

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD



TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 31, 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](http://CovenantWeb.org)

**T**HE 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](http://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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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. Children will remain in our service of worship today. Activities packets are available from the ushers.

For those who wish to read scriptural texts in advance, today's readings are Exodus 3:1–15 and Matthew 16:21–28.

\* Those who are able may stand.

THE MCGAFFIN CARILLON

GEORGE LEGGIERO  
Covenant Carillonneur

THE NEWBERRY ORGAN

DR. JONATHAN W. MOYER

*Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr, BWV 663*  
*(Glory be to God in the Highest)*

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

WELCOME

THE REV. AMY STARR REDWINE

STATEMENT OF APPRECIATION

JULES TRYK

\* 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

THE REV. JONYRMA R. SINGLETON

One Voice: We gather together to worship the God of our fathers and mothers—the God of Abraham and Sarah, of Miriam and Moses.

**Response: We gather to worship our God, who hears the cries of His people and comes to their aid; who meets us on holy ground and calls us to follow.**

We gather to worship our God, who invites us to leave our selfish ways behind, take up our cross, and discover what it means to truly live.

**This is our God! Let us worship God together.**

\* HYMN 483

*Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above*

MIT FREUDEN ZART

\* CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

RON JAMES

**O Gracious and Loving God, we come before you as your inadequate servants. We beg forgiveness as we acknowledge our fearfulness in seeking justice. As Moses was questioning his role in freeing the Israelites, we too, question how we can participate in seeking justice as your will requires. We are weak and we are fearful. We lack trust in your divine plan that we must speak truth to power. We are afraid that we will be hurt by earthly powers and do not trust your divine commands. We forget our brothers and sisters here and aboard who are experiencing fear, poverty, racism and religious intolerance. In sum, our mouths are silent and our eyes are blind to suffering. Forgive us for not remembering the example Christ left us simply by the way he lived his life. So in his holy name, we pray that you bend our will to yours, O God, as without justice we cannot and should not be at peace. We ask your forgiveness as we silently confess our sins.**

\* PRIVATE CONFESSION OF SIN (*in silence*)

\* DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

One Voice: Hear the Good News!

God does not deal with us according to our sins, for with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with God is plenteous redemption.

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.**

HEBREW LESSON

EXODUS 3:1-15

One Voice: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

*Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring*

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH  
The Beckwith Handbell Choir

Jesu, joy of man's desiring, Holy wisdom, love most bright;  
Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring, Soar to uncreated light.

GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 16:21-28

SERMON

*Taking Off and Taking On*

AMY STARR REDWINE

\* HYMN 426

*Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak*

CANONBURY

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION  
AND PETITION

THE REV. LAURY W. LARSON

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

OFFERTORY

*Gloria*

CYNTHIA DOBRINSKI  
The Beckwith Handbell Choir

\* 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

SERVICE OF DISSOLUTION OF A CALL

THE REV. SUSAN HOLDERNESS  
Presbytery of the Western Reserve

Virginia S. Kallay, Elder:

The Church of Jesus Christ is constantly changing. Our church is changing as well. Babies are born. Children grow up. People commit themselves to one another. Loved ones and friends die. Newcomers join our community and our church. Others leave, moving on to new places and new opportunities. It is important that we recognize these times of change.

Today we say farewell to one who is leaving our fellowship. The Reverend Laury W. Larson joined the pastoral staff in August, 1978. Today that call comes to an end.

Reverend Larson:

I thank all of you, members and friends of the Church of the Covenant. Your kindness and support, your caring and love, have sustained me, and I shall remember you with gratitude to God.

PRAYER

REV. HOLDERNESS

One Voice: Let us pray for the saving presence of our living Lord.  
In your world,

**Response: be present, Lord.**  
In this congregation,  
**be present, Lord.**

In this community,  
**be present, Lord.**

In this presbytery and the whole church,  
**be present, Lord.**

In the homes and hearts of all your people,  
**be present, Lord.**

One Voice: Let us pray for the mercy of the Lord  
For work begun but not completed,

REV. LARSON

**Response: Lord, have mercy.**  
For expectations not met,  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For wounds not healed,  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For gifts not shared,  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For promises not kept,  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Let us give thanks for our journey together in this place:

VIRGINIA KALLAY

For friendships made,  
for joys celebrated  
and for times of nurture and growth,

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

For wounds healed,  
expectations met,  
gifts given and promises kept.

