



# COVENANT COMMUNITY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embracing all. Feeding spirits. Reflecting Christ...  
Changing lives forever!

# FORWARD

FROM COMFORTABLE  
TO AWAKENED



— GOD'S CALL TO MOVE —>

SUNDAY, MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2021 - 10 A.M.

FORWARD  
FROM COMFORTABLE TO AWAKENED:  
THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

## LIVE STREAMING

CCPC live streams our worship services every Sunday morning. Please join us in spirit by going to [www.covenantcommunitypc.org/live-stream](http://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

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**Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries** - Dan Frost

(815) 262-5273 dan@covenantcommunitypc.org

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(715) 574-2059 or les@covenantcommunitypc.org

**Parish Visitor** - Jess Wakefield

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**Communications & Evangelism Coordinator** - Drew Bouché

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**Office Manager/Bookkeeper** - John Jacobs

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**Bell Choir Director** - Ruth Wrynski

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**Housekeeper** - Carol Anklam

### Church Office

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## Gathering Around the Word

### Prelude:

Chriss Altis

### Quiet Reflection and Preparation for Worship:

What if God's call is not to go "back to normal" but to go forward with Christ? In what direction is your life moving? Are you going backwards to your old life, or forward into the Spirit's new adventure? Consider this morning what your next step towards God might be, and commit to strain forward to what lies ahead.

### Welcome & Announcements

#### Call to Worship:

1 Thessalonians 5:4-9

But you, beloved, are not in darkness ... for you are all children of light and children of the day;

**So then let us no fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober.**

For God has destined us not for wrath,

**But for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

**\*Hymn:** "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" (vs. 1,2,3)

Leader:

Herb Westlund

#### \*Call to Confession:

James 5:16

Scripture commands us, saying "Confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective." Let us obey as together we offer our prayer of confession.

#### \*Prayer of Confession:

Jesus, you are the bread of life that comes down from heaven. You are all the food our souls need to survive. We know this, but we often act as though we do not. We have tried to fill our hearts with other nourishment this week; foods that looked sweet and left us sick. Forgive us.

Empty us of the desire for anything that does not honor you, and give us instead the opportunity to encounter you afresh this morning, for we know that you alone are the source of love and life.

(We keep a moment of silence for reflection)

### \*Assurance of Pardon:

John 6:54,56

Jesus says, "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day ... [they] abide in me, and I in them." Believe the good news – through his body broken and his blood shed, Jesus has secured our forgiveness and eternal life. Thanks be to God! **Amen.**

### \*Gloria Patri

### Children's Message

### Period of Fellowship

## Proclaiming the Word

**Old Testament Reading:** Exodus 16:4-8,13-15,31-35 NRSV Bible

**Special Music:** "My Father Planned It All" Herb Westlund

**New Testament Reading:** John 6:41-60 NRSV Bible

**Sermon:** Forward from Comfortable to Awakened: Jim Gates  
The Sacrament of Communion

## Responding to the Word

**\*Hymn:** "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart" (vs. 2,5)

Leader:

Herb Westlund

### The Sacrament of Communion

#### Offering

**Offertory Music:** "Let Us Break Bread Together" Chriss Altis

Connection Card and giving are available on the live stream web page.

#### Doxology

## Bearing and Following the Word into the World

### Announcements

#### \*Benediction

**\*Choral Benediction:** "Shine, Jesus, Shine" (Refrain)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TODAY'S COMMUNION**—*TODAY*, we will celebrate the Sacrament of Communion. To participate at home, please have your juice and bread ready and available for today's live stream service. In-person worshippers will have prepackaged elements available to them.

**EASTER SUNDAY REGISTRATION**—We are so excited for the opportunity to be in-person for our Easter services this year! Because our numbers have been climbing in recent weeks, and due to more and more folks being comfortable to join us in person, we are expecting a larger number for our TWO Easter services on April 4, at 8am and 10am. So that we can continue to be wise and safe in our interactions, we'd like to have a sense of how many will be joining us (roughly). Thus, we'd ask that you please go to <https://covenantcommunitypc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/759363> to register your family for either of the two services. Of course, both services will be live-streamed. Let's rejoice together... for He Has Risen!

**25TH ANNUAL MISSION AUCTION (ONLINE)**—This year's 25th Annual Mission Auction is *ONLINE* beginning *TODAY* at 1pm, and running through Sunday, March 14 (7pm)! Go to [www.covenantcommunitypc.org/ccpc-auction](http://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/ccpc-auction) beginning at 1pm to bid on items (you can peruse items before 1, but cannot bid until the opening time), as well as purchase our "Non-Dinner Dinner" tickets, which will pay for a meal for those who need it most.

