

LIVE-STREAM

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

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Parish Visitor - Jess Wakefield

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Director of Children & Family Ministries - Amanda Fuls

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Traditional Music Director - Deb Perrin

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Contemporary Music Director - Orlando diValentin

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Accompanist & Bell Choir Director - JeHae Kim-Bixby

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Organist - Les Fraaza

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Assistant to the Senior Pastor - Raissa Dupuis

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Office Manager - Cyndi Schneider

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Church Accountant - Jay St. Clair

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Housekeeper - Carol Anklam

Church Office

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

WWW.COVENANTCOMMUNITYPC.ORG



THY KINGDOM COME: THE PROCLAMATION

Malachi 4:1-6 & Mark 1:1-15

September 10, 2023

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

Prelude: "Day by Day" Les Fraaza & Jehae Kim-Bixby

Quiet Reflection and Preparation for Worship:

Mark's account of Jesus' life closely parallels the Lord's Prayer. This section, Mark 1:1-3:6, connects powerfully to the line, "Thy kingdom come", as it details the inbreaking of the kingdom of God into a world already occupied by forces opposed to God. What does it mean for you to pray "Thy kingdom come"? What must happen to other kingdoms, if Christ's kingdom comes in its fullness?

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Candles:

Call to Worship: Mark 1:1-3
 The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,

Who will prepare your way,

The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

***Hymn:** "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" (vs. 1,2,3) #611

***Call to Confession:** Mark 1:4-5
 "John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people ... were going out to him, and were baptized in the river Jordan, confessing their sins." Like those who John prepared for Jesus, we prepare our hearts by confessing and repenting of our sins. Let us pray.

***Prayer of Confession:**
 Father God, we confess that we have walked crooked paths this week, often more consumed with our desires than with your will. We have lived according to the values of the kingdoms of this earth, feeling like you and your kingdom were far away.

But as you sent John to make our paths straight, so you sent Jesus to bring your kingdom near. As a people baptized into your kingdom, O Lord, we pray that we can turn away from earthly attractions and towards Jesus, our one true king.

(We keep a moment of silence for reflection)

YOUTH I.D. — All our youth I.D. classes run from 9am-9:50am every Sunday. Our Middle School I.D. class for 6th & 7th graders meets in the basement; our High School class for 9th-12th graders meets in the Bouldin Hall Loft.

KIDS I.D. — Kids I.D., a hands on Bible exploration, takes place every Sunday at 9am! We dig into the entire scope of the Bible, learning people, events, and places from the Old and New Testaments each year. We want to encourage kids to keep their sense of wonder, curiosity and questions as we explore all the Bible can show us about God and ourselves. Drop your kiddos off downstairs while you attend Adult I.D. during the same hour!

NEW YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE — The schedule for Youth Group will change beginning THIS Wednesday, September 13! Middle School Youth will meet from 6-7:30pm, and High School Youth will meet from 6:30-8pm. We'll do separate Bible study times for MS and HS but combine for our crazy games. Join us on the 13th for the beginning of this new pattern!

KIDS L.I.F.E. — Having friends at church is one of our core values. At Wednesday night L.I.F.E., beginning THIS Wednesday, September 13 at 6pm, our first focus is a friendship with Jesus, and secondly, we encourage children to build relationships with other kids and adult leaders. This year we are excited to have an age specific rotation model so that we can connect with more kids doing the things they love to do.

BIBLE SUNDAY/COMMUNION CLASS — Sunday, September 24 will be a wonderful day of presenting Bibles to 3-year-olds, 3rd graders, and Confirmation students during worship! It is CCPC's tradition to share this gift with kids at important stages of growth and learning. We will follow it up with "The Lord's Supper", an informational class for kids and parents of all ages discussing the Sacrament of Communion, what it means to us, why we do it, and what Scripture has to say about it. This will take place in the Sanctuary after worship.

SECRET A.G.E.N.T.S. MISSION #6 — It's almost time for Secret A.G.E.N.T.S. mission #6! We are looking for Jr. Agents (rising 4th-12th graders) and Secret Agents (adults). Each Secret Agent will be paired with a Jr. Agent to exchange letters from October through March, at which time we will celebrate with a Reveal Party! Online registration is NOW OPEN on our website, or you can sign up at the Ministry Fair TODAY. Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks.

THROUGH JUNE 2023:
 Budgeted Operating Revenues: **\$283,458**
 Actual Operating Revenues: **\$275,827**
 Budgeted Operating Expenses: **\$288,308**
 Actual Operating Expenses: **\$273,390**

SEPTEMBER 3 ATTENDANCE:
 AM In-Person Total: **155**
 AM Livestream Total: **76**
 PM In-Person Total: **32**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH PICNIC — Join us TODAY for our church picnic which will include amazing food, Bingo, the CCPC Cornhole tournament (sign up at the Hub), and bouncy houses for the kids. This will take place in the Fellowship Hall and outside after you check out our CCPC Ministry Fair!

