

## LIVE-STREAM

CCPC live streams 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

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**Accompanist & Bell Choir Director** - JeHae Kim-Bixby

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[les@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:les@covenantcommunitypc.org)

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### Church Office

(715) 359-6467 or [ccpc@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:ccpc@covenantcommunitypc.org)

[WWW.COVENANTCOMMUNITYPC.ORG](http://WWW.COVENANTCOMMUNITYPC.ORG)



## THY WILL BE DONE: DARKNESS FLEES

Job 38:1-11 & Mark 4:35 - 5:20

November 5, 2023

**COVENANT COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Embracing all. Feeding spirits. Reflecting Christ...  
*Changing lives forever!*

# GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

**Prelude:** "Shepherd of Love" Les Fraaza

## Quiet Reflection and Preparation for Worship:

Mark's account of Jesus' life closely parallels the Lord's Prayer. This section, Mark 3:7-6:6, sees Jesus' ministry spread beyond Jewish Galilee and beyond himself. As the kingdom expands, we get glimpses of what the world can be when people choose God's will to be done over their own. Each week we pray, "Thy Will Be Done." What does it mean to choose God's will over yours today?

## Welcome & Announcements

### Lighting of the Candles:

**Call to Worship:** Mark 5:19-20

The man Jesus freed begged to go with him, but Jesus refused, and said to him,

**"Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and what mercy he has shown you."**

And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him;

**And everyone was amazed.**

**\*Hymn:** "Fight the Good Fight" (vs. 1,2,4) #846

**\*Call to Confession:** Mark 5:16-17

When confronted with the power of the kingdom of God, the people in the country of the Gerasenes beg Jesus to leave, so their lives can remain unchanged. We too are guilty of valuing consistency, including our sin, over the radical change that Jesus brings. Let us confess our sins to each other and Christ today, and invite him to stay with us, no matter the cost.

### \*Prayer of Confession:

**Lord Jesus, we are sometimes more afraid of the consequences of faithfulness than we are of the consequences of sin. Our sins are familiar and comfortable; your call to selflessness is difficult and scary. Short term discomfort seems more immediate to us than long term rewards.**

**But we recognize that your presence in our lives is the only way we will find forgiveness, wholeness, and peace. Stay with us, Jesus, and help us embrace the new life you alone can offer.**

(We keep a moment of silence for reflection)

**HEARTS OF HOPE ADOPTIONS - NOVEMBER 19** — Hearts of Hope goes "full-throttle" beginning Sunday, November 19 as we open the heart adoptions! Pick out 1, 2, or all gifts (hearts) for a child, or go in with your family, friends, or coworkers and sponsor an entire family! You can select your heart(s) in the Narthex in person, or on our website. Remember that you can also contribute monetarily using our red envelope donations.

**BRIDGE ST. SOBER LIVING MEALS** — We are looking for folks interested in preparing and serving meals at the Bridge St. Mission sober living house on the 1st and 4th Tuesdays and Wednesdays of the month. We still have some dates available in 2023 and will have signups for dates in 2024 available soon. You can check the Community Board in the Fellowship Hall for this information, or contact Kari Kufahl (715-212-2489 or kari.kufahl@gmail.com).

## BIBLE STUDIES & SMALL GROUPS

**TUESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** — Our women's Bible study will meet *THIS* Tuesday, November 7 at 12pm. We are studying the Book of Isaiah. Join us and bring a friend!

**ADULT L.I.F.E.** — We will be starting a new adult L.I.F.E. class *THIS* Wednesday, November 8 entitled, "The Angels of Christmas." Join Deb Tice and Kari Kufahl on Wednesdays through December 6 for an interesting look at God's supernatural beings and the story of Christ's birth. Note that we will not be meeting November 1 and November 22.

## YOUTH, CHILDREN & FAMILY

**CHRISTMAS PROGRAM SAVE-THE-DATES** — Christmas program practices will be incorporated on Wednesday nights during Kids L.I.F.E. in November. All children are welcome to participate in the choir and non-speaking parts. If your child is interested in a speaking role, contact Ms. Amanda (amanda@covenantcommunitypc.org). We are also looking for parent volunteers to help us with props, costumes, and set pieces, as well as snacks for rehearsals and "program day", which is December 17 at 2pm.