Please note:

1. *YOU NEED* an account set up on the auction website (we are using a platform called "32Auctions") *TO BID*. But an account is not necessary if you just want to look around.
2. To finish setting up your account, the site will send you an email and it will then be as easy as clicking a very prominent button in said email message.
3. If you have any questions, please contact the church.

**WINTER L.I.F.E.SERIES (KIDS & ADULTS)**—L.I.F.E. Kids and L.I.F.E. Adults have come together for a multi-generational experience continuing *THIS* Wednesday, March 10 at 6pm, through Wednesday, March 24. We are studying Passover and the celebratory meal called a Seder. This class is for all to participate in! Join us for a Lenten Seder experience either in person or virtually via Zoom. The following is the Zoom login information:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84792922837?pwd=RzZyT09rcTNoVWVja09FOXYrWGZEU09>  
Meeting ID: 847 9292 2837 Passcode: SEDER  
Contact Amanda Fuls ([amanda@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:amanda@covenantcommunitypc.org)) or Jim Gates ([jim@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:jim@covenantcommunitypc.org)) with any questions.

**CCPC ENDOWMENT GIFTS/MATCHING GIFTS**—Join us in kicking off our CCPC Endowment Fund this year! We invite you to consider a "Founder's Gift" of \$500. We are also blessed to have been given a matching gift donation of \$25,000 towards the fund, and we are currently at \$20,600 of that \$25,000 goal! The minimum gift to be matched must be no less than \$2,500. Pledges for this matching gift must be made by April 15, 2021, with payment deadline set for December 31, 2021. For more information about giving to the endowment fund, please go to <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/endowment>.

**YOUNG ADULT OUTING**—The CCPC Young Adults will be heading to Cracked Escape Room *TODAY* at 6pm. The cost will be \$15 per person with a limit of 10. If you would like to attend, please contact Dan Frost ([dan@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:dan@covenantcommunitypc.org)).

## BIBLE STUDIES & SMALL GROUPS

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM**—We continue our Bible study on the first six "minor" prophets: Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, and Nahum *THIS* Tuesday, March 9, at noon via Zoom. All men are welcome! Contact Jim Gates ([jim@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:jim@covenantcommunitypc.org)) for the Zoom information.

**READING THE GOSPELS TOGETHER: THE BOOK OF LUKE**—Join Jim Gates in reading through the the Gospels and currently in the Book of Luke. The group is using the Bible app from YouVersion (find in the Apple or Google app store). You do not have to download the app to join the group. Simply go to <https://bible.com/p/37068274/03789ac0ed2773f940795764f2ec0718> and get started via your web browser (or simply read a chapter-a-day in your hardcopy Bible). *As of today, we are in Luke 11*, so feel free to join us!

## YOUTH, CHILDREN & FAMILY

**EGGSTRAVAGANZA MOBILE 2021**—Eggstravaganza 2021 is going *MOBILE!* Pile your family in the car (and invite others to do the same) and go on an adventure in our community looking for eggs on Saturday, March 27! These large colorful eggs will be hidden all over the area for you to find, take a picture of, and document via an interactive app called GooseChase. Race back to the church to collect EGGstra cool prizes. We will have two start times at 9am and 10am, so please go to <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/eggstravaganza> to register your family! We are looking for items to put in gift bags, as well as folks to help stuff eggs and help hand out gift bags on the 27th. If you would like to help or have any questions about the event, please contact Amanda Fuls at [amanda@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:amanda@covenantcommunitypc.org).

**YOUTH GROUP THIS WEEK - IN PERSON!**—All students grades 6th-12th grade are invited to join us IN-PERSON (or online via Zoom), *THIS* coming Wednesday, March 10, from 6-7:30pm. We will be wearing masks and social distancing; yet, we will be able to interact for the first time in months face-to-face! Also, if you are an adult who can volunteer your time to be with us those evenings as a chaperone, contact Dan Frost ([dan@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:dan@covenantcommunitypc.org)). please If you would like to see video messages and materials from previous weeks, please go to <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/youth-group>.

**YOUTH I.D.**—Youth Institute of Discipleship has *THREE* classes (6th & 7th; Confirmation; 9th & 12th) via Zoom *AND* in person at 9am every Sunday morning.

**KIDS I.D.**—Kids ID starts in a large group via Zoom and in person, followed by a breakout into two groups (PreK-1st & 2nd-5th grades). Each group will need their own device if you are with us from home. Join us every Sunday at 9am!