

Covenant Presbyterian Church

9:30 a.m.

Austin, Texas

June 23, 2019

PREPARATION AND PRAISE

PRELUDE

Forest Green

Paul Manz

WELCOME *Please sign the friendship register at this time and pass it down the row, then return it to its original position, noting the names of those worshiping with you. At the conclusion of the service, take time to greet one another in the name of Christ.*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 34

Leader: I will bless the Lord at all times.
People: **His praise shall continually be on my lips.**
Leader: My soul makes its boast in the Lord.
People: **O magnify the name of the Lord.**
All: **Let us exalt his name together!**

*HYMN OF PRAISE

As Saints of Old Their First-fruits Brought

Hymn 570

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(silent confession...) **We confess, O God, that we are often troubled by the challenge you give us to be good stewards. The world tells us to hold on to our resources, to guard them for our own benefit. We find ourselves reluctant to give, even though you desire a cheerful giver. We are hesitant to believe we will reap what we sow. We struggle to remember that all we have is yours, and that we are only giving back to you a portion of what you've given to us. We fall short of the standard we have been called to uphold. Forgive us, O Lord, by the power of your Spirit. Remind us again that you have given your very self for us, and that when we give, we are becoming more like you. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE AND PARDON

*RESPONSE TO OUR FORGIVENESS

Gloria Patri (Glory Be to the Father)

Hymn 734

PASSING OF THE PEACE

As God has given us peace through Christ, so let us pass the peace of Christ to each other.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Laura Paige Fuller
born April 6, 2018
daughter of Chrissy and Drew Fuller
Elder: Daniel Campbell Deacon: Jim Troiano

ANTHEM

Great God, as We Are Gathering
The Summer Choir

Kentucky Harmony, 1813

Great God, as we are gathering, you watch your people come; as yet, we're walking out of step, help us to walk as one.
Great God, within this gathering, quell enmity and fear, bring honesty and openness, make understanding clear.
Great God of many gatherings, you make your people one; from different backgrounds, ways and lives, our journeys have begun
Great God, as from this gathering we go our separate ways, we're joined by you, we go as one, to travel all our days.
Andrew Pratt (1948)

**Those who are able, please stand*

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Acts 4:32-37

New Testament, page 888

SERMON

ACTS: THE JOURNEY CONTINUES
The Importance of "Why"

Thomas Daniel

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus
(stanzas 1, 3, 4)

Hymn 442

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OF OUR LIVES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

All Things Are Yours! William Gardiner's *Sacred Melodies*, 1815
The Summer Choir

All things are yours! We make that true when we return our gifts to you.
And so we give, and so we share, in Christ's strong name expressing care.

"Give out of love," your Word commands. We are your head, your heart, your hands.
Your Word you underscore with deeds by using us to answer needs.

O What a joy to give and then, out of compassion, give again.
You have no needs. Though that be true, the gifts we share are given to you.

All things are yours! We make that true when we return our gifts to you.
And so we give, and so we share, in Christ's strong name expressing care.

Bryan Jeffery Leech (1931-)

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Hymn 34

*PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

*PARTING HYMN

We All Are One in Mission
(stanzas 1, 2, 4)

Hymn 552

*BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

Aurelia

Charles W. Ore

Assisting in Worship

Jill Williams at 8:15 and 11:05, Jon Wasson at 9:30

Lay Liturgists – Jean Brender at 8:15, Kathryn Sedberry at 9:30

The Summer Choir – Michael Shuman, director

Organist – John Schmidt

Daniel Izquierdo preaching at 11:30 at Iglesia Presbiteriana Reformada en Luyanó (our sister church in Cuba)

Thomas Daniel preaching at 11:05 in the Contemporary Worship Service

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by Scott Midgett in loving memory of his mother, Katherine Midgett, on her birthday.

Encouraging one another to follow Jesus
wherever we live, work, and play.

REEL MINISTRY – Covenant's Reel Ministry film series will kick off Wednesday, July 10!

Join us for four evenings at Alamo Drafthouse as we explore elements of faith within four uniquely different films.

