

Morning Worship – 10:45 AM

**PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

*Please be seated by 10:45 for the announcements*

**Silent Preparation**

*During the few minutes before the service begins, the congregation is invited to a moment of silent and prayerful preparation for worship.*

**Welcome and Announcements**

*Visitors, please complete the Visitor Card located in the rack in front of you, by filling it out and placing it in the offering plate when it comes by during the Collection of Tithes and Offerings. You may also do so by scanning the QR code and completing a digital card online.*

**Musical Prelude**

**ADORATION OF GOD**

**Call to Worship** Psalm 117:1–2

**\*Hymn of Praise** O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing  
*(Trinity Psalter Hymnal #291)*

**\*Prayer of Invocation and 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.*

**\*Confession of Faith** Apostles’ Creed

*I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died,  
and was buried; he descended into hell.*

*The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.*

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

**CONFESSION OF SIN AND THANKSGIVING**

**Scripture Reading** Exodus 15:22–27  
*(Pew Bible Page 57)*

**Confession of Sin (Silent)**

**Assurance of God’s Pardoning Grace** Psalm 130:7–8

O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

\* Congregation Standing

**\*Psalm of Thanksgiving** Psalm 11  
*(Trinity Psalter Hymnal #11B)*

**Prayer of Intercession and Dedication**

**Collection of Tithes and Offerings**

**\*Gloria Patri** *(Trinity Psalter Hymnal #572)*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.  
World without end. Amen. Amen.*

**PROVISION FOR LIFE AND GROWTH**

**Scripture Reading** Romans 10:5–13  
*(Pew Bible Page 946)*

**Prayer of Illumination**

**Sermon** Rev. Sean McCann  
*Senior Pastor*

“Confess and Believe”  
*(Romans: Christ our Righteousness, 32)*

**\*Hymn of Preparation** Not What My Hands Have Done  
*(Trinity Psalter Hymnal #435, Verses 1–3)*

**The Lord’s Supper†**

*Invitation and Fencing of the Table  
Prayer of Consecration  
Words of Institution  
Distribution of the Elements  
Prayer of Thanksgiving*

**RESPONSE AND BLESSING**

**\*Hymn of Response** Not What My Hands Have Done  
*(Trinity Psalter Hymnal #435, Verses 4–5)*

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

† *The bread served for the Lord’s Supper in the white paper liner is gluten-free  
The clear cups are wine; the tinted cups are juice*

\* Congregation Standing

**General Assembly Report**

If you missed Sunday School this morning, here is a quick overview of our report from the 53<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) that met June 23–26 in Louisville, KY. It was a long week with lots of actions and decisions that range from the important to the benign. Compared to previous years, this Assembly was drama-free and harmonious, and we should be grateful to continue to minister in a denomination that not only tolerates our mission and vision as a church but seems to support it as well.

**Items of Encouragement**

*Biblical Fidelity* – The biggest question facing our denomination this year was how to answer a movement to allow for the ordination of women to the office of deacon. While other biblically faithful denominations allow this practice, the PCA has consistently affirmed the biblical witness of restricting ordination to either office (elder or deacon) to men. The Assembly voted down this proposed change so resoundingly that it seems unlikely it will come up again in similar fashion, at least for a while.

*Denominational Growth* – For decades the PCA has touted her growth, and while those numbers leveled out a bit during and after COVID, they are again trending in a healthy direction, as seen in the 2025 statistics: 5,814 infant baptisms, 5,526 professions of faith by children, and 5,713 professions of faith by adults – all highs over the last five years. Some of our institutions have also shown particular growth, including Covenant College (record enrollment and retention), Reformed University Fellowship (ministries on 202 college campuses!), and Ridge Haven Camp and Retreat Center (hosted 13,711 individuals onsite in 2025).

*Faithful Leadership* – In our Presbyterian form of polity we are governed by courts, not individuals, yet we still have administrative officers that play key roles in the health of the denomination, and three stood out this year. The Assembly elected ruling elder Mel Duncan to serve as Moderator, and he led the meeting with grace and efficiency. Teaching elder Fred Greco, who has for years been a source of guidance and wisdom in the nuances of Presbyterian polity, was elected to the office of stated clerk (sort of the Chief Administrative Officer of the PCA). Thirdly, another ruling elder, Steve Dowling, was elected to another year of service as the interim director of Mission to North America (MNA) – he is a much-needed calming presence during a tumultuous season.

**Items for Prayer**

*Study Committees* – We currently have three committees that are studying particular issues in order to bring advice and resources to the denomination on pressing topics. The topics are: Christian Nationalism, a Directory for Worship, and Artificial Intelligence. Pray that their work will be fruitful and unifying.

*Mission Efforts* – As mentioned above, our MNA Committee, who oversees church planting in North America, is going through a tumultuous season of leadership transition and financial audits. The results of these matters are yet to be seen, but we need to pray for a renewal of a robust church planting ministry for the ongoing health and longevity of the denomination.

*Peace and Purity* – The Presbyterian system is designed so that her members can disagree without being disagreeable. In our pursuit for the purity of the church, we often disagree on where (and how firm) certain boundary lines should be drawn, but this worthy pursuit ought not disturb the peace of the church. No matter what issues we are facing, it is always in order to pray for the peace and purity of the PCA.

