

LIVE STREAMING

CCPC live streams 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

jess@covenantcommunitypc.org

Communications & Evangelism Coordinator - Drew Bouché

drew@covenantcommunitypc.org

Office Manager/Bookkeeper - John Jacobs

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Choir Director - Deb Perrin

deb@covenantcommunitypc.org

Accompanist & Bell Choir Director - JeHae Kim-Bixby

jehae@covenantcommunitypc.org

Housekeeper - Carol Anklam

Church Office

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

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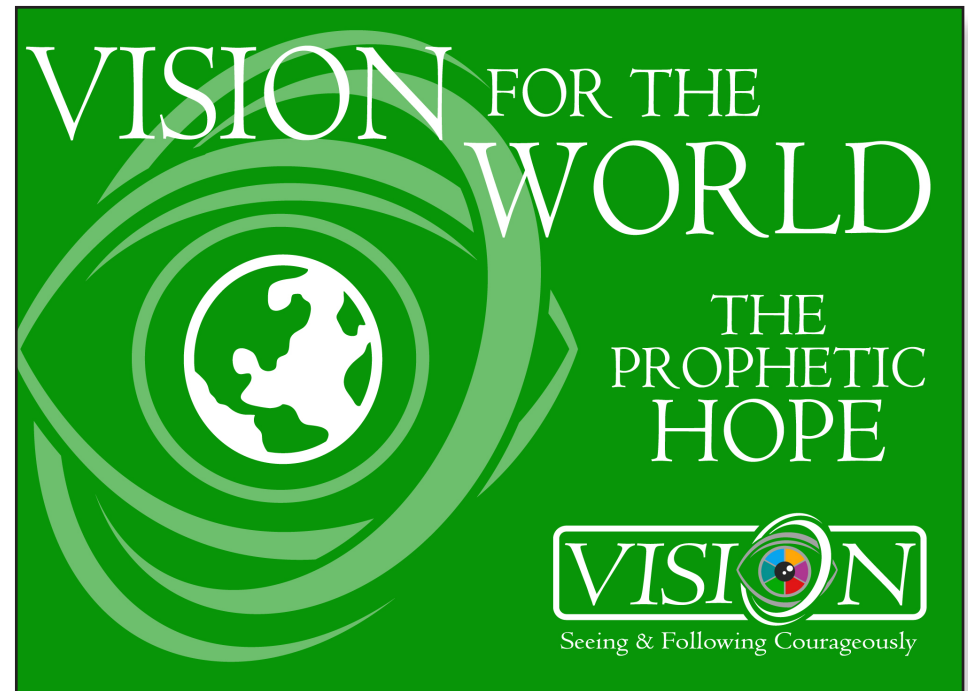


COVENANT COMMUNITY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embracing all. Feeding spirits. Reflecting Christ...

Changing lives forever!



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19TH, 2021 - 10 A.M.

THE PROPHETIC HOPE:
MESSIAH

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude: "For Unto Us a Child is Born" Les Fraaza

Quiet Reflection and Preparation for Worship:

Scripture challenges us to walk by faith, not by sight; to see the world through the eyes of Christ. What present, and future, does Jesus see when looking at our world? At your life? Where does God's vision compliment or conflict with the dreams you have for yourself, or the expectations others have for you? Prayerfully reflect this morning on how you might come to see God's vision with greater clarity.

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle: The Kibler Family

We keep the season of Advent with hope and expectation

Together with all who long for the return of Jesus our King.

The fourth candle is the candle of love. And this is love, not that we loved God
But that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

And this is love,

That we walk according to his commandments.

And this, too, is love; that Love Himself took on flesh and dwelt among us

As a light for revelation to the nations and for glory to God's people.

***Hymn:** "Love Has Come" (vs. 1,2,3) #110

***Call to Confession:**

We know that our love for God is revealed our willingness to walk according to his commandments. But all too often, we do not walk in his commandments; we choose to love objects of our creation over our creator, and we love ourselves over our neighbors. Let us therefore join in our prayer of confession.

***Prayer of Confession:** Luke 2:34

Lord Jesus, even as a newborn you were destined to be "a sign that would be opposed so that the thoughts of many would be revealed." Oppose our selfishness. Reveal our inner thoughts to one another, as they are already revealed to you. Through your grace, forgive our sins.

Jesus, you were "destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel." Today, we ask that you would continue to fulfill that destiny. In our lives, may our sin fall as our faith rises. In our world, may injustice fall and righteousness rise. In our church, may our lukewarm pursuit of Jesus fall, and our deep devotion to Christ rise.

