

THE WORSHIP OF GOD



ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 24, 2014

10:00 AM



MINISTERS

All the Members of the Church

The Rev. Amy Starr Redwine, *Pastor*

The Rev. Laury W. Larson, *Associate Pastor*

The Rev. Jonyrma R. Singleton, *Associate Pastor*

The Rev. Eileen F. Vizcaino, *Chaplain & Director, Student-Community Ministries*

Dr. Jonathan W. Moyer, *Organist & Director of Music*

Dr. Kaori Hongo, *Associate Organist & Director of Music for Children and Youth*

Ms. Mindy Stewart, *Family Matters Coordinator*

The Rev. Dr. Catherine G. Borchert, *Parish Associate*

The Rev. James F. Dowd, *Pastor Emeritus*

11205 Euclid Avenue ☞ Cleveland, Ohio 44106

216.421.0482 ☞ CovenantWeb.org

THE CHURCH OF THE COVENANT WELCOMES all who have come to worship with us. This congregation seeks to be a spiritual home for people from all walks of life, and to be involved in the vital personal and social concerns of our day. Here you will find a diversity of religious opinion, an openness to questions of faith and practice, and a commitment of respect for one another as together we seek to discern God's purposes for our lives. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to become a member or participant in our family of faith.

OUR VISION

Seeking to live God's Word, we aspire to:

- ✻ Be a welcoming spiritual home,
- ✻ Live God's inclusive love,
- ✻ Express Christ's compassion,
- ✻ Do justice in the world.

CONVINCED OF GOD'S GRACE, the Church of the Covenant seeks to be open and affirming, welcoming all people.



- ✻ *Units of the Easy Listener system, large-print bulletins, and individual seat cushions are available from the ushers.*
- ✻ *Please sign the signature book found at the end of your pew.*
- ✻ *We ask that you please turn off cell phones and pagers; refrain from walking in the aisles during the sermon and prayers or taking pictures during the service; and, if you are double parked, move your car immediately following the service.*
- ✻ *Copies of recent sermons are available on the kiosks and on our website at CovenantWeb.org.*
- ✻ *Please remember that, as a welcoming congregation, our building is open. As such, you will not want to leave your belongings unattended.*

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AUGUST 24, 2014

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10:00 A.M.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Enter the sanctuary reverently and let the power and inspiration of the music prepare you to experience the majesty and glory of God.

Childcare for infants through pre-kindergarten is available in the crèche. During the Parting Response, all children (grades K-8) are invited to exit the sanctuary for SOS: Summer of Stories.

For those who wish to read scriptural texts in advance, today's readings are Romans 12:1-8 and Matthew 16:13-20.

* Those who are able may stand.

THE MCGAFFIN CARILLON

GEORGE LEGGIERO
Covenant Carillonneur

THE NEWBERRY ORGAN

DR. JONATHAN W. MOYER

Ciaconna

BERNARDO STORACE

WELCOME

THE REV. AMY STARR REDWINE

* CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY

* CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT

God Is Here!

ABBOT'S LEIGH

All are invited to sing.

Hymn 461, 1

**God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,
May we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts
Wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.**

* THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One Voice: Infinite God, our minds cannot comprehend you, but we are bidden by your Spirit to worship you in sincerity.

Response: Son of the living God, you have entrusted the keys of the kingdom not merely to Peter but to all who confess your name, for your promises are as wide as the heavens.

Since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken,

Unison: let us give thanks and offer to you acceptable worship with reverence and awe!

* HYMN 487

When Morning Gilds the Skies

LAUDES DOMINI

* CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

JENNIFER CONNER

Lord, in your image you have created us all, wondrous beings with fathomless depths of talent and human potential.

Yet, in our broken humanity, we have lived our lives at the surface of your creation.

We place blinders on our imaginations and cannot envision new and exciting pathways for our talents.

We fear the unknown and never take that first step into opportunity.

We crave security and settle for a shadow of the life that you intend for us.

We don't comprehend the abundance of your goodness for all, and so we grasp at recognition for ourselves, demeaning the gifts of others in our own climb from obscurity.

Lord, forgive the smallness of our vision. Give us the courage to embrace all that you have created us to be. Still our hearts and open us to the healing power of your presence as we silently confess our sins.

* PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN (*in silence*)

* DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

One Voice: Hear the Good News!