**YOUTH GROUP** — Middle School Youth meet from 6-7:30pm, and High School Youth meet from 6:30-8pm on Wednesday nights. We do separate Bible study times for MS and HS but combine for our crazy games. This week is team "Truth or Dare!"

**KIDS L.I.F.E.** — At Wednesday night L.I.F.E. (every Wednesday at 6pm) our first focus is a friendship with Jesus, and secondly, we encourage children to build relationships with other kids and adult leaders.

## CCPC BUDGET/ATTENDANCE

**THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2023:**  
Budgeted Operating Revenues: **\$413,393**  
Actual Operating Revenues: **\$423,669**  
Budgeted Operating Expenses: **\$411,077**  
Actual Operating Expenses: **\$400,751**

**OCTOBER 29 ATTENDANCE:**  
AM In-Person Total: **196**  
AM Livestream Total: **76**  
PM In-Person Total: **16**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CCPC 101** — Would you like to know more about CCPC, our beliefs, and our ministries? Thinking about making this your church home? Join us in the Bouldin Hall conference room immediately following worship NEXT Sunday, November 12. Please RSVP to Raissa Dupuis ([raissa@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:raissa@covenantcommunitypc.org)). Food is provided for this event that typically runs 1 hour and 30 minutes.

**STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY** — Next Sunday, November 12 is Stewardship Sunday. Please bring your Commitment Cards (sent in the mail) to church so that we can celebrate and pray over your pledges. If you did not receive a card, you can pick one up at The Hub.

**ADVENT SOUP LUNCHEON** — Let us enter into the season of Advent by breaking bread with our church family! Join us Sunday, November 26 at 11:15am (morning service) and 5pm (evening service) for our annual Soup Luncheon (and Dinner). As the day approaches we will communicate details and provide sign-ups to contribute to the feast. There is a signup at The Hub for those that would like to contribute a soup or desert, for either service.

**ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE** — We are delighted that our multi-church, ecumenical service will be returning this year at Saint Therese church (112 W. Kort St., Rothschild) on Wednesday, November 22 at 7pm. If you have any questions, you can call Saint Therese at 715-359-6412. *Note that we will not have Wednesday night programming at CCPC that evening.*

**BUY SCRIP - SPECIAL SCHEDULE FOR NOVEMBER**— The holiday season is upon us and it is a great time to visit the Scrip table in the Narthex to find all of your needs, while supporting our church at the same time! There are TWO delivery dates in November, prior to Thanksgiving!

## MISSIONS & VOLUNTEERING

**COSTA RICA MISSION TRIP 2024** — CCPC will be sending a team to Costa Rica June 22-29, 2024, in partnership with Praying Pelican Missions. This trip is open to rising 9th graders and older, and will be participating in homeless ministry, feeding programs, medical clinics, church projects, and one fun excursion! Cost is \$1,300 for adults and \$1,000 for students, which includes the flight and accommodations in Costa Rica. A \$200 deposit is required to hold your spot for the trip and can be paid on our website, as well as in person to the office.

**WRAPPED IN WARMTH** — Our Hearts of Hope families will be coming to the church to receive all of their brand new winter clothing THIS Tuesday, November 7 and Thursday, November 9 from 3:30-8pm. If you would like to help in any way, contact Sue Thompson (715-571-2797 or [smthomp313@gmail.com](mailto:smthomp313@gmail.com)).

