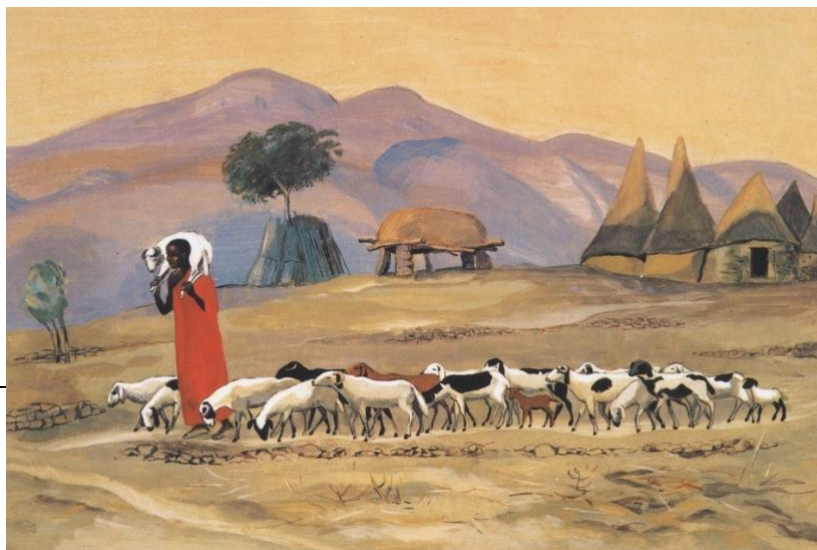


The  
**Church of the  
Covenant**

*Fourth Sunday of Easter*

Sunday, April 21, 2024

Service of Worship  
for the Lord's Day



*Gathering*

*The McGaffin Carillon*

George Leggiero, Carillon

*The Good Shepherd.*

Jesus Mafa

*Organ Prelude*  
*Praeambulum in E*

Jonathan Moyer, The Newberry Organ  
Vincent Lübeck

*Greeting*

Rev. Jessie MacMillan

*Introit*

Chancel Choir

*Hymn 244*

*This Joyful Eastertide*

VRUECHTEN

This joyful Eastertide, a way with sin and sorrow!  
My love, the Crucified, has sprung to life this morrow.  
Had Christ, who once was slain,  
not burst his three day prison,  
our faith had been in vain.  
But now has Christ arisen.

\* *Call to Worship*

Frayed and frazzled,  
**we gather to find that place of peace that God offers to us.**  
Awash in worries and doubts,  
**we gather beside the still waters where Jesus offers us  
a cup of grace.**  
Weakened by the burdens of life,  
**we gather so the Spirit can restore our souls  
and show us the path to the kingdom.**

**WELCOME**  
Convinced of God's grace,  
the Church of the Covenant  
seeks to be a welcoming  
spiritual home, live God's  
inclusive love, express  
Christ's compassion, and do  
justice in the world.

**CHILD CARE**  
Child care is provided for  
infants, toddlers, and pre-K  
children in our Crèche.  
The Crèche is located  
on the second floor of the  
Education Wing and is  
staffed from 9:30 to 12:30  
on Sundays. Infants and  
toddlers may arrive prior to  
the service. Children pre-K  
through 5th grade are  
welcome to start in worship  
with their parents and leave  
after *A Time for Young  
Disciples* to go to the Crèche  
for their lessons, crafts, and  
other activities. Older  
students from 6th through  
twelfth grades join in  
worship every Sunday and  
youth events after worship.

\* Hymn 327

*From All That Dwell Below the Skies*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**OUR LITURGIST** is  
Jim Tomaszewski.

Jim has been a member of the Church of the Covenant for over thirty years. Currently retired, he is an ordained deacon and elder, and he now works in the food pantry, and compiles the monthly gun death list. Jim is the father of two and the grandfather of two. Jim lives in North Collinwood near Lake Erie where the sunsets are magnificent! The only request he asks of God is to someday grant the Cleveland Guardians a World Series title. (And maybe the Browns a Super Bowl win, if it's not asking too much!)