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.
Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

Response: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

* GLORIA PATRI

Each worshiper may choose between the following texts:

Inclusive:

**Glory be to our Maker,
and to the Christ,
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.
Amen.**

Traditional:

**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.**

EPISTLE LESSON

ROMANS 12:1-8

One Voice: This is the Word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Gott hat alles wohlgemacht
from *Cantata No. 35*

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH
Joseph Schlesinger, countertenor

Gott hat alles wohlgemacht.
Seine Liebe, seine Treu
Wird uns alle Tage neu.
Wenn uns Angst und Kummer drücket,
Hat er reichen Trost geschicket,
Weil er täglich für uns wacht.
Gott hat alles wohlgemacht.

*God has done all things well,
His love, his faithfulness
are new every day for us.
When anxiety and care press upon us,
he has sent rich consolation
For he watches over us day after day.
God has done all things well.*

PARTING RESPONSE

Go with Us, Lord

TALLIS' CANON

*All are invited to sing as children and youth depart to the Living Room
for Stories of Summer with Tracy Blake, ending at 11 am.*

Hymn 535

**Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day,
That in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to You.**

GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 16:13–20

SERMON

Who Do You Think WE Are?

REV. JONYRMA R. SINGLETON

* HYMN 345

Dear Lord, Creator, Good and Kind

REST

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION
AND PETITION

THE REV. EILEEN F. VIZCAINO

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.

CONGREGATIONAL AMEN

MCNEIL ROBINSON

All are invited to sing.



INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Includes receipt of food for distribution from the Covenant's Food Pantry.

OFFERTORY

*But who may abide the day of his coming
from Messiah*

GEORGE FREDERIC HANDEL
Joseph Schlesinger, countertenor

But who may abide the day of his coming,
And who shall stand when he appeareth?
For he is like a refiner's fire.

Malachi 3:2

* DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

*All who are able may stand, row by row, as the ushers walk forward with the offering plates.
Each worshiper may choose between the following texts:*

Inclusive:

**Praise God from whom all
blessings flow;
Give praise all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.**

Traditional:

**Praise God, from whom all
blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

* HYMN 339

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

THE ORGAN

Fugue "à la Gigue," BWV 577

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH



Following the tradition of many great houses of worship in the United States and Europe, the Church of the Covenant celebrates the role of the pipe organ in its capacity to lead worship through supportive accompaniment and inspiring repertoire. Postludes may on occasion extend longer than the time period some may wish to remain in the sanctuary. If you feel the need to leave early, please do so quietly out of respect for those who wish to remain.

THE MCGAFFIN CARILLON

The tower is open to visitors following the service. The entrance is on the second floor opposite the Herrick Room.

Preludium in d (for carillon)

JEF DENYN

Two Intermezzi for Carillon

JURRIAAN ANDRIESEN

Serenade for Carillon

RONALD BARNES

Intrada

Sicilienne

ABOUT OUR SERVICE TODAY

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION: "WHO DO YOU THINK WE ARE?"

Jesus responds to Peter and the disciples that "Yes" he is the Messiah. We are followers of Jesus the "Christ" (which means Messiah) right? So who do we think we are in this place and time? And how must we serve and work to bring God's kingdom closer to this turbulent and chaotic world?

MUSIC NOTES

We welcome guest soloist and countertenor Joseph Schlesinger. Little is known about the composer Bernardo Storace (fl. 1664) hailing from Messina in the south of Italy. His *Ciaccona* is an exuberant set of variations over a "ground bass" or repeating harmonic pattern. Soloist Joseph Schlesinger offers two sacred arias from the 18th century for the anthem and offertory. The aria "Gott hat alles wohlgemacht" (God has done everything well) comes from J.S. Bach's *Cantata No. 35* for solo countertenor and obbligato organ written in Leipzig in 1726. "But who may abide the day of his coming" is probably the most famous alto aria in G.F. Handel's (1685-1759) oratorio *Messiah* (1742). The work is structured in contrasting slow and fast sections illustrating the solemnity of impending judgment and the impetuous energy of the refiner's fire. The service concludes with a "jig" fugue (dancing fugue) by J.S. Bach (1685-1750), which is inconclusively dated to his years as organist at St. Boniface in Arnstadt.

Joseph Schlesinger, countertenor, began his musical education playing principal trumpet in the Augustana College Symphony where he completed a Bachelor of Arts in Finance and Asian Studies. After receiving his Masters in Music from DePaul University, Mr. Schlesinger received a Netherlands-America/Fulbright Fellowship to study Baroque Music at the Royal Conservatory, The Hague. Mr. Schlesinger's Baroque repertoire includes J.S. Bach's *Magnificat*, *Weihnachts Oratorium*, *B-minor Mass*, *St. Matthew Passion*, *St. John Passion*, and other cantatas and oratorio composed by Telemann, Schütz, Zelenka, Handel, and John Adams. On the operatic stage Mr. Schlesinger sang roles ranging from *Boris Godunov* by Mussorgsky to Judith Weir's *A Night at the Chinese Opera*. In contemporary music Mr. Schlesinger debuted various Dutch contemporary operas, notably *Snow White* by Micha Hamel, in which he was poisoned and buried on stage. Upon returning to the United States, Mr. Schlesinger is delighted to have joined Cleveland's Contrapunctus and Apollo's Fire, Chicago's Music of the Baroque, Seattle Pro Musica, and the Madison Bach Musicians.

