

Covenant Presbyterian Church

8:15 a.m.

Austin, Texas

September 3, 2017

PREPARATION

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 worshipping with you. At the conclusion of the service, take time to greet one another in the name of Christ.*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since God has welcomed us in Jesus Christ, let us welcome one another by sharing a sign of Christ's peace.

PRELUDE

PRAISING GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 18

Leader: The Lord is our rock, our fortress, and our deliverer,

People: **Our God and our rock in whom we take refuge.**

Leader: We call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised,

People: **God is a shield for all who take refuge in him.**

Leader: Blessed be God who delivers us from our enemies;

People: **For this we will praise you, O Lord, among the nations.**

Leader: And declare that the Lord is worthy to be praised.

All: **Let us worship the God of heaven and earth!**

*HYMN OF PRAISE

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Hymn 507

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Our Father, forgive us for thinking small thoughts of you and for ignoring your immensity and greatness. Lord Jesus, forgive us when we forget that you rule the nations and our small lives. Holy Spirit, we offend you in minimizing your power and squandering your gifts. We confess that our blindness to your glory, O triune God, has resulted in shallow confession, tepid conviction, and only mild repentance. Have mercy upon us. Transform us by renewing our minds and hearts as we continue our confession in silence. (*silent confession...*)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE AND PARDON

*RESPONSE TO OUR FORGIVENESS

Gloria Patri (Glory Be to the Father)

Hymn 734

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 46

Old Testament, page 450

SERMON

Out of the Chaos

Jill Williams

* Those who are able, please stand

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

The God of Jacob

Irish traditional, 17th c.

1. The God of Ja - cob is our strength, our help in times of trou-ble.
2. There is a riv - er bring - ing joy to the cit - y of our God.
3. O come and see what God has done: a - maz - ing things on earth!

Though moun - tains fall in - to the depths, though seas do rage and roar,
The sa - cred house of God Most High: it shall not be de - stroyed.
God breaks the bow, de - stroys the spear, and sets the shield on fire.

though earth and hills be shak - en, we will not be a - fraid.
though na - tions trem - ble, king - doms fall, God thun - ders; earth dis - solves.
"Be still and know that I am God! I rule o'er all the earth."

Refrain:
The Lord Al - might - y is with us, our ref - uge ev - er - more.

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COMMUNION LITURGY AND OFFERING

INVITATION

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND CONSECRATION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

OFFERINGS OF OUR LIVES AND GIFTS

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Come to the Table of Grace

Barbara Hamm

Come to the ta - ble of grace. Come to the ta - ble of grace.

This is God's ta - ble; it's not yours or mine. Come to the ta - ble of grace.

2. Come to the table of peace... 4. Come to the table of hope...
3. Come to the table of love... 5. Come to the table of joy...

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*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING 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

How Firm a Foundation
(stanzas 1 and 2)

Hymn 411

**How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?**

**“Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed, for I am your God, and will still give you aid;
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.”**

*BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

Assisting in Worship

Jon Wasson at 8:15, 9:30, 11:00 and 11:05

Lay Liturgists – Alice Sessi at 8:15; Bretna Hackert at 9:30

John Schmidt and Tom Brown, pianists

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

Thomas Daniel preaching at Laity Lodge Family Camp

Jill Williams preaching at 11:05 in the Contemporary Worship Service

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by Ray Thompson in loving memory of his wife, Elaine.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by Suzanne and John McFarlane in gratitude for fifty years of marriage.

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

OFFERINGS – We will collect two offerings: one regular offering for today, September 3rd and one for August 27th (since we did not have worship services) of which 100% will be donated to a disaster assistance fund as designated by the Mission Committee.

Please mark “Disaster Relief” on your check or envelope for the August 27th offering.
You can also donate to this offering online at covenant.org/harveyrelief.

COMMUNITY LIFE GUIDE – Explore the many opportunities available for engaging in

the three vital spiritual practices of Solitude, Community, and Service: covenant.org/lifeguidefall2017/

EXPLORE MEMBERSHIP – Are you considering membership at Covenant?

Upcoming classes will be on four Sundays, September 10, 17, 24, and October 1, from 9:30-10:45am in CO 208.

For more information, contact Amy Skaggs at askaggs@covenant.org.

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 turquoise table on the patio 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 about Covenant's many groups, programs and events, contact Amy Skaggs 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.

Four services of worship are offered each Sunday — 8:15 a.m. (a traditional communion service), 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (traditional services) 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 celebration and joy: Thomas Chapman Allen, born August 28. Parents are Christina and Thomas Allen.

Nova Lee Victore, born July 27. Parents are Laura and James Victore. Grandparents are Cherry and Bob Raley.

Prayers of sympathy and support: Shirley McGee, family and friends, on the death of her husband, Tom McGee, on August 26.

Prayers for recently hospitalized: Pat Kinsey, Bridgette Kershner.

Prayers for: Joanne Myers, Jacob Rodehaver, Barbara Knisely, Matt Blicht, Judy Cooley, Shirley McGee, Ed Preston, Marlene Watts, Bob Ball, Jay Williams, Ann Glass, Tana Taylor, Marvin Cressman, Chuck Roth, Bridget Lonseth, Harry Tipton, LuAnn and Jerry Bennett, David Phinney, Betty Andrews, T.J. Chapman, Dorothy Taylor, Cindy Sullivan, Kathy Shook, Meghan Still, Erin Young, Denise Myers, Riley Furlong.

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

Prayers requested by our sister church, Iglesia Presbiteriana Reformada en Luyanó, in Havana Cuba: Para Zaida García Triana, toda la familia de Iliana García y Manuel López, María del Carmen, Yamilet Sánchez, Aida Fuentes, Letdy González, Daniel Izquierdo y Martina Izquierdo. Thanksgiving for shared missional outreach to our communities in Austin and Luyanó. ¡Gracias a Dios!

Prayers requested by the Mission Committee: Samaritan Counseling Center and Terry Cole at Street Youth Ministry.

Prayers requested by the Session: Father, please help guide us as we learn of the continuing needs and respond to those affected by Hurricane Harvey in SE Texas.

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.

