focus is divided. You, O Lord, have changed the world with the Incarnation. We just want to go back to normal.

Forgive us for having dreams that are too small, and hopes that are just for ourselves. Give us a vision for your kingdom, and for the shalom that you alone can bring, so that we with courage and hope we can walk the Holy Way this year.

(We keep a moment of silence for reflection)

don't forget about dinner at 5:30pm! Buy your meal tickets Wednesday nights at the Hub or on our website.

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDIES — Our Women's and Men's Bible Studies continue to meet each Tuesday at 12pm in Bouldin Hall, and on zoom, to study the Minor Prophets (Women - 1st and 3rd Week, Men - 2nd and 4th Week). All are welcome! Contact Jim Gates (jim@covenantcommunitypc.org) with questions. *We'll resume the schedule with the women THIS WEEK, January 4.*

ADULT I.D. (INSTITUTE OF DISCIPLESHIP) & SINGLES SMALL GROUP — Our Adult I.D. resumes *NEXT* Sunday, January 9. We will continue our "God is Closer Than You Think" class in the Cry Room, and all are invited. New topics and themes for that class will come in February - stay tuned! Note that our Bible Project class will not meet in the coming semester. *Also starting on January 9, we have a new small group for singles (those in the "middle" - not in their 20s and not retirement age) that will meet during I.D. in the small conference room.* Contact Jim Gates (jim@covenantcommunitypc.org) with questions.

FAITH & FITNESS GROUP — CCPC's Faith & Fitness group meets every Thursday (*resuming January 6*) at 4:30pm in the Activity Room downstairs. It combines physical fitness, fellowship, and discipleship into an impactful time for all. There is low-key aerobics followed by a devotional. Join us as we move into a new year of spiritual and physical growth! Contact Deb Tice with any questions (debtime77@yahoo.com or 715-574-7663).

CELEBRATE RECOVERY — Celebrate Recovery is a Bible-centered recovery ministry that meets at the church (Bouldin Hall) *EVERY* Tuesday at 7pm for those looking for healing and restoration from addiction, depression, anger, abuse, grief, and any other form of heavy burden. C.R. is a safe, discrete, loving group that can walk beside you throughout this process of growth. Meetings are open to anyone! Please contact Drew Bouché (drew@covenantcommunitypc.org) with any questions.

YOUTH, CHILDREN & FAMILY

SALT & LIGHT YOUTH GROUP — Students who are in 6th through 8th grades gather on Wednesdays at 6pm (*resuming January 12*) for Salt & Light Youth Group, with 9th through 12th graders meeting on Sunday nights at 6pm (*resuming January 9*). Contact Dan Frost with any questions.

KID'S I.D. & KID'S L.I.F.E. — For each of the first three months of 2022, we will have a new theme that is tied together between Kid's I.D. (*Sundays at 9am resuming January 9*) and Kid's L.I.F.E. (*Wednesdays at 6pm resuming January 5*). Stay tuned for more information and be sure to check out our YouTube channel and Facebook Parent's Group! We upload teaching videos, keep parents connected, and continue our conversations from Sunday mornings/Wednesday evenings.

MINISTRY IS RELATIONSHIPS LEADERSHIP DAY — CCPC is delighted to be hosting a training seminar with Cadre Ministries for Kid's and Youth Ministry volunteers, Secret A.G.E.N.T.S. and mentors, and anyone else interested in evangelism and discipleship with our younger generations. Cadre Ministries trains local churches to be effective in serving by equipping, empowering, and equipping. This will take place in Bouldin Hall from 8:30am to 12:30pm on Saturday, January 29 and is free of cost. To learn more about Cadre, please go to www.cadremissionaries.com. To learn more about the trainers for the day, go to www.cadremissionaries.com/garda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2022—As of Thursday, December 30, we've had 128 pledges totaling \$428,858 and have reached our 428,000 goal! We invite you to continue turning in pledges for 2022! Contact Jim Gates (jim@covenantcommunitypc.org) with questions.

GIVING ENVELOPES — The 2022 boxes of giving envelopes are available at the Hub. This year we will not be having personalized numbers, so just ask the Hub attendant for a box that you can take home!

MISSIONS

PINE RIDGE, SD MISSION TRIP — This summer we will travel to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota and work with Wings as Eagles ministries as we share hope with the children of the poorest community in the US. The trip will take place July 23-31 and is open to youth and adults (6th graders and up). We will allow 3rd-5th graders provided they are accompanied by a parent or adult relative, 21 or older. To learn more or to register, visit our website: <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/pine-ridge>.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT — If you are interested in being a part of supporting and contributing to the resettlement of refugee families in our area, please contact Jim Gates, Ruth Wrynski (715-409-0582 or ruthiewry@charter.net), Joanne Lapinske (715-573-5556 or hostmomjo@yahoo.com), or Lynda Reis (773-351-8980 or mybana@yahoo.com). In the coming weeks we will be sharing a list of common items that are being collected for the families.

