



October 5, 2025 – 10am

Covenant is an accepting, welcoming community sharing the glory of God's love with all.

PRELUDE

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" arr. Hayes

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Please rise in body or spirit and join me in the Call to Worship.

Leader: If you are hungry,

People: there is room at God's table.

Leader: If you are weary,

People: there is a seat saved for you.

Leader: If you dream of belonging,
then we will practice belonging here.

From north, south, east, and west, God invites us home.

People: Let us worship our nourishing God.

This Lord's Supper text is based on various Scriptures (1 Corinthians 10:16–17, Galatians 3:28, and 1 Corinthians 12:1–31) as well as imagery from the Didache, a significant Christian document from the early 2nd century, about scattered grain united in the eucharistic bread.

Refrain:

One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many, throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.

1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more. (Refrain)

2 Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all. (Refrain)

3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one, for all. (Refrain)

CALL TO CONFESSION – Liturgist

Please be seated.

Family of faith, no matter what your week has looked like,
no matter what you carry with you into this space,
Jesus is always going to invite you to the Table.
That's the amazing thing about God's love—it does not keep score, and it knows no end.

So join me in the prayer of confession, not because you have to, but because you can.
Join me in the prayer of confession, trusting that with these words, God is already inviting you into deeper faith.

Let us pray:

Creator God,

**We hear your invitation to love our neighbors as ourselves,
to live like we belong to one another.**

And yet, what is out of sight is often out of mind.

Forgive us for training our hearts to focus only on what is in front of us.

Forgive us for ignoring the tie that binds us to all of creation.

**Forgive us for assuming that you being with us
means you can't be with others too.**

Our gaze has been too narrow.

Open our hearts.

Expand our understanding.

Help us to celebrate the many places you are present in this world.

Remind us of the ties that bind us to all of creation.

With hope in our hearts we pray, amen.

(Silence for personal confession)

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS –Liturgist

Family of faith, I don't know what this past week has looked like for you, but I do know this: there is a seat at God's table saved for you.

And that is the case

even if you overlooked your neighbor,

even if you doubted God's love for you,

even if you chose scarcity over abundance, or fear over joy.

God has a seat saved for you.

Trusting this good news, join me in the words of forgiveness:

We are known. We are loved. We are forgiven. We begin again.

Thanks be to God for a love like that.

We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Friends, one of the central tenants of World Communion Sunday is the idea that we belong to one another. We are knit together by the Spirit across state lines, over oceans, through computer screens, and between differences of opinions. We are knit together. What a gift that is!

To celebrate this good news of belonging, we are going to pass the peace to one another.

The peace of the Lord, be with you all. **And also with you.**

HYMN 188

"Jesus Loves Me"

TALK WITH CHILDREN

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Rondo Jubilate" by Douglas E. Wagner

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION – Liturgist

Before we hear the scriptures read, let us pray that God's Spirit might open our hearts to receive a divine word.

Nourishing God,
Open up something new in us.
Open up curiosity or hunger.
Open up attentiveness or compassion.
Open up the parts of our hearts that need your centering Word most. And then,
like yeast in bread,

may your love expand in us.
We are listening.
We are hopeful.
Amen.

THE GOSPEL READING Luke 9:10-17 (NRSVUE)

10 On their return the apostles told Jesus all they had done. Then, taking them along, he slipped quietly into a city called Bethsaida. 11 When the crowds found out about it, they followed him, and he welcomed them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God and healed those who needed to be cured.

12 The day was drawing to a close, and the twelve came to him and said, "Send the crowd away, so that they may go into the surrounding villages and countryside to lodge and get provisions, for we are here in a deserted place." 13 But he said to them, "You give them something to eat." They said, "We have no more than five loaves and two fish—unless we are to go and buy food for all these people." 14 For there were about five thousand men. And he said to his disciples, "Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each." 15 They did so and had them all sit down. 16 And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke them and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. 17 And all ate and were filled, and what was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON Jubilee Stories: There is Enough

MINUTE FOR MISSION The Stewardship Campaign Charlotte Rodenfels

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING – Liturgist

Jesus was often feeding people.
From water into wine to the abundant catch of fish,
from the feeding of 5,000 to dinner at Mary and Martha's house,
Jesus was often breaking bread, sharing food and eating with his neighbors.

So it only makes sense that in one of his last conversations with his disciples, Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

Family of faith, the offering is one way we try to respond to that invitation.

In a moment, ushers will come to collect our tithes and offerings. I invite you to give what you can, trusting that these gifts are one way that we as a community feed God's sheep.

So until all are fed, and all are known, let us live generously.
Let us feed God's sheep.

You can give in person or online using the QR code printed in the bulletin or on the screen.

OFFERTORY

"There is an Everlasting Kindness" by Lloyd Larsen

*DOXOLOGY 606

Ribbon

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication – Liturgist

Cross

Generous God,
You gift us with sunlight, which grows the wheat,
and rain, which nourishes the soil.
You gift us with bread, which fills our bellies,
and community which fills our hearts.
You gift us with rituals that ground us,
and music that opens us.
You gift us with stories that teach us,

and laughter that lifts us.
So for all these gifts
and countless others,
we say thank you.
Take this offering and use it for your good.
We are grateful.
We are full to the brim.
Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER—See the back page of the hymnal

At Covenant, we believe the Lord's Supper is for everyone. From newborns to our most mature, all are welcome at this table. The Presbyterian Church teaches, "The opportunity to eat and drink with Christ is not a right bestowed upon the worthy, but a privilege given to the undeserving who come in faith, repentance, and love. All who come to the table are offered the bread and cup, regardless of their age or understanding" (Book of Order, W-3.049).

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

"A Communion Invitation" by Craig Courtney

***HYMN #853**

"We Are Marching in the Light of God"

Ribbon

This lively Zulu/Xhosa freedom song originated in a Methodist young men's group in South Africa and has gone on to become popular in many other languages around the globe.

We are marching in the light of God;
we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching in the light of God;
we are marching in the light of God.

We are dancing . . .
We are praying . . .
We are singing . . .

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Reprise of "We Are Marching in the Light of God"

Liturgy by Rev. Sarah Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Assisting in Worship Today:

Jim Hamilton – Liturgist

Whitney Dodds– Vocalist

Nan Davidson – Campanile Bell Choir Director

Cherie Brooks – Director of Music & Technology

Katie Wynkoop – Organist/Pianist & Assistant Director of Music

Erin Wise – Director of Children's & Youth Ministries

Brian Biller – Media Production Specialist

Rev. Joel A. Esala – Pastor