### \*Assurance of Pardon:

Mark 5:15

*The radical change Jesus brings is good news! It is good news for "the demoniac, sitting there, clothed and in his right mind." It is good news for those on the boat who discover that Jesus can still storms. It is good news for us today. In Christ, we can be rescued! Thanks be to God.*

**Amen.**

**\*Congregational Response:** "The Lord is My Salvation"

See Screen

### Children's Message

*(Children may come forward and be seated on the stage.)*

### Period of Fellowship

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

**New Testament Reading:**

Job 38:1-11

Page 484

**Special Music:**

"God's Table Divine"

CCPC Choir

**New Testament Reading:**

Mark 4:35 - 5:20

Page 39

**Sermon:**

"Thy Will Be Done: Darkness Flees"

Jim Gates

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

**\*Hymn:**

"A Mighty Fortress is Our God" (vs. 1,2,3)

#275

### The Sacrament of Communion

### Offering

**Offertory Music:**

"To God Be the Glory"

JeHae Kim-Bixby &  
Les Fraaza

### \*Doxology

## BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

### \*Benediction

**\*Choral Benediction:**

"A Mighty Fortress is Our God" (vs. 4)

#275

# WELCOME TO COVENANT COMMUNITY!

We consider it a privilege to have you worship with us and sincerely hope you get a blessing from the service. Some notes to help you be more comfortable during the service:

- † Please participate in congregational responses (bold)
- † Please stand as able, as marked with an asterisk \*
- † Please fill out the Connection Card insert.
- † Feel free to use the Cry Room (you will be able to see & hear the service) and/or Nursery across from the sanctuary
- † Activity bags for children are available in the Narthex.
- † Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship for donuts, cookies, juice, coffee, and fellowship!

## HOW TO JOIN THIS CHURCH

The officers and members of CCPC welcome all persons who wish to respond to the Lordship of Jesus Christ by confessing or reaffirming their Christian Faith or by transferring their membership. We invite you to accept this invitation if you do not have a church home. Please speak with Jim Gates, note your interest on the Connection Card, or phone the church office (715) 359-6467. You are welcome here!

## OUR AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

### THE APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven; and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## 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. Amen.

# WORSHIP SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to all who serve the church on Sunday mornings!

**Worship Leader:** Stephanie Finamore

**Acolytes:** Gavin & Isabelle Lancelle

**Greeters:** Judy & Larry Geurink

**Elder Greeters:** Glenn Lamping  
& Joy Briggs

**The Hub:** Deb Wakefield

**Livestream:** Craig Spangler

**Slides:** Josh Werner

**Usher Lead:** Jeff Kibler

**Gatekeeper:** Gregg James

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the following folks who were recently in the hospital or reside in an assisted-care facility.

**Mary Zuidema**  
(Renaissance in  
Wisconsin Rapids)

**Dave Vachowiak**  
(Forest Park Village)

**Howie Pries**  
(Home)

**Tom Scott**  
(Home)

**Joyce Michna**  
(Fond du Lac)

## THIS WEEK AT CCPC

SERVICE... DISCIPLESHIP... ENGAGEMENT!

<b>TODAY</b>		<b>MONDAY</b>		<b>TUESDAY</b>		<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	
9AM	ID FOR ALL AGES/ CONFIRMATION	7PM	DARTBALL AT HOME	12PM	WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY	3PM	FOOD PANTRY
10AM	WORSHIP			3:30PM	WRAPPED IN WARMTH	6PM	BELL CHOIR PRACTICE
4PM	BAND REHEARSAL			6PM	CELEBRATE RECOVERY	6PM	ADULT/KIDS LIFE
6PM	WORSHIP					6PM	MS YOUTH GROUP
						6:30PM	HS YOUTH GROUP
						7PM	CHOIR PRACTICE
<b>THURSDAY</b>		<b>FRIDAY</b>		<b>SATURDAY</b>		<b>SUNDAY</b>	
12PM	OLD GUYS RULE AT PIZZA RANCH IN WESTON					9AM	ID FOR ALL AGES/ CONFIRMATION
2PM	SHEEPSHEAD					10AM	WORSHIP
3:30PM	WRAPPED IN WARMTH					11:15AM	CCPC 101
						4PM	BAND REHEARSAL
						6PM	WORSHIP

For more details about CCPC programming, refer to the next couple of pages in this bulletin, go to [www.covenantcommunitypc.org](http://www.covenantcommunitypc.org), or call the church office at 715-359-6467.