*continued*

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

For our fellowship in Jesus Christ,  
and for the love of God which has sustained us,

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

## THE DISSOLUTION

REV. HOLDERNESS

Do you, the members and friends of The Church of the Covenant release  
Reverend Laury Larson from service?

**Response: We do, with thanks to God.**

Do you, Laury Larson recognize and accept the completion of your ministry  
with this congregation?

Reverend Larson: I do, with thanks to God.

Let us pray: Loving God, Alpha and Omega, you are both beginning and end.  
Our endings and our beginnings are rooted in your love. Whether near or far,  
we are held close by your love, and kept safe from any lasting loss. Let our time  
together end with your blessing. Touch all memories with your grace and  
peace. Help us to live with courage and gladness in the future you present us.  
In every time and place, may we offer you our highest and our best. Through  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia! Amen.

Representing the Presbytery of the Western Reserve, I witness these words of  
thanksgiving, forgiveness, and release. The presbytery rejoices with you in the  
ministry you have shared, and we pledge to you continued support and  
prayer. With thanks to God for the ministry of this congregation and the  
ministry of God's servant, Laury Larson, and with hope for God's abiding  
grace in the years to come, this pastoral relationship is now dissolved.

## CHARGE

With God's help and love may your lives be blessed and your labors fruitful as  
you offer yourselves gladly in the service of our common Lord.

\* HYMN 311

*We Meet You, O Christ*

NORMANDY

\* BENEDICTION

THE ORGAN

*Toccata*

EUGÈNE GIGOUT



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.

*Trumpet Voluntary*

JERAMIAH CLARKE

*Image No. 2*

EMILIEN ALLARD

*Hemony Suite*

ALBERT DE KLERK

*Prelude*

*Etude*

*Siciliano*

*Toccata*

## ABOUT OUR SERVICE TODAY

### QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION: "TAKING OFF AND TAKING ON"

Today we hear two scriptures in which God's people are challenged to rediscover their calling: Exodus 3:1–15 and Matthew 16:21–28. How have you experienced God's claim and call upon your life? When has responding to this call been easy? When has it been hard?

### MUSIC NOTES

We welcome the Beckwith Handbell Choir to worship service this morning. The Church of the Covenant has maintained an active handbell choir program since the 1960's after its purchase of a 5-octave set of White Chapel handbells from England. The choir welcomes new participants on a regular basis, and the bells and tone chimes are incorporated into the music education for our children's choirs. Any persons interested in joining the choir or learning more about handbells are invited to the chancel following the worship service to see, play, and experience the beauty of the bells. Don't be shy. Come!

**OUR LAY WORSHIP LEADER TODAY** is Ron James joined the Covenant in 1986 and is currently a Member of Board of Trustees as well as a Trustee of Union Theology Seminar. He and his wife of 45 years, Pat, who is also a Covenant member, participate in a variety of teaching, church, and volunteer activities. Two of their grandchildren, Laila (age 9) and Asha (age 6) are active in the children's Christian Education programs and PACT. *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](mailto:galebrom@aol.com).*

**THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL URN** are given to the glory of God and in honor and appreciation of the ministry of the Reverend Laury W. Larson.

**USHERS TODAY** are Keith Kallay, Martha Goble, Jim Greene, Greg Madison, and Reathel McWhorter; greeting are Emily Blake and Mildred Russin.

**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 everyone 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, SEPTEMBER 7**, the Reverend Amy Starr Redwine is preaching. The scripture lessons are Romans 13:8-14 and Psalm 119:33-40. The Lay Worship Leader is Nancy Matz.

### **IN THE COVENANT FAMILY**

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

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to Nancy and Mark Brown, (Mildred Russin's daughter and her husband) on the death of Mary Brown, Mark's mother, on August 25 in Cleveland; and to the family, friends and the CWRU community on the death of the four students who died in a plane crash on August 25 in Willoughby Hills.