(We keep a moment of silence for reflection)

PINE RIDGE, SD MISSION TRIP—Mission trips are back! This summer we will travel to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota and work with Wings as Eagles ministries as we share hope with the children of the poorest community in the US. The trip will take place July 23-31 and is open to youth and adults (6th graders and up). We will allow 3rd-5th graders provided they are accompanied by a parent or adult relative, 21 or older. To learn more or to register for the trip, visit our website at <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/pine-ridge> or contact Dan Frost (dan@covenantcommunitypc.org).

BIBLE STUDIES & SMALL GROUPS

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY—The women continue a study of the Minor Prophets *THIS* Tuesday, December 21 at noon. All are welcome to join us for food, fellowship, and discipleship. **Please note: the men will NOT be meeting on Tuesday, December 28. The women will resume on January 4.**

FAITH & FITNESS GROUP—CCPC has a new Faith & Fitness group meeting every Thursday at 4:30pm in the Activity Room downstairs. It combines physical fitness, fellowship, and discipleship into an impactful time for all. There is low-key aerobics followed by a devotional. Join us as we move into a new year of spiritual and physical growth! Contact Deb Tice with any questions (debtice77@yahoo.com or 715-574-7663). **Please note: we will not be meeting THIS Thursday, December 23, but will meet Thursday, December 30.**

NEW SMALL GROUP FOR SINGLES—If you are single and in the "middle" - older than our young adults and younger than retirement age - we have a new small group starting that's just for you! This group will be following a single's-focused study *EVERY OTHER* Sunday morning at 9am in the small conference room (located next to Dan Frost's office). It will kickoff on Sunday, January 9! If you are interested in learning more, contact Jim Gates (jim@covenantcommunitypc.org)!

CELEBRATE RECOVERY—Celebrate Recovery is a Bible-centered recovery ministry that meets at the church (Bouldin Hall) *EVERY Tuesday* at 7pm. Meetings are open to anyone! Contact Drew Bouché (drew@covenantcommunitypc.org) with any questions.

YOUTH, CHILDREN & FAMILY

SALT & LIGHT YOUTH GROUP—Students who are in 6th through 8th grades gather on Wednesdays at 6pm for Salt & Light Youth Group, with 9th through 12th graders meeting on Sunday nights at 6pm, including *TONIGHT*. Contact Dan Frost (dan@covenantcommunitypc.org) with any questions. **Please note: there will be no MS Youth Group Wednesday, December 29 and January 5... and no HS Youth Group Sunday, December 26 and January 2.**

KID'S WORSHIP—Though we will be having our regular worship service *NEXT* Sunday, December 26, **we will NOT be having Kid's Worship.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES — We are so excited to celebrate our Savior's birth this Christmas Eve! We will have two, similar services taking place at 5pm and 7pm. We invite you to attend either and invite a friend as well!

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2022 — Our Stewardship Campaign 2022, "Stronger," continues! Turn in a pledge card or make your commitment online by going to <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/give>. As of this past Wednesday, December 15, **we've had 115 pledges totaling \$401,926** of our \$424,000 goal! Contact Jim Gates (jim@covenantcommunitypc.org) with questions.

GIVING ENVELOPES — The 2022 boxes of giving envelopes are available in the Narthex across from the name tags. This year we will not be having personalized numbers, so please feel free to grab any of the boxes available!

KID'S & ADULT L.I.F.E. EVERY WEDNESDAY — Our Kid's and adult L.I.F.E. classes continue *EVERY WEDNESDAY* at 6pm (Kid's L.I.F.E. runs until 7:30pm). Plan for weekly discipleship for the whole family on Wednesday nights, continuing *THIS WEEK*, December 22 with food (snacks) at 5:30pm. There is no cost for food the next couple of weeks. The adults will finish their two-week class on "Christmas Myths," and will meet in the Sanctuary. **Please note: there will be no L.I.F.E. on Wednesday, December 29.**

OUTDOOR NATIVITY SCENE — We have a full-sized, outdoor Nativity scene setup outside the Narthex doors. We invite all to use it for family photos throughout the month of December (note: you will need to take your own picture). Swing by any time, day or night (it will be lit up), and capture a memory during the Advent season!

MISSIONS

HEARTS OF HOPE — An enormous *THANK YOU* to all who gave of their time and treasure to bring joy and the name of Jesus to our Hearts of Hope families. This year we served 288 children and 90 families! We cannot possibly do this without the support of all of our contributors and volunteers!