*Call to Confession*

Jim Tomaszewski, *Liturgist*

*Prayer of Confession*

**Everlasting God, we have come to see that our lives fall far short of your expectations. You have given your life for us, and poured out your Spirit, yet we fail to return your love with all our heart. Too often we are selfish and proud, ignoring you, Lord, and neglecting others. When we do not truly trust and obey you, we are overwhelmed by self-pity, fear and worry. In Christ we are given a sure hope, secure love, and a shepherd to follow, yet we follow the false hopes and desires of this world. Father, through the redeeming death of your Son on the cross, by your Spirit and through your Word, transform and renew us to follow you with joy. All this we ask, confident in your unchanging faithfulness.**

*Silent Confession of Sin*

*Declaration of Forgiveness*

Hear the good News: The Apostle Paul declares:  
"God has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."  
Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel.  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

\* *Gloria Patri*

**Glory be to the Father,<sup>+</sup>  
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.**

<sup>+</sup> Or you may sing: "Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, the Spirit, Three in One;"

**Today**

*Sunday Seminar,  
Dowd Commons, 11:30*

**Growing Greener in  
Cleveland**

Ed Moydell, President and CEO of Holden Forests & Gardens. Together, HF&G is one of the largest public gardens in the country and one of northeast Ohio's most important cultural and environmental assets. Ed Moydell joined HF&G in September 2023. Come hear what brought Ed to Cleveland and HF&G. Learn how the Cleveland Botanical Garden and HF&G are connecting people to nature right here in University Circle, throughout the city of Cleveland, and beyond the Great Lakes region.

## The Word

*Prayer of Illumination*

*Scripture* **John 10:11-18**

NT page 103

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

*Anthem*

Chancel Choir with Melody Prater, oboe

*The Lord is My Shepherd*

John Rutter

The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.  
He shall feed me in a green pasture, and lead me forth  
beside the waters of comfort.  
He shall convert my soul and bring me forth in the paths  
of righteousness, for His name's sake  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil;  
For Thou art with me: Thy rod and Thy staff comfort me.  
Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them  
that trouble me:  
Thou hast anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.  
But Thy loving kindness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life:  
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

*Time for Young Disciples*

Rev. Jessie MacMillan

*Departing Music* *These Treasured Children*

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

*Hymn 487, verse 5*

**Then, tender God, each child embrace;  
God give them blessings, grant them grace.  
Surprise them, God, with wonders still,  
And gently guide them to your will.**

## GATHER

We gather to worship God on the Lord's Day (Sunday), because the Gospels testify that Jesus rose from the dead early on the first day of the week.

## MUSIC NOTES

British Composer John Rutter's pastoral setting of *Psalm 23* features Oberlin student and Covenant soloist, Melody Prater on oboe. This piece is part of Rutter's *Requiem*, although he completed it almost 10 years prior as a separate anthem. The composer made these remarks about his larger work: "The Requiem was written in 1985 and dedicated to the memory of my father, who had died the previous year. In writing it, I was influenced and inspired by the example of Fauré. I doubt whether any specific musical resemblances can be traced, but I am sure that Fauré's Requiem crystallized my thoughts about the kind of requiem I wanted to write: intimate rather than grandiose, contemplative and lyric rather than dramatic, and ultimately moving towards light rather than darkness."



Use the QR Code above to access our online giving page.

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God!

Sermon

*Believing the Familiar*

Rev. Sharon Core

\* Hymn 803

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*

RESIGNATION

*Recognition of One Year Anniversary of AGANO LA KISWAHILI*

*Prayers of the People*

Rev. Jessie MacMillan

*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,**



*Announcements and Celebration of Community*

Rev. Jessie MacMillan

*Invitation to Offering*

*Offertory*

Rachel Rose, soprano

*"The Praise of God," from The Hermit Songs, Op. 29, No. 9*

Samuel Barber

How foolish the man who does not raise his voice  
and praise with joyful words,  
as he alone can. Heaven's High King  
to whom the light birds with no soul but air  
all day, everywhere, Laudation sing.

\* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving*

\* Hymn 542

*God Be with You Till We Meet Again*

GOD BE WITH YOU

\* *Charge and Benediction*

*Organ Postlude  
Organ Symphony No. 2, Op. 20  
III. Scherzo*

Oziah Wales, the Chancel Organ  
Louis Vierne

*Carillon Postlude*

George Leggiero

\* *Please stand as you are able*

Our ushers today are: ***Janet Takeyama and Bob Ault.***

The custodians on duty are: ***Shannon James and Teddy Rosado.***

The audio/visual technician today is: ***Ken Wendt.***



***The Reverend Sharon K. Core*** is General Presbyter for the Presbytery of the Western Reserve. She is a graduate of Agnes Scott College and Columbia Theological Seminary. She has served churches in Charleston, SC; Brevard, NC and Arlington, VA. She shares life with her husband Nick Kuhn and their black lab Sassy.

We welcome everyone who is joining us for worship online on Sundays and throughout the week.

We're thankful that our congregation is expanded through digital ministry!

**Complete announcements are available in the weekly E-NEWS and COVENANT LIFE. Contact the office to sign up.**



## Contact One of Our Pastors

To schedule an appointment, call the office at 216-421-0482,  
or email Pastor Jessie at [Pastor@Covenantweb.org](mailto:Pastor@Covenantweb.org) or Pastor Robin at [rcraig@covenantweb.org](mailto:rcraig@covenantweb.org).

**Rev. Robin** will be out of the office from April 15th until April 22nd

**The Flowers In The Chancel Urn** are given to the glory of God, and in memory of *Yasuo Takeyama*,  
by his wife *Janet Takeyama*.

**We Keep in our Prayers:** Zoe Ann Brown, Cary Arden, Venerine Branham, Corky Carl, Joan Drushel, Sonia Golden, Min Gressley (Dave Gressley's mother), Ruth Hatcher, Fritz Haiss, Patrick Hoover (Ann Williams's nephew), Conor Joyce (Kathy Farkas's nephew), David Keltner, Julie Longfield, Mike Maldonado, Reathel McWhorter, Cathy Miller, Richard (Dick) Miller, Lois Miller (Nessa Gressley's mother), Nancy Miller (Nessa Gressley's sister), Susan Moyer (Jonathan Moyer's mother), Nicole Murray, Tonia Myers, Crystal Pryor (Nicole Murray's daughter), David Nelson (Suchi Nelson's brother), Diane Papp, Mark Perrings and family, Gabriel (Jenny Conner's grand-nephew), and Echo (grandson of Barb Clint's friend), and North Presbyterian Church.  
We pray for those struggling with illness, convalescing, or homebound and for patients, family, and staff in surrounding hospitals.

## Nominating Committee

The Church of the Covenant Nominating Committee has been hard at work over the past two months and is nearing the end of its meetings. We still need another Session member for the Class of 2027 and three At-Large members for the 2025 Nominating Committee. If you are interested or know of someone the Committee might approach, please contact *Anne de Coningh* at [tedanne98@gmail.com](mailto:tedanne98@gmail.com) or call/text 216-337-1797. Thank you so much. We think you will be delighted with our members who have chosen to be servant leaders!

*Anne Wombwell de Coningh* Moderator

## "Rachel Rose & Friends!"

On Saturday, May 11th, at 2 p.m. in the Church of the Covenant, hear Covenant soprano soloist Rachel Rose and friends present a recital of Classical and Romantic music from the sacred, art song, and operatic repertoire. Joining Rachel will be tenors Connor Vrooman (Covenant soloist) and Matthew Mac Manus, soprano Abigayle Williams, harpist Jessica Martin, and pianist Ying-Ho Joanna Huang. The first half of the concert will feature music by Mozart and Beethoven, and the second half will include music by Debussy, Chausson, Mascagni, and Carlisle Floyd. The concert is free and open to all. Come enjoy an afternoon of song with "Rachel Rose & Friends!"

## Mark Your Calendars

*Habitat Faith Build* - **Saturday, May 18, Saturday, August 24, Saturday, September 28, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.** Join us again this year to help build houses through the *Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity's Faith Build*. We will be working to help build a new home, and spruce up the neighborhood in the Buckeye-Woodhill area on the east side of Cleveland. If you are interested, please contact Jim Prince at [princeco4@aol.com](mailto:princeco4@aol.com) for further information.