**Welcome Visitors!** We extend a warm welcome to all who are worshipping with us today. We are delighted you are here and we are available to answer any questions you may have about our worship service, our church, or even the gospel of Jesus Christ. If you have children they are most welcome in our worship service, and we also provide a nursery for children up to 3 years of age. **Please complete the Visitor Card located in the rack in front of you by scanning the QR code, or by filling it out and placing it in the offering plate when it comes by later in the service.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Lord's Supper:** Today we will celebrate the Lord's Supper at the end of our morning worship service. This sacrament consists of giving and receiving bread and wine (or juice) to show forth the death of Jesus and receive spiritual nourishment. The Lord's Supper is open to everyone who has confessed their faith in Jesus Christ alone for salvation, provided that they have received Christian baptism, are members in good standing in a Bible believing church, and who are not living with secret or unrepentant sin. If you have any questions about these restrictions then please speak with a pastor or elder after the service, we would love to discuss them with you. There will be no evening worship this evening.

**Youth Whitewater Rafting Day:** Our youth group will be going whitewater rafting on the Tuckasegee River, Friday, July 10! We will depart from the church parking lot at 11:00 am. Please RSVP your student by emailing Micaiah. Cost \$20/student.

**Second Breakfast:** Our next men's breakfast gathering is this coming Saturday, July 11, from 8:00–10:00 am. Our speaker for this event will be ruling elder Ben Badgley.

**Ridge Haven Staff Lunch:** We have the privilege this year of hosting Ridge Haven counselors and staff at our morning worship service next Sunday, July 12, and serving them lunch afterwards. If you are interested in this opportunity to serve by bringing food or helping serve, please contact Lindsey McCann (lmccann24@gmail.com). Ridge Haven Camp is located in Brevard and is the official camp of our denomination, the Presbyterian Church in America.

**July Picnic:** Our next summer picnic will be Wednesday, July 15 at 6:00 pm at Lake Julian Park (37 Lake Julian Road, Arden, NC 28704). Hotdogs and brats will be provided. Please bring sides, desserts, and yard games.

**Youth Pool Party:** On Thursday, July 23, all middle and high school youth are invited to the home of Jerry and Bonnie Golden for a pool Party! More details to come!

**Pastor Jim Sabbatical:** The Session has extended a month-long sabbatical to Pastor Jim in July for him to focus on completing his Master of Theology (ThM) on the preaching ministry of Robert Murray M'Cheyne. He will not have any pastoral responsibilities during July, though you will likely see him and his family with us in worship and our various ministries.

**Missionary of the Month:** Rev. Mark Kuo and Jane have been laboring in their home country of Taiwan since February of 2023, when they returned after graduating seminary in Greenville, SC. It is Mark's desire to pastor and plant confessionally Reformed and Presbyterian churches through the preaching and teaching of the Word, shepherding, discipleship, evangelism, and leadership training. The Kuos have six children: Alaina, Anna, Owen, Francis, Esther, and Jonathan.

### THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

**Tuesday, July 7**  
**9:30 am:**  
 Women's Prayer & Sermon  
 Question Discussion at Carol  
 Esther Belz's Home

**Thursday, July 9**  
**7:30 am:**  
 R.O.M.E.O.s at Cornerstone

**Friday, July 10**  
**11:00 am**  
 Youth Rafting Day

**Saturday, July 11**  
**8:00 am:**  
 Men's Breakfast

**Sunday, July 12**  
**9:30 am:**  
 Sunday School  
**10:45 am:**  
 Morning Worship  
**12:15 pm:**  
 Ridge Haven Lunch  
**6:00 pm:**  
 Evening Worship



**COVENANT**  
 REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### CURRENT AND UPCOMING VOLUNTEERS

**Sunday, July 5**  
**Greeters:**  
 Mia & Ian Masters

**Hall Monitor:**  
 Evan Linton

**Nursery:**  
**9:30 am:**  
 Danette & Jim Lowery  
**10:45 am:**  
 Dorothy Dillingham  
 Jennifer McHone  
 Julian Eckley

**July Deacons on Duty:**  
 Noe McHone  
 Drew Lefevre  
 Carl Tannenbaum (Usher)

**Sunday, July 12**  
**Greeters:**  
 Suzanne & David McCullough

**Hall Monitor:**  
 Rich Bishop

**Nursery:**  
**9:30 am:**  
 Lisa & Andrew Shelton  
**10:45 am:**  
 Willy Woodard  
 Ann Sprinkle  
 Emerson Tannenbaum  
**6:00 pm:**  
 Suzanne & David McCullough  
 Marjorie Dillingham

Submit bulletin items to [office@covenantreformed.net](mailto:office@covenantreformed.net) by noon on Thursdays.

*If you have a prayer request, please speak to a pastor or elder, call the church office at 828-253-6578, or e-mail [prayer@covenantreformed.net](mailto:prayer@covenantreformed.net)*

**Senior Pastor:** Sean McCann  
**Associate Pastor:** Jim Curtis  
**Pastoral Interns:** Micaiah Liner, David Livernois  
**Administrative Assistant:** David Livernois  
*Office Hours: 9 a.m.—4:30 p.m., Tuesday—Friday*

**Elders:** Ben Badgley, Rob Cook, Gordon Meiners, Tom Voigt, Tim Wallace.  
*Emeritus: Mike Cate*

**Deacons:** Grey Dixon, Drew Lefevre, Noe McHone, Carl Tannenbaum  
**Deacons' Helper:** Zach Voigt  
**Nursery Coordinator:** Deborah Linton

# THE LORD'S DAY

## JULY 5, 2026

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;  
 to all who mourn and long for comfort;  
 to all who struggle and desire victory;  
 to all who sin and need a Savior;  
 to all who are strangers and want fellowship;  
 to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;  
 and to whoever will come—  
 this church opens wide her doors  
 and offers her welcome  
 in the name of the Lord Jesus*

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