CHRISTMAS DAY MEAL 2021 — This year's Christmas Day meal is a great opportunity to spread the love of Jesus on the day we celebrate his coming! We will be delivering (no in-house meals) between 11am-1pm. If you know someone who would be interested in a meal/meals, they can contact the church office at 715-359-6467, or ccpc@covenantcommunitypc.org, by *TOMORROW*, December 20. If you are interested in preparing or delivering the food, please contact Sharon Maltbey at 715-573-7427 or sharon.maltbey@gmail.com.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT COMMITTEE — Our CCPC Mission Committee has formed a sub-committee to assist with the resettlement of refugee families in Central Wisconsin. If you are interested in being a part of this group or lending a hand in any way, please contact Jim Gates (jim@covenantcommunitypc.org), Ruth Wrynski (715-409-0582 or ruthiewry@charter.net), Joanne Lapinske (715-573-5556 or hostmomjo@yahoo.com), or Lynda Reis (773-351-8980 or mybana@yahoo.com) as soon as possible.

***Assurance of Pardon:** Luke 2:29-31
Like Simeon we too have been blessed, "for [our] eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all the peoples." We have seen the salvation of our God in a manger in Bethlehem, on a cross outside Jerusalem, and in our daily lives this week. Thanks be to God for our salvation in Jesus Christ! Amen.

***Congregational Response:** "Angels We Have Heard on High" #113

Children's Message:

[Children may come forward and be seated on the stage.]

Period of Fellowship

***Hymn:** "Angels from the Realms of Glory" (vs. 1,2,4) #143

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-19, 34:9-12 Pg. 174

Special Music: "Gentle Mary, Tender Mary" CCPC Choir

New Testament Reading: Luke 2:22-38 Pg. 59

Sermon: *The Prophetic Hope: Messiah* Jim Gates

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Hymn:** "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" (vs. 1,2,5) #123

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord's Prayer See Page 4

Offering

Offertory Music: "Christmas Medley" JeHae Kim-Bixby & Les Fraaza

***Doxology**

Welcome of New Members: Kristie Kioski & Taylor Smith - Kristie moved to the area from Ontonagon, MI to pursue her degree in nursing. She currently works at the Eye Clinic of Wisconsin. Taylor is from Hudson, WI and holds a degree in engineering from UW-Stout. He works at Greenheck. The two of them were introduced by a mutual friend and are getting married at CCPC in May of 2022. They live in Rothschild and have a dog named Indie.

Dana Prazuch - Dana grew up in Athens and has been attending CCPC for some time, as her mother and father (Terri & Paul Goldsworthy), grandparents (Aaron & Shelby Waraksa), and great-grandmother (Ruth Reinicke) are members. Dana and her husband have a beautiful little girl named Daphne. In their spare time, they love to play on their "old school" Nintendo 64.

***Welcome Song:** "Blest Be the Tie that Binds" (vs. 1) #306

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***Benediction**

***Choral Benediction:** "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" (vs. 2) #119

Postlude: Les Fraaza

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 located across from the sanctuary

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 or Drew Bouché, 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/PERFORMERS

Thank you to all who make this morning's worship meaningful!

Worship Leader: Dan Frost

Greeters: Judy & Larry Geurink

The Hub: Barb Lamping

Live Stream: Drew Bouché

Elder Greeter: Bob Warner &
Luke Coenen

Slides: Abram Bouché

Fellowship: Deb & Kent Perrin

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Tom Scott
(Home)

Dee Jenkins
(Home)

Don Hawkins
(Home)

Cheryl Lenz
(Colonial Center in Colby)

THIS WEEK AT CCPC

SERVICE... DISCIPLESHIP... ENGAGEMENT!

<u>TODAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>
9AM I.D.	7PM DARTBALL	NOON WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY	3PM FOOD PANTRY
10AM WORSHIP		7PM CELEBRATE RECOVERY	5:30PM SNACKS
11:15AM FELLOWSHIP			6PM KID'S/ADULT L.I.F.E.
4PM CHRISTMAS PROGRAM			6PM MS YOUTH GROUP
6PM H.S. YOUTH GROUP			6PM KID'S CHOIR PRACT.
			6PM BELL CHOIR PRACT.
			7PM CHOIR PRACTICE
<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u>
	5PM CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE	11AM CHRISTMAS DINNER	10AM WORSHIP
	7PM CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE	DELIVERY	11:15AM FELLOWSHIP

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