

Worship Attendance

Sunday, September 8, 2019—123
Yearly Average—118
Last Year's Average to Date—119



Church Staff

Rev. Scott G. Loomer	Pastor pastorscott@covnantscranton.org 570-578-9424
Rev. Dr. Martha Jordan	Associate Pastor pastormartha@covnantscranton.org 609-670-2053
Dr. Timothy Smith	Organist, Director of Music music@covnantscranton.org
Mrs. Lee Carr	Church Operations Mgr. leecarr@covnantscranton.org
Mrs. Patricia Ollendyke	Receptionist/Secretary secretary@covnantscranton.org
Mr. Clarence "Mick" Cobb	Sexton

This Week at Covenant:

*Tuesday, 9/17, Deacons, 7:00 P.M.
*Wednesday, 9/18, Covenant Women board meeting, 12:00 P.M.
*Thursday, 9/19, Worship & Music
*Sunday, 9/22, Pasta Dinner

Next Week:

*Tuesday, 9/24, Women's Circle, 6:00 P.M.
*Wednesday, 9/25, Labyrinth available
*Sunday, 9/29, Trustees, after worship

October Dates Ahead

10/6, World Communion Sunday
10/6, Covenant Public Concert,
Jennifer Hoult, harp, 3:00 P.M.
10/11 & 12, Covenant Women's Junk & Jewels sale (and Bake Sale!)
10/13, Roba's Family Farm
10/27, Safety Net Chicken Dinner
10/27, Arcadia Chorale Concert, 3:00 P.M.

Today's Ushers: Team 5

Ken Pembridge, Frank Ciero, Roy Pauli,
Michael Carr, Himran Aziz

Sept. 22—Team 1

Alice Goodall, Rich & Kate Hollenberg, Bob & Kathy Kintzer, Siemong Wang, Cody Brooks, Gregg Sandercock, Karen Fogley, Carol Winn, Pam Huddy, Robin Nash-Arneil

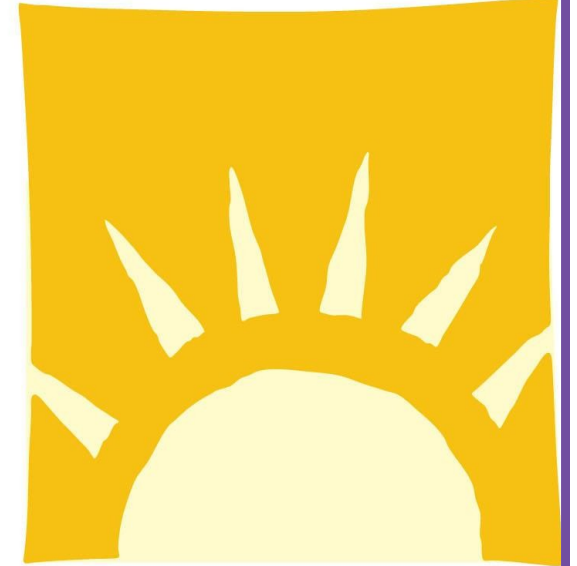
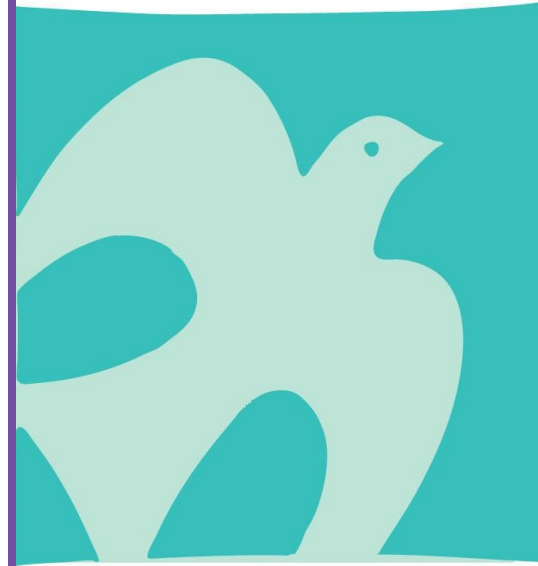
Covenant Presbyterian Church
550 Madison Ave.
Scranton, PA 18510



Business Mailing Address:
816 Olive St.
Scranton, PA 18510

Phone: 570-346-6400
WWW.COVENANTSCRANTON.ORG
Instagram & Twitter: @cpcscranton

HOLY BAPTISM



COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

14th Sunday after Pentecost

September 15, 2019

Children are invited to remain throughout the service of worship.

However, nursery & childcare are available, please ask an usher.

As you arrive in worship and find a place in a pew, please use the following prayer to center your thoughts and spirit. As the Prelude begins, quiet your voice and soul.

With music and prayer let us move from 'getting to church' to 'being the church' as we worship together.

God of all times and places, we have come to this place to be your people. You have called to us, and we feel a deep longing to know you, to hear you speak to us, to be your church. With your help, may we see and hear what you have to say to us. Open our eyes and ears and hearts to know the brightness of your glory. Amen.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude Partita on *Nicaea* Piet Post

Introit: With a Voice of Singing Martin Shaw

*With a voice of singing declare ye this and let it be heard, Alleluia!
Utter it even unto the ends of the earth.*

The Lord hath delivered His people, Alleluia. O be joyful in God, all ye lands.

O sing praises to the honor of His name, make His praise to be glorious.

With a voice of singing declare ye this and let it be heard, Alleluia!

Chancel Choir

Call to Worship

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Rejoice with me, people of God.

People: God has gathered us in from the wilderness.

Leader: Rejoice with me, people of God.

People: God has swept away the darkness of the night.

Leader: Rejoice with me, people of God.

People: Today, there is joy in the presence of the angels.