Doors open at 5:45 p.m., feature begins at 6:15 p.m. The events are free-of-charge, but seating is limited.

RSVP at covenant.org/reelministry. Contact ksedberry@covenant.org for more information.

COVENANT SUMMER – Want a quick look at the key events happening at Covenant this summer?

We've put the highlights on an easy-to-access webpage. Visit covenant.org/summer2019.

SUMMER WORSHIP TIMES – the summer worship schedule of three services will continue through August 11.

Two traditional worship services at 8:15 and 9:30 and a contemporary service at 11:05 a.m.

For more information about events at Covenant, please see *Covenant Matters*.

NEW TO COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH?

Welcome! We are thankful you have chosen to worship with us today! Please introduce yourself by signing the red welcome booklet in each pew. Find out more about our community at the coffee bar in FE200 following the service. Our prayer is that Covenant becomes your second family. We want you to feel comfortable here and hope that we can help you find ways to grow in your faith. For more information on Covenant's many groups, programs, and events, head up to the coffee bar in our Fellowship & Education Building to visit with Amy Skaggs or contact her at askaggs@covenant.org. Amy is eager to meet and discuss ways of connecting. You can also find out more by visiting our website at covenant.org.

Three worship services are offered each Sunday this summer through August 18 — 8:15 a.m. (traditional communion service), 9:30 a.m. (traditional service) and 11:05 a.m. (contemporary service). A shuttle service carries worshipers from the parking lot at the Texan Eye Center at 5717 Balcones Drive at Northland Drive, two blocks west of campus. Shuttle service runs from 7:55 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

COVENANT PRAYS

Prayers of sympathy and support: Lacy and John Ruwwe, family and friends, on the death of John's mother, Mary Adele Ruwwe, on June 9.

Mary Beth and Tim Bosworth, family and friends, on the death of Mary Beth's father, Ray Husted, on April 26.

Prayers for: Harry Tipton, Jane Crowe, Gail Ross, Judy Embrey, Robin Moore, Mieke Varenbrink, Jacque Schmidt, Pat Noel, Mary Margaret Willman, Tom Kelman, Jim McNabb, Jerry Noel, Scott Trull, Mike Aycock, Marv Hackert, Hazel Nichols, Peyton Zachry, Claire Williams, Lynn Beierle, Jane Hoffman, Kay Sockol, John Erlewine, Marie Burns, Lou Heenan, Rebekah Urban, Laurel Ross, Dick McCracken, Jeff Rogers, Sr., Larry Madson, Bill McGavran, Bridget Lonseth, Tana Taylor, Louis Anderson, Priscilla and David Phinney, Bob Sebesta, David Pena, Dave Ferguson, Jessica Mann Charters, Riley Furlong.

Prayers for people serving in our country's armed forces: USA 1LT Will Beckham, USAF 2LT Gonzalo Hernando, USMC Capt. Katherine Ashton, USA Sgt. Jessica Choe, USA 2LT Ben Smith, USN LCDR Bryan Gunkel, USAF Lt. Katy Deiters, USAF A1C Taylor Cotham, USA Lt. Col. Seth Pruett, USA Capt. Matt Irwin, USN LCDR Austin Wade Latour, USA SFC Kevin Guy.

Prayers requested by or for our sister church, Iglesia Presbiteriana Reformada en Luyanó, in Havana Cuba: June travel mercies for Pastor Daniel. For Pupito's healing. Grant our church wisdom to bear witness and reassurance that leads to placing our hope in the Lord particularly in this grave and very difficult season in Cuba.

Prayers requested by the Mission Committee: Covenant Refugee Welcome Teams and Chris Fisher at East Austin Younglife.

Prayers requested by the Session: Prayers of gratitude for the pastors, directors, and staff who support and lead this congregation with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love.

Although prayer requests will be removed from this listing after three weeks, please contact Kay Austin in the church office, 512 334-3030, or kaustin@covenant.org, if prayer continues to be requested.

Recycling containers for this publication are available in the Narthex.