OUR LAY WORSHIP LEADER TODAY is Dr. Jennifer Conner, who joined the church in 1985, when she came to Cleveland to pursue her graduate studies at the Cleveland Institute of Music. While at the church, she has been active in the children's ministries for the past 27 years, including 19 years leading the children's music programs, serving multiple times as Chair of Christian Education, directing Christmas Pageants and Youth Sunday Services, and more recently sharing in the leadership of the Senior High Youth program. She is a composer and teaches music theory at both Baldwin Wallace Conservatory and the Institute

of Music, and has composed numerous works for the Covenant music programs. She is a longstanding member of both the Chancel choir and Beckwith bells. She is also an Elder, and has served as Clerk of Session as well as on the Visioning Committee and Jonyrma's pastoral search committee. *Lay Worship Leaders write the prayers they use in the worship service. If you would like to become a lay worship leader, please contact Gale Bromelmeier at 440-944-7480 or at galebrom@aol.com.*

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL URN are given in memory of Evelyn Blakeney Greene, birthday August 27, and John L. Greene, birthday August 28, mother and father of James Greene.

USHERS TODAY are Chris Langmack, Patty Fowler, Martha Goble, Keith Kallay, and Marilyn Langmack; greeting are Stacey Booker and Mildred Russin.

TODAY WE RECEIVE DONATIONS for the Covenant Food Pantry, which is open the last Wednesday and Friday of each month. A collection basket is in the narthex at the sanctuary entrance. Food may also be brought to the office during the week.

STEPHEN MINISTERS are church members trained to support individuals who are facing difficulties and would like a caring Christian presence during this struggle. You are invited to visit with a Stephen Minister in Christ Chapel following worship today.

MIDWEEK MUSIC & MEDITATION, WEDNESDAYS, 4:30–5 PM

Midweek Music & Meditation is a service for anyone who would find comfort in a time of reflection, music, and prayer. Prayer requests placed in *The Carpenter's Box* on the Christ Chapel table are included in the time of prayer.

FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 31, the Reverend Amy Starr Redwine is preaching. The scripture lessons are Exodus 3:1–15 and Matthew 16:21–28. The Lay Worship Leader is Ron James. This is also Reverend Laury Larson's last day as Covenant's Associate Pastor. We will celebrate his ministry on Sunday, September 14, with a picnic.

IN THE COVENANT FAMILY

We keep in our prayers Mary Brown, Bea Carpenter, Ruth Dahm De Vries, the father of Sharon Hanook, Jerry Lowe, Stephanie Smith, Marjorie Wadsworth, and other Covenant members and friends who are struggling with illness, convalescing, or are homebound.

OPPORTUNITIES

JOIN A MUSIC ENSEMBLE!

Looking for a new musical experience? We have a place for you! Covenant offers a wide range of musical opportunities for musicians of all ages. Contact music director Jonathan Moyer if you are interested in joining any of the following ensembles: Covenant Choir, Beckwith Handbell Choir, Youth Handbells (high school), Chapel and Psalter Choirs (children), and Senior Bells. Email JMoyer@CovenantWeb.org or call 216.421.0482 x 231.

Do you play an instrument? Let us know. We will find an opportunity for you!

CACHE OPEN NEXT SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

On Sunday, August 31, a small group of CWRU students studying sustainability will be taking a walking tour of University Circle. One of their stops will be our own Cache Resale Shop, a great example of sustainability through reuse, recycling, and repurposing! The students will arrive at about 11am to observe and hear about what we do and how we do it. The Cache will be open until about noon—so please come down after worship to meet the students and purchase your own treasures.

UNIVERSITY CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY RETURNING TO TUESDAYS ON SEPTEMBER 2, 12 PM

Interested in studying the scriptures for the upcoming Sunday? Join others for this small group Bible study in the library at 12pm. The Rev. Laury W. Larson will conclude his time with this group on Wednesday, August 27. Bible Study will return to Tuesdays on September 2 with the Reverend Amy Starr Redwine facilitating.

