



# COVENANT COMMUNITY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2021 - 10 A.M.

FORWARD  
FROM COMFORTABLE TO AWAKENED:  
MENTAL PURITY

## LIVE STREAMING

CCPC live streams our 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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**Director of Children & Family Ministries** - Amanda Fuls

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**Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries** - Dan Frost

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**Parish Visitor** - Jess Wakefield

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**Communications & Evangelism Coordinator** - Drew Bouché

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**Choir Director** - Deb Perrin

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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:** "Knowing You" JeHae Kim-Bixby

### 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:** Isaiah 51:8-9

The Lord's deliverance is forever;

**His salvation to all generations!**

Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the LORD!

**Awake, as in days of old, the generations of long ago!**

**\*Hymn:** "Let All Things Now Living" (vs. 1,2) Leaders: Kent & Deb Perrin

**\*Call to Confession:** Matthew 5:29

Jesus says, "If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell." Removing the sin in our lives can feel like losing a limb, but today we gather in prayer to commit to leaving behind what keeps us from Christ, and straining forward to our lives with him. Let us pray.

### \*Prayer of Confession:

Lord Jesus, you are the Messiah, the Son of God. Today, we choose to commit our actions and our thoughts to you. Forgive us for hanging on to our old familiar sins, and help us today to remove those from our lives. Forgive us, too, for the sins we commit in our hearts, which you alone see.

Let us cast aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to you, Lord Jesus!

*(We keep a moment of silence for reflection)*

**\*Assurance of Pardon:** Hebrews 12:2

Here the good news: "Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who

for the sake of the joy set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God." Because of Christ, our sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God! **Amen.**

**\*Gloria Patri**

### Children's Message

### Period of Fellowship

## Proclaiming the Word

**Old Testament Reading:** Exodus 20:12-17 NRSV Bible

**Special Music:** "As Good As It Gets" Caroline Kibler

**New Testament Reading:** Matthew 5:21-30 NRSV Bible

**Sermon:** Forward from Comfortable to Awakened: Mental Purity Jim Gates

## Responding to the Word

**\*Hymn:** "My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less" (vs. 1,4) Leaders: Kent & Deb Perrin

### The Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

### Offering

**Offertory Music:** "The Prayer" JeHae Kim-Bixby & Marcy Fehrman

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:** "Shine, Jesus, Shine" (Refrain)

**Prelude:** JeHae Kim-Bixby

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**COMMUNION NEXT SUNDAY**—*NEXT* Sunday, March 7, we will celebrate the Sacrament of Communion. To participate at home, please have your juice and bread ready and available for today's live stream service. In-person worshipers will have prepackaged elements available to them.

**25TH ANNUAL MISSION AUCTION (ONLINE)**—This year's 25th Annual Mission Auction will be *ONLINE* from Sunday, March 7 (1pm) through Sunday, March 14 (7pm)! Because of the different format, and the opportunity to reach a much larger audience, our church family has truly stepped up their game and put together some *AMAZING* items to bid on. ***Our deadline for item submissions has passed and they must be turned in TODAY, February 28, to the Fellowship Hall.*** Go to <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/ccpc-auction> beginning at 1pm on March 7 to bid on items, as well as purchase our "Non-Dinner Dinner" tickets, which will pay for a meal for those who need it most. If you have any questions, contact Kari Kufahl at [Kari.Kufahl@gmail.com](mailto:Kari.Kufahl@gmail.com) or 715-870-6615.

**WINTER L.I.F.E. SERIES (KIDS & ADULTS)**—L.I.F.E. Kids and L.I.F.E. Adults have come together for a multi-generational experience continuing *THIS* Wednesday, March 3 at 6pm, through Wednesday, March 24. We are studying Passover and the celebratory meal called a Seder. This class is for all to participate in! If you have kids in your home, this is designed for your household to do together. Join us for a Lenten Seder experience either in person or virtually via Zoom. The following is the Zoom login information:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84792922837?pwd=RzZyT09rcTNoVWVja09FOXYrWGZEUT09>  
Meeting ID: 847 9292 2837 Passcode: SEDER  
Contact Amanda Fuls ([amanda@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:amanda@covenantcommunitypc.org)) or Jim Gates ([jim@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:jim@covenantcommunitypc.org)) with any questions.

**CCPC ENDOWMENT GIFTS/MATCHING GIFTS**—Join us in kicking off our CCPC Endowment Fund this year! 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, and we are currently at \$20,600 of that \$25,000 goal! 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. For more information about giving to the endowment fund, please go to <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/endowment>.

**YOUNG ADULT OUTING**—The CCPC Young Adults will be heading to Cracked Escape Room on Sunday, March 7 at 6pm. The cost will be \$15 per person with a limit of 10. If you would like to attend, please contact Dan Frost ([dan@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:dan@covenantcommunitypc.org)).

## BIBLE STUDIES & SMALL GROUPS

**WOMEN'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, March 2, at noon via Zoom. All women are welcome! Contact Jim Gates ([jim@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:jim@covenantcommunitypc.org)) for the Zoom information.

**READING THE GOSPELS TOGETHER: THE BOOK OF LUKE**—Join Jim Gates in reading through the the Gospels and currently in the Book of Mark. The group is using the Bible app from YouVersion (find in the Apple or Google app store). You do not have to download the app to join the group. Simply go to <https://bible.com/p/37068274/03789ac0ed2773f940795764f2ec0718> and get started via your web browser (or simply read a chapter-a-day in your hardcopy Bible). ***As of today, we are in Luke 4***, so feel free to join us!

## YOUTH, CHILDREN & FAMILY

**EGGSTRAVAGANZA MOBILE 2021**—Eggstravaganza 2021 is going *MOBILE!* Pile your family in the car (and invite others to do the same) and go on an adventure in our community looking for eggs on Saturday, March 27! These large colorful eggs will be hidden all over the area for you to find, take a picture of, and document via an interactive app. Race back to the church to collect EGGstra cool prizes. We will have more specifics in the coming weeks, so stay tuned! *We are looking for items to put in gift bags, as well as folks to help stuff eggs and help hand out gift bags on the 27th. If you would like to help or have any questions about the event, please contact Amanda Fuls at [amanda@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:amanda@covenantcommunitypc.org).*

**YOUTH GROUP THIS WEEK**—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>. We are also looking for adults to volunteer their time to be with us on those evenings. If you would like to do so, or if you have any questions, contact Dan Frost ([dan@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:dan@covenantcommunitypc.org)).

**YOUTH GROUP RETURNING TO IN PERSON MARCH 10!**—We are excited to announce that Wednesday Youth Group will be returning to IN-PERSON gatherings beginning March 10. An online option will still be available. We will also be expanding our time together on that date, as we will meet from 6-7:30pm. Of course, masks will be required and social distancing will be followed. Contact Dan Frost ([dan@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:dan@covenantcommunitypc.org)) with any questions.

**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.

**KIDS I.D.**—Kids ID starts in a large group via Zoom and in person, followed by a breakout into two groups (PreK-1st & 2nd-5th grades). Each group will need their own device if you are with us from home. Join us every Sunday at 9am!