



Prayer of Healing

*God our Mother,
Living Water,
River of Mercy,
Source of Life,
in whom we live and move and have our being,
who quenches our thirst,
refreshes our weariness,
bathes and washes and cleanses our wounds,
be for us always a fountain of life,
and for all the world a river of hope
springing up in the midst
of the deserts of despair.*

Honor and blessing, glory and praise to You forever. Amen.

from the Medical Mission Sisters

HOLY COVENANT UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 9, 2016

10:55 AM

Gathering Music

“Future/Past”

Jared Fischer

Welcome and Announcements ✕

Nancy Ellett Allison

One: May the peace of Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

*(Please pass the friendship pads so that all worshippers
have the opportunity to sign them)*

Opening Voluntary

* Words of Preparation

Alice Phelan

One: God of the open future, we gather as witnesses to your living body in this particular time and place.

Many: **May the future we are building together bring honor to your name and joy to all.**

One: O Mighty Surprising Maker of All, we gather to bring our praise for your whole creation.

Many: **We praise the complex beauty of your land and seas, the rich variety of creatures you have made.**

One: We hunger for the satisfaction of being part of your good news.

Many: **We open our lives to your Living Word.**

One: Come God of love and hope, have mercy on us, make us clean.

Many: **Remind us of the faith which makes us whole, today and always. Lead us in hope toward all that lies ahead.**

* Passing of the Peace

Alice Phelan

One: Let us now greet one another as a sign of God's peace, for the peace of Christ is here to stay.

Many: **Thanks be to God.**

* *All rise in body or spirit* ☩ *Sing Response* ✕ *Hymnals located below pews*

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”
Refrain: All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
Our dear God made them all.

Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors,
And made their tiny wings. (*refrain*)

The purple headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset, and the morning
That brightens up the sky. (*refrain*)

The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
God made them every one. (*refrain*)

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

☐ Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy unchanging love.

Here I raise mine Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above!

Children's Offering & Message

Nancy Ellett Allison

(Following the Children's Message, pre-schoolers may go to extended care and those in kindergarten through fifth grade to Children's Church.)

Epistle Lesson

2 Timothy 2:1-11

Jean Berg

You then, my child, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus; and what you have heard from me through many witnesses entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others as well. Share in suffering like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No one serving in the army gets entangled in everyday affairs; the soldier's aim is to please the enlisting officer. And in the case of an athlete, no one is crowned without competing according to the rules. It is the farmer who does the work who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in all things.

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him.

One: May we hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: Thanks be to God. Open our ears, our hearts, our minds.

Generations of Generosity

Jean Berg

φ Hymn

“Future/Past”

You hold the reins on the sun and the moon
Like horses driven by kings
You cover the mountains, the valleys below
With the breadth of your mighty wings
All treasures of wisdom and things to be known
Are hidden inside your hand
And in this fortunate turn of events
You ask me to be your friend
You ask me to be your friend

*Chorus And you, you are my first, you are my last,
You are my future and my past. 2x*

The constellations are swimming inside
The breadth of your desire
Where could I run, where could I hide
From your heart’s jealous fire
All treasures of wisdom and things to be known
Are hidden inside your hand
And in this fortunate turn of events
You ask me to be your friend
You ask me to be your friend *Chorus*

You are the beginning and the end *Instrumental to Chorus*

Our Time of Prayer Together

Steven Burleson

Gift in Song

“An Outcast Among Outcasts”

Judah L. Jones

* Gospel Lesson

Luke 17:11-18

Steven Burleson

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, ‘Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!’ When he saw them, he said to them, ‘Go and show yourselves to the priests.’ And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him.

And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, ‘Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?’ Then he said to him, ‘Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.’

One: May we hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Many: **Thanks be to God. Open our ears, our hearts, our minds.**

Sermon

“Gatekeepers of Cleanliness”

Nancy Ellett Allison

Prayer of Healing

from the Medical Mission Sisters

**God our Mother,
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River of Mercy,
Source of Life,
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who quenches our thirst,
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be for us always a fountain of life,
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Honor and blessing, glory and praise to You forever. Amen.

Offertory Invitation

Steven Burleson

Offertory

Jared Fischer

* Offering Response 38

WOODLANDS



Lift eve - ry gift that God to us has given;



How lies the best 'til blessed by God in heav'n!



With spi - rits one, with hearts inspired and awed,



We lift them up, we lift them up to God!

* Offertory Dedication

Steven Burleson

1 We lim - it not the truth of God to our poor reach of mind,
 2 Who dares to bind to one's own sense the or - a - cles of heaven,
 3 E - ter - nal God, In - car - nate Word, Spir - it of flame and dove:

to no - tions of our day and place, crude, par - tial, and con - fined;
 for all the na - tions, tongues, and climes and all the a - ges given?
 en - large, ex - pand all liv - ing souls to com - pre - hend your love;

No, let a new and bet - ter hope with - in our hearts be stirred:
 That u - ni - verse, how much un - known! that o - cean un - ex - plored!
 And help us all to seek your will with wis - er powers con - ferred:

O God, grant yet more light and truth to break forth from your Word.

