## COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### **CINNAMINSON, NEW JERSEY**







19th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:00 AM

**OCTOBER 8, 2023** 

PRELUDE El Shaddai

Michael Card / John Thompson

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

Scott Scioli

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 80: 7-15

Leader: Restore us, God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.

People: You transplanted a vine from Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.

Leader: You cleared the ground for it, and it took root and filled the land.

People: The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches.

Leader: Its branches reached as far as the Sea, its shoots as far as the River.

People: Why have you broken down its walls so that all who pass by pick its grapes?

Leader: Boars from the forest ravage it, and insects from the fields feed on it.

People: Return to us, God Almighty! Look down from heaven and see! Watch over this vine, the root your right hand has planted, the son you have raised up for yourself.

**HYMN** Worship the King #29

#### **PASSING THE PEACE**

SCRIPTURE Matthew 21: 33-46

"Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. "The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. Last of all, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. "But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and take his inheritance.' So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. "Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end," they replied, "and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: " 'The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes' "Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus' parables,

they knew he was talking about them. They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

CHORAL ANTHEM I Will Joyfully Sing in the Morning McDonald

SERMON "They were here first" Syndey Williams

HYMN Draw Me Nearer #543

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### 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.

**HYMN** Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated #568

**BENEDICTION** 

POSTLUDE Nearer My God to Thee Lowell Mason / Sarah Adam's

<u>MINISTERS:</u> Cheryl and Anthony Cinque (Ushers), Christy Jeffries (Refreshments), Ann Rosica (Flower Delivery)

**THE CHANCEL FLOWERS** presented to the Glory of God by Betty Herskovitz in loving memory of her husband Sy Herskovitz.

**WE THANK:** Dave May for sharing his music with us this morning.

**WE THANK:** Sydney Williams for leading us in worship.

Sydney (she/her) is an M.Div student at Princeton Theological Seminary, where she studies the intersections of faith and literature with interest in conversations concerning race, art, ecology, and mysticism. Her studies have led her to love narrative, poetry, and stream of consciousness writing styles. She loves Christ and Christ's people and wants to take up the holy tasks of communing with creation and everything in it.







## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### 1. BRUNCH

Join us for soups, breads, and other goodies after worship on November 12th in Fellowship Hall.

#### 2. LADIES TEA

Ladies Christmas Tea is December 2nd at 12:30PM (Tea at 1PM) - an elegant afternoon with full tea service, Christmas decor, and fellowship. Ages 5 and up welcome. Tickets on sale Nov. 5th.

#### 3. SUNDAY SCHOOL

Attention all children starting at age 4. Covenant will be hosting Sunday School during the 10am Church Service on the following dates: October 15<sup>th</sup>, November 19th, December 17<sup>th</sup>.

- **4. YOUR PARTICIPATION IS NEEDED!** Members are invited to participate in our services. Please contact Bonnie Cain or Greg DiBona if you are interested in reading scripture or leading our worship services. We are also in need of more volunteers to operate the camera and soundboard. Please contact the church office if you are interested.
- **5. BIBLE STUDY** The Bible Study will be located in the lounge on Mondays at 11AM. All are welcome!
- **6. COLLECTION FOR THE PEOPLE OF MAUI** Within hours of the devastating fire that swept through Lahaina, our Presbyterian Disaster Relief program staff were already working to coordinate with emergency workers on site. Along with continuing prayer support, Presbytery leadership invites your tangible signs of support and compassion by contributing to the Presbyterian Disaster Relief program to aid ongoing relief efforts.

Please make checks payable to Covenant Presbyterian Church (Memo: Maui). Covenant will send the donation to the Presbytery for Southern New Jersey. Thank you for your support and contribution.

#### 7. STEWARDSHIP

Total Income for 10/1: \$2492.95, Envelope Giving: \$2120.00,

Deacons Fund: \$130.00, Capital Improvements Fund: \$50.00.

## 8. BLOOD DRIVE AT COVENANT

Covenant will be hosting a Blood Drive in Fellowship Hall on Friday, October 20, 2023 from 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM. We will need volunteers to assist. Please contact Amanda Rosica if you are interested

in helping (amanda rosica@yahoo.com).

**9. BOOK CLUB** The Covenant Book Club will be reading "The Keeper of Lost Things" by Ruth Hogan. Please join us on Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 in the church lounge for a pot-luck dinner and discussion.

**American Red Cross** 

Give blood. Help save lives.



#### Blood Drive Covenant Presbyterian Church

Main Hall 2618 New Albany Road Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

Friday, October 20, 2023 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Covenant Presbyterian Church to schedule an appointment.



Fall into giving blood Oct 1 thru 20 get \$15 Amazon.com Gift Card by email. See rcblood.org/together



1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | redcrossblood.org | Download the Blood Donor App



## **MONTHLY MEETINGS AND SCHEDULES**

Women's Bible Study – Mondays 11:00 AM
Choir Rehearsal – Sundays 11:00 AM
Bell Rehearsal – Mondays 7:00 PM
Christian Education (Bonnie Cain and Amanda Rosica) – as needed
Deacons – 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 PM
Fellowship (Amanda Rosica) – 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 PM
Finance and Stewardship (Mike Martin) – 2nd Monday, 7:00 PM
Men's Breakfast -Tuesdays, 7:00 AM
Membership (Nancy Perritt) – as needed
Mission (Mary Lou Newborg) – as needed
Music and Worship (Leslie Todd) – 2nd Wednesday, 1:15 PM
Property Care (Chuck Rosica and Bob Jeffries) – determined by chairperson
Session – 4th Thursday, 7:30 PM







## **PRAYER LIST**

Thankful prayers to Rev. Jonathan Miller for leading our members in worship and holy communion, for his thoughtful sermon, and for his friendly and kind interaction with everyone. Thank you to Mary Lou for her participation in the service and to Linda Ballenger for serving delicious refreshments.

Prayers for the people of Ukraine, Maui and prayers for peace in our community country and world.



Please keep our Covenant families and friends in your daily prayers:



Betty Graham - prayers for healing in her leg and very good care in the hospital

Treva's sister-in-law, Janice - comfortable rest and strength for her husband, Roy, as he takes very good care of her

Cynthia - feeling very well and continued healing in her leg and foot

Bobbie Bechtel - continued healing of her broken ribs

Etna Kessler - very good care at memory care facility

Emily Busby - very good care at nursing facility

B. Ann and Dave DuBois - dealing with health concerns - very good to see them in church Mary Lou's daughter, Melissa - doing well with treatment and positive attitude

Mary Lou's concern - successful treatment for 18-month-old Logan as he is treated for cancer Terri Bell - longtime cancer patient and church member that she can rest in comfort and draw strength from the care of her husband, Ken

Dawn Mozzi - very good care

Betty's friend, Bill - good results from intense treatment for cancer and strength for his wife, Elaine Denise - peace of mind and enjoying her grandson, Wade

Bruce, Dawn and Erin - prayers for good health and thankfulness for doing well with their jobs Gary Shields - former member - healing following a stroke



# young men and maidens, old men and children.

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted;

his splendor is above the earth and the heavens. Praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord.

Psalm 148:1-13, 14b