### **OPPORTUNITIES**

**JOIN A MUSIC ENSEMBLE! TRY OUT THE BELLS AFTER THE WORSHIP SERVICE TODAY.**

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](mailto: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 TODAY, AUGUST 31: MEET STUDENTS AND SHOP THE CACHE!**

Today 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 9, 12PM**

Join others in studying the scriptures for the next Sunday in this Bible study in the library at 12pm. We thank the Rev. Laury W. Larson who facilitated this Bible study for 37 years. This study returns to Tuesdays on September 2 with the Rev. Amy Starr Redwine facilitating.

**WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 10AM**

Women’s Bible Study resumes meeting the first Wednesdays of the month through May. They will be studying *Reconciling Paul: A Contemporary Study of 2 Corinthians*. You may pick up a copy of this book in the church office.

**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, 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, 11AM – 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](mailto:Covenant@CovenantWeb.org).

**TWO PART-TIME CRÈCHE POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

Covenant is hiring a Crèche Teacher and Assistant Crèche Teacher to provide quality child care, including Biblical teaching and age-appropriate activities, for children from infancy through pre-kindergarten. A position description is available in the church office. Talk with Rev. Jonyrma Singleton or Mindy Stewart for more details. We express our deep gratitude to Julie Mailey and Michelle Miller who over the years have provided a faith-filled home for our youngest in the Crèche.

<b>The Church of the Covenant Activities Schedule: August 31 – September 7</b>		
<i>See full building schedule for the Interfaith Center and other outside activities.</i>		
<i>September Calendars available with the <u>Covenant News</u> in the narthex, kiosks, and church office.</i>		
<b>SUNDAY, AUGUST 31</b>		
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	Covenant Cache Resale Store Open	Activities Room
12:30 pm	Science of Spirituality	Sonia Golden Room
<b>MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1</b>		
<i>Labor Day – Office Closed</i>		

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2		
9 am	Staff Meeting	Office Area
10 am	Covenant Cache	Activities Room
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3		
10 am	Women's Bible Study	Library
4:30 pm	Midweek Music & Meditation	Christ Chapel
5:30 pm	12 Steps to Freedom	Activities Room
6 pm	Presbytery of the Western Reserve Committee on Ministry	Library
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4		
10 am	Covenant Cache	Activities Room
6:30 pm	Handbell Choir Rehearsal	Conference Room
7:30 pm	Covenant Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5		
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6		
8 am	Officer Orientation and Planning	Beckwith Hall
10 am	Saturday Tutoring Program meeting	Sonia Golden Room
12 pm	Welcome Bash ( <i>everyone is invited</i> )	Covenant lawn
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7		
8/9 am	Organ/Music Rehearsal	Sanctuary
9 am	Crèche ( <i>infants through pre-kindergarten</i> )	Education Wing
9 am	Stephen Ministries	Herrick Room
10 am	Worship	Sanctuary
10:15 am	Sunday Workshop ( <i>kindergarten through grade 8</i> )	Education Wing
11 am	Snacks for Students	Front Lawn/Narthex
11 am	Reception/Ministry Fair	Dining Room
12:30 pm	Healing Circle	Sonia Golden Room

## CAMPUS CORNER

### SCC: STUDENT COMMUNITY AT COVENANT SAYS WELCOME AND WELCOME BACK!

 **11AM SnackS for StudentS - at the table in the narthex (lobby).** Find comfort for the "tidal wave" of new term stuff. We find strength in each other.

 **Welcome Bash 2014, SATURDAY! September 6, 12noon to 2pm.** Free food, Live Band. Chipotle. On Covenant's lawn, facing Thwing center. Help set up at 10am and meet cool people.

 **Chalk date/ HELP CHALK the WALKS for the Bash: Friday, September 5. 11am or 2pm.** Meet on the sidewalk along the new Tinkham Veale center, facing Thwing.

Sign up & questions - Rev. Viz. (Eileen), 216-233-5151.