## Children and Youth Singers | Youth Sunday | May 19, 2024

Calling all parents and guardians of Covenant's young children (ages 7-11) and youth (middle school and high school students). *Dr. Matthew Garrett* will be leading children and youth singers in musical preparation for **Youth Sunday, May 19**. Singing rehearsals will be held during the Sunday School hour in the Education Wing. To learn more about this musical opportunity, contact Dr. Garrett: [mgarrett@covenantweb.org](mailto:mgarrett@covenantweb.org) Sunday Rehearsals: **April 28, May 5, May 12** at 12:00 pm.

Covenant will celebrate the children and youth of our church during the 10:00 am **Youth Sunday** worship service. Children and youth will help lead this worship service through a combination of scripture, their own shared stories, and the message through music. Parents and guardians will need to bring participating children and youth to church at **9:00 am on May 19th** for service preparation. If transportation is a need, please indicate this to one of the Sunday School leaders so we can get permission forms signed and rides arranged.

## Annual Meeting on May 5

Mark your calendar for the **annual meeting of the congregation on Sunday, May 5**, following worship. Your nominating committee will present its slate of officers for session, trustees, deacons, and next year's nominating committee for your vote. All are welcome to attend, though voting is limited to active members of the congregation. Covenant's annual report, covering May 2023 through May 2024, will be available at the meeting.

## This Week at Covenant (April 21– April 27)

**Today:** Child Care, Crèche, 9:30 am;

Sunday School, Crèche, Infants –Age 6, 9:30 am;

Carillon and Organ Prelude, 9:45 am;

Worship, Sanctuary, 10:00 am;

Reception, Reception Room, 11:00 am;

Swahili Service, Sanctuary, 12:00 pm;

Sunday Seminar, *Growing Greener in Cleveland*, Dowd Commons, 11:30 am;

Sunday School, Ages 7–11, Interfaith/Prayer Room, 11:30 am;

Confirmation Class, Living Room, 11:30 am;

Cleveland Community Guitar Orchestra Rehearsal, Van Horn Choir Room, 1:15 pm;

Swahili Meal, Dowd Commons, 2:30 pm;

UPCaM Dinner Church, Dowd Commons, 6:00 pm.

**Monday:** Parking Lot Task Group, Zoom, 10:30 am;

Book Club: *An Altar in the World*, Meeting Room, 12:00 pm;

Bible Study, Zoom, 7:00 pm.

**Tuesday:** Staff Meeting, Office, 9:30 am;

Cache, Lower Level, 10:00 am;

Tuesday Noon Organ Plus Concert, *Donald Verkuilen*, organ, Sanctuary, 12:00 pm.

**Wednesday:** Food Pantry, Tower Door, 10:00 am;  
Bible Study Young Adults, Library, 12:00 pm;  
Collaborative Class - Wisdom of Storytelling, Library, 3:00 pm;  
12 Steps to Freedom, Beckwith Hall, 5:30 pm;  
Session Meeting, Meeting Room, 7:00 pm.

**Thursday:** Midday Prayer, Zoom, 11:00 am;  
Makers Space, Crèche, 2:30 pm;  
Community Meal, Dowd Commons, 5:30 pm;  
Beckwith Handbell Choir Rehearsal, Beckwith Handbell Room, 6:15 pm;  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary, 7:30 pm.

**Friday:** Food Pantry, Tower Door, 10:00 am;  
Carillon Concert, McGaffin Carillon, *George Leggiero*, 12:15 pm;  
Youth Ministries – Movie Night, Activities Room, 5:30 pm.

**Saturday:** Cleveland Community Guitar Orchestra Rehearsal, Van Horn Choir Room, 10:00 am;  
Swahili Choir Rehearsal, Yost Chapel, 3:00 pm.

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PRESBYTERIANS

Seeking the full participation of LGBTQIA+ people of faith in the life, ministry and witness of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Go to [www.mlp.org](http://www.mlp.org) for more information.



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