ANNUAL MISSIONS AUCTION & GALA — Save-the-date for this year's Missions Auction & Gala to be held the week of March 5! Our auction will again be a week-long, online event that will conclude with a gala on March 12. Stay tuned for more details in coming weeks. If you would like to be part of the planning and preparations, please contact Kari Kufahl (kari.kufahl@gmail.com). Stay tuned for information about donating items!

BIBLE STUDIES & SMALL GROUPS

BIBLE READING PLAN - OLD TESTAMENT — Last year we read the New Testament together on the Bible app. This year, we're tackling the Old Testament together! Starting *TOMORROW*, January 3, we will jump into the Old Testament starting with Genesis. Each day we will read 3 chapters, or just 3-4 pages. Reading together on the Bible App means you can ask questions as we read, and each day Jim posts some comments or reflections about the day's texts. To join in, download the free Bible App (aka YouVersion) from the Apple or Google stores and click on the link included in your emails, or call the church for help anytime. If you want to follow along without the app, simply read three chapters a day starting with Genesis 1-3 on January 3rd!

ADULT LIFE - C.A.S.K.E.T. OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY — 2022 is the year of the Old Testament at CCPC! Join us on Wednesday nights starting *THIS WEEK*, January 5 for an 8-week overview of the only Bible read and used by Jesus. If you've struggled to understand how the books of the OT fit into our modern Christian faith, or if you simply want a deeper understanding of the structure, genres and themes of Jesus' Bible, this is the season of LIFE for you. We will utilize the *CASKET* acronym from Dr. Carol Kamenski to help summarize the story. Contact Jim Gates (jim@covenantcommunitypc.org) with questions. And

*Assurance of Pardon:

Isaiah 35:4-6

"Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you. Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.'" God has come in Jesus of Nazareth. Thanks be to God! **Amen.**

*Gloria Patri

Children's Message:

[Children may come forward and be seated on the stage.]

Period of Fellowship

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Old Testament Reading:	Isaiah 35:1-10	Page 663
Special Music:	"God is Still in Control"	Autumn Frost
New Testament Reading:	Luke 7:18-35	Page 66
Sermon:	The Prophetic Hope: Process	Jim Gates

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn: "What Child is This" (vs. 1,2,3) #145

The Sacrament of Communion

Offering

Offertory Music: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" Marcy Fehrman & Les Fraaza

*Doxology

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction: "Go, Tell it on the Mountain" (vs. 3) #136

Postlude:

Les Fraaza

WELCOME TO COVENANT COMMUNITY!

We consider it a privilege to have you worship with us and sincerely hope you get a blessing from the service. Some notes to help you be more comfortable during the service:

- † Please participate in congregational responses (bold)
- † Please stand as able, as marked with an asterisk *
- † Please fill out the Connection Card insert.
- † Feel free to use the Cry Room (you will be able to see & hear the service) and/or Nursery located across from the sanctuary

HOW TO JOIN THIS CHURCH

The officers and members of CCPC welcome all persons who wish to respond to the Lordship of Jesus Christ by confessing or reaffirming their Christian Faith or by transferring their membership. We invite you to accept this invitation if you do not have a church home. Please speak with Jim Gates or Drew Bouché, note your interest on the Connection Card, or phone the church office (715) 359-6467. You are welcome here!

OUR AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

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 the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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.

WORSHIP SERVICE VOLUNTEERS/PERFORMERS

Thank you to all who make this morning's worship meaningful!

Worship Leader: Deb Tice
The Hub: Gail Daman
Elder Greeter: Bob Warner & Lynda Reis
Greeters: Barb Smejkal & Shirley Hodgdon
Live Stream: Drew Bouché
Slides: Abram Bouché

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the following folks who were recently in the hospital or reside in an assisted-care facility.

Tom Scott (Home)
Dee Jenkins (Home)
Don Hawkins (Home)
Cheryl Lenz (Colonial Center in Colby)

THIS WEEK AT CCPC

SERVICE... DISCIPLESHIP... ENGAGEMENT!

<u>TODAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>
10AM WORSHIP 11:15AM FELLOWSHIP	7PM DARTBALL	NOON WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 7PM CELEBRATE RECOVERY	5:30PM L.I.F.E. DINNER 6PM KID'S/ADULT L.I.F.E. 6PM KID'S CHOIR PRACT. 6PM BELL CHOIR PRACT. 7PM CHOIR PRACTICE
<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u>
2PM SHEEPSHEAD 4:30PM FAITH & FITNESS			9AM I.D. 10AM WORSHIP 11:15AM FELLOWSHIP 6PM HS YOUTH GROUP

For more details about CCPC programming, refer to the next couple of pages in this bulletin, go to www.covenantcommunitypc.org, or call the church office at 715-359-6467.