* Benediction

Nancy Ellett Allison

Postlude

Jared Fischer

*No matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HOLY COVENANT

WELCOME TO HOLY COVENANT

We welcome all who worship with us at Holy Covenant. Guests and members, we invite you to sign our friendship pads so that we may have a record of your worshipping with us and be in touch with you during the week. Members, please indicate any changes in your contact information. We invite our visitors and members to linger following worship and join us in light refreshments and conversation.

GENERATIONS OF GENEROSITY COMMITMENT CARD

Planning our giving helps shape our behavior and strengthen our commitments to future generations of the congregation. We are asking members to determine what they are able to commit to Holy Covenant's future through the General Fund and to maintaining our infrastructure through the Building Fund. Please take a pledge card home with you and return it by October 23 so we might celebrate together at our...

ALL CHURCH PICNIC, OCTOBER 23

Following worship we will have hot dogs and hamburgers with all the fixings! Please join us and bring a big appetite!

FOLLOWED BY A CONCERT:

With Music and Justice for All: DeChant & GAILLIARD, 2pm

Come hear Southern author Frye Gaillard and award-winning Nashville recording artist Anne E. DeChant team up for an afternoon of stories and song; exploring the depths of the human condition raising issues of empathy, compassion and justice. Reception to follow. Books and Recordings will be available for purchase after the show.

NEW MEMBER & INQUIRERS CLASSES

Would you like to learn more about Holy Covenant and the United Church of Christ? Come to these inquirers classes held in the conference room:

October 16, 9:30 AM - UCC/Holy Covenant History

October 23, 9:30 AM - Organization & Opportunities for Involvement

November 1 - Welcome Sunday

HANDBELLS: ORGANIZING MEETING TODAY

Marion Rhyne is our new Handbells Director, and she wants to meet you! Organizational meeting for those playing handbells will meet in the choir room following worship. Contact Marion about your interest at mjrhynes@vnet.net.

CROP HUNGER WALK, OCTOBER 16

All are welcome to join the Holy Covenant walking hunger fighting team on October 16 at 2:00. To sign up or ask questions, contact Tina Dickens at 704-965-7708 or taichitina@gmail.com.

2016 COOKBOOK ~ CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

Our Holy Covenant 2016 Cookbook is here and available for purchase on **October 16 & 23**. The commemorative cookbook contains 350 of our church member recipes and will make wonderful Christmas presents for family and friends for the bargain of \$15. Funds raised will go towards our Guatemala Missions work.

BOOK CLUB, OCTOBER 17

All are welcome! Our October 17th book choice is Bill O'Reilly's *Killing Reagan*. Jim Humphrey will lead the discussion beginning at 1:30 pm at the Sharon Campus. The book club has extended an invitation to members of South Park Christian Church to join in the discussion.

VIDEO VOLUNTEER? DATABASE? FUN FILING?

Holy Covenant thrives on the strength of volunteers!

Video Volunteer: We need at least two folk to help us create and manage the wonderful new video screens in our sanctuary. Skills include creating power points for song lyrics, ability to upload brief video clips and then manage the video feed during worship.

Database Volunteer: The church office is looking for someone who is database savvy for data entry and updating our historical archives.

BACK TO SCHOOL MEANS TIME FOR BACKPACK MINISTRY

Bring your food gifts of small sized protein, vegetables, soup, starches, fruit, breakfast items or a snack. *Don't have time to shop? Make a donation and a personal shopper will do the rest!*

WEDNESDAY YOGA AT 7:30 PM

We meet for a time of yoga. For more information, call David Smith 704-533-2142 or email prizmsongs@gmail.com.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Join us at 9:45 on Sunday morning for some lively discussion and exploration of Revelation in the Sojourners Room.

WE COULDN'T PROVIDE OUR WARM WELCOME WITHOUT THE HELP OF:

Elder of the Month: Faye Humphrey

Greeters: Carl Johnson, Phyllis Johnson

Media: Brian Hankins

Ushers: Kevin Edwards-Knight, Tom Magraw, John Maze

Tabulators: Lori Cipot, Terry Raley-Dennis

Recycler: Diane Rogers

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Members

Gail Bushman, Leanne Bushman, Charlotte Carbone, Ginny & Bob Fisher, Marianne Gannon, Helen Lambert, Karen Long, Irene Mikkelson, Sheryl Stogner, Kathleen Wagner

Friends & Family Members

Rose Bouchonville (John Maze), Matthew Christian, (Beth Sharp), Andrew Edenfield (Donna Collins), CD & Alice Huskins (Jared Fischer), John Jacobsen (Holly Middleton), Ashley Jones (Annette Shoop), Urban Linn (Julie McLelland), Carrie McLelland (Joe McLelland), Sarah Mitchell (Scottie Foster), Ron Parrish (Terry Parrish), Luz Soto (Aida Marcial), Janet Watson (Donna Collins), Charles Weaver (Susan Rettberg)

Candid photographs and/or video recording share our work and witness and invite others into the fellowship of our congregation. Some pictures/video may be published in church print publications, on our website or on our official social media sites. If you do not wish to have your image published, please contact the church office by phone or email.

*No matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

Holy Covenant United Church of Christ
Rev. Nancy Ellett Allison, Ph.D., Pastor
Mr. Jared Fischer, Music Director
Mr. Steven Burleson, Youth & Young Adult Pastor
Mr. Gregg Walker, Ministry Intern
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