AA AND AL-ANON MEET WEEKLY AT COVENANT

The University Circle Al Anon Family Group meets each Monday at 12 noon in the Herrick Room and 12 Steps to Freedom meets each Wednesday at 5:30 pm in the Activities Room.

BE A COVENANT VOLUNTEER WITH THE HEIGHTS HERITAGE HOME AND GARDEN TOUR

The Heights Heritage Home and Garden Tour is Sunday, September 21. Last year five Covenant members served as volunteer staffers at this very fun event . . . and received a complimentary ticket, too. We would love to have a group of 8 people work as a team this year for the 3–6 pm shift (because we still want you to come to church!). We can have materials about Covenant at the house we staff and that will help us with outreach. If you are interested, please email Martha Goble at Martha.Goble@att.net. This year our new pastor is being featured in an ad in the program book. Thanks so much!

MINISTRY FAIR, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 11 AM

There are so many ways we can share our gifts. Think Abington Arms and Family Promise meals, meeting with students at the Snack Table after worship service, helping with Student Brunches, ministering through our Cache Resale Shop, greeting visitors and members on Sunday mornings, delivering flowers to Seidman, tutoring students, working with our children and youth through our Sunday Workshops. Learn about these opportunities and many more at our Ministry Fair on Sunday, September 7, following the worship service.

PICNIC CELEBRATING THE REVEREND LAURY W. LARSON'S 40 YEARS OF MINISTRY SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 11 AM – RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 5

Please see the invitation in today's bulletin. You may sign up on the signature pads found in the pews (mark "picnic" and number attending in the space for telephone), or call 216.421.0482, sign up in the church office, or email Covenant@CovenantWeb.org.

The Church of the Covenant Activities Schedule

Sunday, August 24 through August 31

See full building schedule for the Interfaith Center and other outside activities.

Summer office hours are 9 am through 4 pm.

August Calendars available in the narthex, kiosks, and church office.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24		
8/9 am	Organ/Music Rehearsal	Sanctuary
9:00 am	Crèche (<i>infants through pre-kindergarten</i>)	Education Wing
10 am	Worship	Sanctuary
10:15 am	SOS: Summer of Stories (<i>Tracy Blake</i>)	The Living Room
11 am	Reception/ Snacks for Students	Front Lawn/Narthex
11:15 am	Personnel Committee Subgroup	Office Area
11:30 am	Associate Pastor Nominating Committee	Sonia Golden Room
1 pm	United Protestant Campus Ministries Church Fair	Interfaith Center
MONDAY, AUGUST 25		
12 pm	UC Al Anon Family Group	Herrick Room
5 pm	Personnel Committee	Library
TUESDAY, AUGUST 26		
9 am	Staff Meeting	Office Area
10 am	Covenant Cache	Activities Room
7 pm	Worship and Music Committee	Herrick Room
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27		
10 am	Covenant Food Pantry	Office Area
12 pm	University Circle Bible Study (<i>all welcome</i>)	Library
4:30 pm	Midweek Music & Meditation	Christ Chapel
5:30 pm	12 Steps to Freedom	Activities Room
5:30 pm	Ministry Initiatives Committee	Library
7:30 pm	Session	Beckwith Hall
THURSDAY, AUGUST 28		
10 am	Covenant Cache	Activities Room
12 pm	Ohio Fair Lending	Library
FRIDAY, AUGUST 29		
10 am	Covenant Food Pantry	Office Area
SATURDAY, AUGUST 30		
SUNDAY, AUGUST 31		
8/9 am	Organ/Music Rehearsal	Sanctuary
9:00 am	Crèche (<i>infants through pre-kindergarten</i>)	Education Wing
10 am	Worship (<i>children remain in worship</i>)	Sanctuary
11 am	Reception/ Snacks for Students	Front Lawn/Narthex
11 am	Cache Open	Activities Room
12:30 pm	Science of Spirituality	Sonia Golden Room

CAMPUS CORNER
SCC: STUDENT COMMUNITY AT COVENANT SAYS
WELCOME AND WELCOME BACK!

 **11AM SnackS for StudentS** - Meet at the Snacks for Students table in the narthex (lobby) after worship. Munchies, friendly faces and Support for the Journey (prayer circle too) .

Watch for SCC flyers in your dorm and around campus for
FREE BRUNCH and VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES.

DON'T MISS THIS YEAR'S
WELCOME BASH

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

12noon to 2pm

FREE FOOD CHIPOTLE LIVE BAND

CORN HOLE LADDER GOLF

TOWER CLIMB at 1pm

On Covenant's lawn

11205 Euclid Avenue, next to Thwing & Veale Centers

Everyone is invited!

Members & Participants - join in!
Make it an afternoon in the Circle.