CCPC MINISTRY FAIR — Our third annual Ministry Fair will take place in Bouldin Hall following worship TODAY. We will have tables and representatives sharing how you can get involved in all aspects of CCPC. Whether you are a charter member, or a first-time visitor, this is a great event to engage in areas of spiritual growth. **This year we will also have volunteers to assist in getting you set up with all of our technology tools. From our Church Center app and Volunteer Services app, to RightNow media and the Bible app, we'll get you squared away!** So bring your devices! Don't forget to pickup your "passport" as you enter the Hall! Visit at least 3 tables and have the volunteer mark your card to enter for one of three amazing raffle baskets!

ENDOWMENT MATCHING GIFT — We have been given a \$25,000 matching gift challenge towards our CCPC Endowment. Every dollar you give to the Endowment from now until September 30 will be doubled until we reach that \$25,000 goal! To date, we have reached an amount of **\$14,062**. You can give towards this match by placing a check in the offering plate or giving online. Learn more about our Endowment Fund at the Ministry Fair!

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 on Sunday, October 1. We will provide food and childcare for this event that typically runs 1 hour and 30 minutes. To RSVP, please contact Jim Gates at jim@covenantcommunitypc.org.

BIBLE STUDIES & SMALL GROUPS

ADULT I.D. — Our Adult I.D. class meets in the Cry Room every Sunday and runs from 9am-9:50am. All adults are welcome!

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY — Men's and Women's Bible Studies resume with a joint meeting *THIS* Tuesday, September 12 of men and women in Bouldin Hall from 12-1pm. Then, our women meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays (starting Sept 19) and our men meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays (starting Sept 26). The groups will continue to occasionally meet together throughout the year. Whether together or separate, we will always meet from 12-1pm.

ADULT L.I.F.E. RETURNS — Adult L.I.F.E. starts *THIS* Wednesday, September 13th with a 7-class series entitled, "The Power of an Unoffendable Heart", taught and facilitated by Sue Thompson. All adults are invited to join us from 6-7pm in the Cry Room.

BIBLE APP STUDY OF PETER & JOHN — Join us as we begin a 28-day study on 1&2 Peter and 1, 2, & 3 John TOMORROW utilizing the Bible App by YouVersion. The Bible App is available for download on the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. You can join the study and conversation by clicking the link provided in Monday's email, or contact Jim Gates (jim@covenantcommunitypc.org) to get involved. If you need help starting your Bible App account, visit the "Tech. Room" at today's Ministry Fair!

*Assurance of Pardon:

Mark 1:15

Here is the proclamation of Christ: "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe the good news." All who repent and believe in the good news of Jesus Christ are forgiven! Thanks be to God! **Amen.**

*Gloria Patri:

See Screen

Children's Message

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

Period of Fellowship

*Hymn:

"Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord"

See Screen

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Old Testament Reading:

Malachi 4:1-6

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Special Music:

"African Call to Peace"

CCPC Choir

New Testament Reading:

Mark 1:1-15

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Sermon:

"O.G. - Thy Kingdom Come: The Proclamation"

Jim Gates

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn:

"I Danced in the Morning" (vs. 1,3,4)

#157

The Pastoral Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

See Page 4

Offering

Offertory Music:

"The Lord's Prayer"

Handbell Trio

*Doxology

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction:

"I Danced in the Morning" (vs. 5)

#157

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: Deb Tice

Elder Greeter: Julie Trebus
& Lynda Reis

The Hub: Deb Wakefield

Live Stream: Derek Nelson

Slides: Craig Spangler

Gatekeeper: Kyle Shinkle

Usher Lead: Jerry Trebus

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)

Stella Lamping
(Home)

Joyce Michna
(Fond du Lac)

Cheryl Lenz
(Colonial Center
in Colby)

Dave Vachowiak
(Forest Park Village)

Tom Scott
(Home)

Ruth Reinicke
(Wausau Manor)

THIS WEEK AT CCPC

SERVICE... DISCIPLESHIP... ENGAGEMENT!

<u>TODAY</u>		<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	
9AM	ID FOR ALL AGES/ CONFIRMATION		12PM	MEN'S & WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY	
10AM	WORSHIP		6PM	CELEBRATE RECOVERY	
11:15AM	MINISTRY FAIR			3PM	FOOD PANTRY
11:20AM	CHURCH PICNIC			6PM	BELL CHOIR PRACTICE
4PM	BAND REHEARSAL			6PM	ADULT/KIDS LIFE
6PM	WORSHIP			6PM	MS YOUTH GROUP
				6:30PM	HS YOUTH GROUP
				7PM	CHOIR PRACTICE
<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u>		
12PM			9AM	ID FOR ALL AGES/ CONFIRMATION	
2PM			10AM	WORSHIP	
			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, or call the church office at 715-359-6467.