Leader: Let us worship and praise God this day.

Prayer of Invocation

CAMP LACKAWANNA

Founded in 1962, Camp Lackawanna is set in the majestic Endless Mountains of Northeastern PA along the Vosburg Neck on the Susquehanna River. The camp is owned and operated by the Presbytery of Lackawanna.



Worship during Family Camp

There will be significant discussion and vote about the future of the camp at the Presbytery meeting which will be held on Saturday, September 21, 2019, at Camp Lackawanna beginning at 9:00 A.M. Any church member may attend the Presbytery meeting, however vote is limited to our pastors and elder commissioner. (Reservations for lunch are required by Wednesday, September 18th).

The Camp Lackawanna report outlines three possible proposals and was emailed to all church members who we have addresses for and copies of the report are available on the communion table today.

Anyone with questions or concerns can meet with Bruce Jordan in the Covenant room after worship today. Bruce serves on the camp committee and the Leadership Vision Team of the Lackawanna Presbytery.

Considering Church Membership?

If you are looking for a church home, consider joining our church family! Speak with Pastor Scott, Pastor Martha, or any staff member.

We welcome new members at each monthly meeting of our governing board of Elders.

Covenant Church is a place where people can belong to a group that takes seriously the call to faithful living. It is also a place where you can become stronger in your faith.

We look forward to getting to know you better and sharing common interests.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Godly Play continues for children age 4 through 3rd grade. Children are excused to Godly Play after the Children's Sermon during worship.

Sunday School

Classes meet at 9:30 A.M. Children age 4 through 8th grade meet for class on the third floor. The high school class will meet in the Chapel.

Adult Education

Adult Education classes gather at 9:30 A.M. in Room 8 (first floor).

Confirmation

In October we will begin a confirmation class for our young people. This is an opportunity for our young people to explore their faith and make a life-long commitment to Christ and the church. If you have a young person (8th grade or older) who is interested in joining the church, please contact Pastor Martha. An informational meeting will be held on **October 2nd** at 7:00 P.M.

C3 Youth Group

The youth group will meet on Saturday, September 21st at 6:00 P.M. and Sunday, September 29th at 12:30 P.M.

Labyrinth

The Labyrinth will be available on Wednesday, September 25th. 1:00—4:00 P.M. and 6:30—8:30 P.M.

An Opportunity for Members & Friends Money Makeover

Take control of your money with *Financial Peace University* (FPU)! This nine-lesson course uses biblical wisdom and common sense to help you tackle budgeting, pay off debt and make your money work for you!

Church member Robin Nash-Arneil will be hosting this event at Covenant Church on Wednesday evenings beginning on September 25th from 6:30—8:30 P.M. The course continues for 9 weeks through November 20th. The cost of the workbook and materials is \$109.00.

Contact Robin Nash-Arneil at (570) 498-4669 for more information. Go to fpu.com/1092205 to sign up.

Disclaimer: Covenant Church is not affiliated with nor does it endorse FPU or Dave Ramsey.

*Hymn No. 144

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

Hyfrydol

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Silent Confession . . .

Gracious God, Creator of the universe, we imagine that we are in familiar territory, that we know what to expect of this hour, that we will leave much the way that we came. Do not abandon us to our foolishness. In judgment, illumine our darkness. In mercy, bear us home—until we recognize your presence wherever evil is confronted, truth is spoken and life is restored.

Accept our prayer this day, renew and strengthen us in Your Spirit, we pray in Christ's name. Amen.

Response No. 572

"Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us"

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Assurance of Pardon and Grace

*Response of Praise

Gloria Patri

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.

Welcome, Joys & Concerns

GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Lesson

I Timothy 1: 12-17

NRSV

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOD'S WORD REVEALED

*Charge & Benediction

*Choral Response God Be in My Head *Rita E. Landrum*
God be in my head, and in my understanding; God be in mine eyes and in my looking;
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking; God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God be at mine end, and at my departing. A-men.

*Postlude Fugue a al gigue, BWV 577 *Johann Sebastian Bach*

*Those who are able, please stand
NRSV – New Revised Standard Version of the Bible

“Covenant Ladies for Zambian Ladies” Challenge

One of our Covenant Church ladies is challenging all of the ladies of Covenant Church to support the women of the Zambian Synod. This challenge came after Charles and Melissa Johnson, Missionaries to Zambia, met with our church members in the Covenant Room following the church service on July 28th. Melissa Johnson serves in the Health Department as Health Education Programs Facilitator. Melissa and other health care workers have developed "Feminine Kits" which are given to women in need. Each hygiene kit costs \$12.00 and lasts for three years.

Our “challenger” will match, up to \$240.00, donations toward funding feminine hygiene kits for the girls and women of the Synod of Zambia. What a wonderful blessing it would be if the ladies of Covenant Church were to donate more than the \$240.00 of this challenge!

Please forward checks to Covenant Presbyterian Church indicating that the donation is for the “Ladies of Zambia.” The final date for the collection will be Sunday, September 29.

***You are challenged Covenant Presbyterian Ladies!!
Support the cause!***



Sermon “Where is the Fairness in the Grace of God?”
Rev. Scott G. Loomer

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings
Text Giving: 570-363-4324



Offertory For the Beauty of the Earth *John Rutter*
For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth over
and around us lies; Lord of all to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.
For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light; Lord of all to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.
For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild; Lord of all to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.
For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely given, graces human and divine, flowers on
earth and buds of heaven; Lord of all to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.
Chancel Choir

*Doxology *Old Hundredth*
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Sung Call to Prayer “O Lord, Hear My Prayer” *J. Berthier*
O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer.
When I call, answer me. O Lord, hear my prayer.
O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me. (Sing Twice)

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer (*debts/debtors*)
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.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn No. 145 Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart! *Marion*