



COVENANT COMMUNITY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

FORWARD
FROM BROKENNESS TO WHOLENESS



— GOD'S CALL TO MOVE —

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10TH, 2021 - 10 A.M.

FORWARD
FROM BROKENNESS TO WHOLENESS:
SPIRITUAL POVERTY

LIVE STREAMING

CCPC live streams our 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

(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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Choir Director - Deb Perrin

deb@covenantcommunitypc.org

Bell Choir Director - Ruth Wrynski

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Housekeeper - Carol Anklam

Church Office

(715) 359-6467 or ccpc@covenantcommunitypc.org

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Gathering Around the Word

Prelude: "There is None Like You, Jesus/Sing of the Saints" Les Fraaza

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:

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

***Hymn:** "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" (vs. 1,3) Leader:
Jay St. Clair

***Call to Confession:** Psalm 14:2

"The LORD looks down from heaven on humankind to see if there are any who are wise, who seek after God." The response is not positive; "there is no one who does good, no, not one." Psalm 14 reminds us that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Therefore, let us together confess our sins and trust in Christ.

*Prayer of Confession:

Normally we are hesitant to admit our flaws and failings. But when confronted with you, O God, we cannot help but see our sins in stark contrast with your gracious love. Forgive us for our spiritual pride. Forgive us for imagining that we might not need a savior, or that our sins are too small to regard. We know that there is no one who does good, who is good, without your grace and forgiveness. Help us to rely upon your strength, and not our own; your righteousness, and not our own; your goodness, and not our own. Then may we too rise with Christ, making a mockery of the powers of sin and death, and exalting the name of Jesus of Nazareth.

(We keep a moment of silence for reflection)

*Assurance of Pardon:

Psalm 14:7

"O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion! When the LORD restores the fortunes of his people, Jacob will rejoice; Israel will be glad." Rejoice and be glad, people of God, for in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

Congregational Response: "Blest Are They" (vs. 1, Chorus)

Children's Message

Period of Fellowship

Proclaiming the Word

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 14 NRSV Bible

Special Music: "My Faith Has Found a Resting Place/
The Solid Rock" Pat Moucha

New Testament Reading: Matthew 5:1-12 NRSV Bible

Sermon: Forward from Brokenness to Wholeness: Jim Gates
Spiritual Poverty

Responding to the Word

***Hymn:** "Jesus Shall Reign Where're the Sun" (vs. 1,4,5) Leader:
Jay St. Clair

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory Music: "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" Marcy Fehrman
& Les Fraaza

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:** "Seek Ye First" (vs. 1,2) Leader: Jay St. Clair

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CCPC ENDOWMENT GIFTS—As we kickoff 2021, it is a great time to consider how you might be able to give to our church community. One way to do so is through our new endowment program. As we begin this journey, it is important to have a great foundation from which to build. Thus, 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! 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. We ask you to pray and discuss with your family if giving to our endowment fund is a form of stewardship that is right for you. For more information about giving to the endowment fund, please go to <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/endowment>.

NO RESERVATIONS FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP MOVING FORWARD—We no longer require reservations for our Sunday worship services. We continue to require masks and social distancing (seating in green, even numbered pews only), while utilizing all available space to make sure folks can be safe while worshipping. We still need you to check in at The HUB when you arrive Sunday morning. This is for contact tracing purposes.

READING MATTHEW TOGETHER—Join Jim Gates in reading through the Gospel of Matthew using the Bible app from YouVersion (the most popular Bible app in the world). It's free and easy to find on the Apple or Google app store - just search Bible. Then, click this link to join Jim on a one-chapter-a-day read through of the stories of Jesus!

<https://bible.com/p/37068274/03789ac0ed2773f940795764f2ec0718>

You do not have to download the app to join the group. Simply click on the link above to get started via your web browser. The app provides an easy-to-access, central location on your device, but is not necessary to participate. *Readings begin TOMORROW, January 11* and you can also see Jim's brief reflections each morning on that specific chapter, and even respond with questions or comments of your own, if you want. There are even Bible Project videos embedded in the reading assignments! Make this your new year's resolution - to read the stories of Jesus together as a church family!

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, January 12, at noon via Zoom. All men are welcome! Contact Jim Gates (jim@covenantcommunitypc.org) for the Zoom information.

PRAYER MEETINGS—Our weekly Prayer Meeting continues via Zoom every Wednesday night at 6pm, including *THIS* Wednesday, January 13. All are welcome! To join the Zoom meeting, go to:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82054635060?pwd=MTkzOGJqMFRWamxrMy9CSHBwcmU0T09>
Meeting ID: 820 5463 5060 Passcode: 711155

BOOK CLUB—The Book Club invites you to join them via Zoom (Hosted by Kari Kufahl)! The discussion will be about "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" by Ken Kesey and will take place Monday, January 25 at 6:30pm. If you would like to participate, please contact Kari Kufahl (kari.kufahl@gmail.com) or Judy Dorn (jajudorn@charter.net) for the Zoom invite information.

YOUTH, CHILDREN & FAMILY

YOUTH GROUP VIA ZOOM—All students grades 6th-12th grade are invited to join us online, using Zoom, *THIS* coming Wednesday at 6pm. If you would like to see video messages and materials from previous weeks, please go to <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/youth-group>. If you have any questions, contact Dan Frost (dan@covenantcommunitypc.org).

OFFERING IN-PERSON OPTION FOR 9AM ID—Beginning *TODAY*, we are offering an in-person option for all our children and youth ID classes (from 9-10am). This will be for 3yr-olds through 12th graders, including Confirmation. Of course, we will continue to also offer online options for all these ages as well. Masks are required for all classes. If you have any questions, please contact Amanda Fuls (5th grade and younger) or Dan Frost (6th grade and older).

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. For more information, please visit <http://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/sunday-school-2> for more information, or contact Dan Frost (dan@covenantcommunitypc.org).

KIDS I.D.—Kids I.D. is all about growing closer to God through Bible knowledge. We have special plans for the kiddos so that they are not just sitting in front of a screen! All kids start in a large group via Zoom and in person, then breakout into two groups (PreK-1st & 2nd-5th grades). Each group will need their own device. Join us every Sunday at 9am. Learn more at <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/sunday-school-1>.