

## Worship Attendance

Sunday, December 29, 2019—73

Yearly Average (2019)—120

Last Year's Average (2018)—124



## Church Staff

Rev. Scott G. Loomer  
Pastor  
Pastorscott  
@covenantscranton.org  
570-578-9424

Rev. Dr. Martha Jordan  
Associate Pastor  
pastormartha  
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Dr. Timothy Smith  
Organist,  
Director of Music  
Music  
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Mrs. Lee Carr  
Church Operations Mgr.  
Leecarr  
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Mrs. Patricia Ollendyke  
Receptionist/Secretary  
Secretary  
@covenantscranton.org

Mr. Clarence "Mick" Cobb  
Sexton

## This Week at Covenant:

\*Jan. 6th, Communications, 4:00 P.M.

\*Jan. 7th, Stewardship, 5:00 P.M. followed by Personnel at 7:00 P.M.

\*Jan. 8th, Labyrinth available

\*Jan. 10th, Family Fun Fellowship, 6:00 P.M.

## Next Week:

\*Jan. 12th, Confirmation class, 2:00 P.M.

\*Jan. 14th, combined board meeting, 6:30 P.M. in the Covenant Room.

\*Jan. 16th, Worship & Music, 12:00 P.M.

\*Jan. 18th, Yoga class, 10:00 A.M. & 11:30 A.M.

## Today's Ushers: Team 3

Todd Sykes, Frank, Lisa, Frank & Leslie Major, Bob Jones

## Jan. 12th: Team 4

Glenn Miller, Norma Gabriel, Ted Praschak, Elaine Young, Gabriella Temperino



*Church Wifi: Network name and password are the same: cpcguest.*

Covenant Presbyterian Church  
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Scranton, PA 18510



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

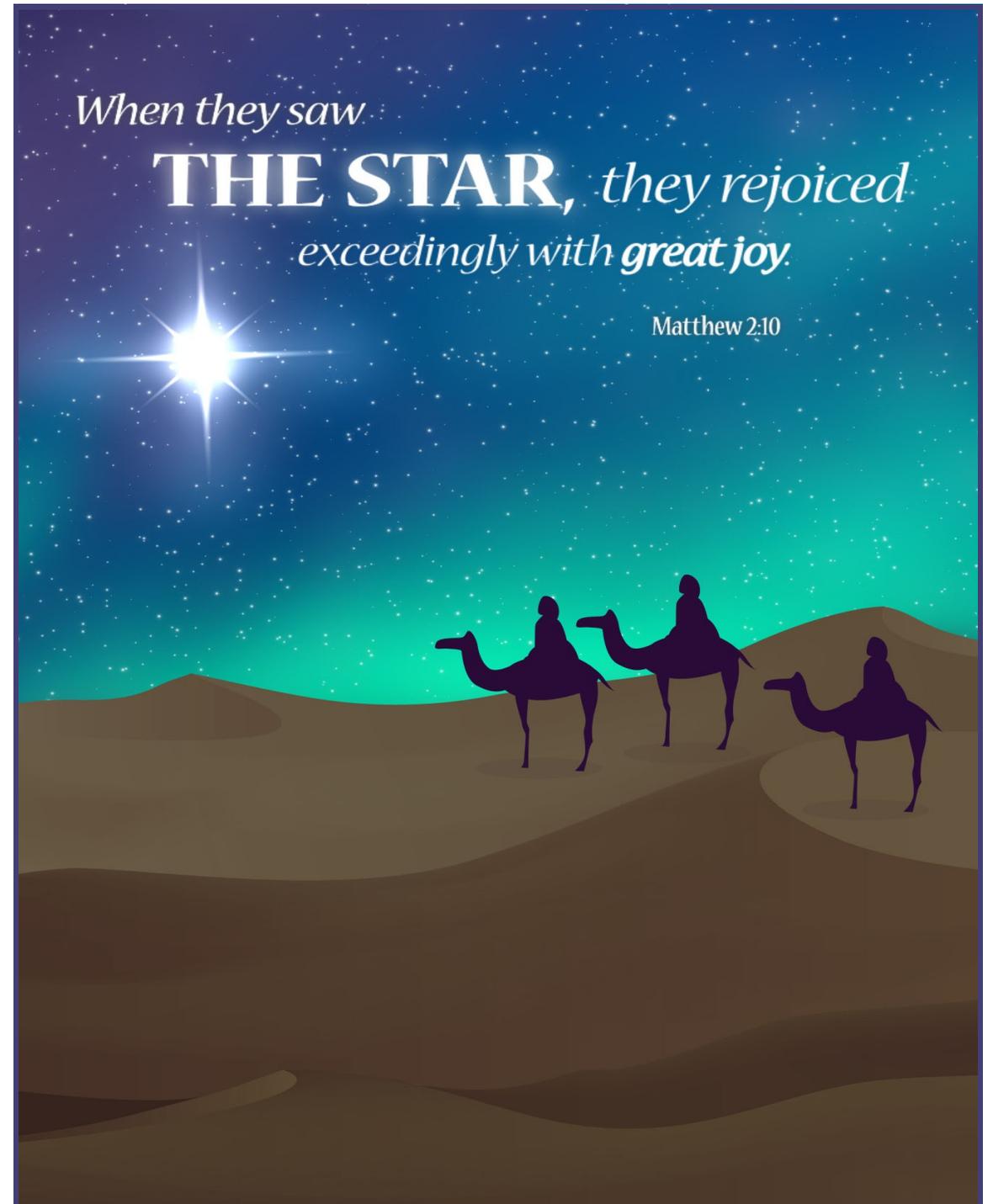
Phone: 570-346-6400

WWW.COVENANTSCRANTON.ORG

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When they saw  
**THE STAR,** they rejoiced  
exceedingly with great joy.

Matthew 2:10



COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

Second Sunday of Christmas

January 5, 2020

*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.

*Lord, we see your star and seek your presence in our midst. Draw us to you, guide us by your light, that we, too, might become witnesses to your great Good News. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

**GATHER IN GOD'S NAME**

Prelude Two Preludes for Christmas: *Fred Bock*  
***Regent Square and Kings of Orient***

Call to Worship

Leader: O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done;

**People: The Magi who study the heavens follow a guiding star!**

Leader: O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done;

**People: The peoples who live in the shadows see a glorious light!**

Leader: O come, let us worship the Lord and consider what wondrous things God has done;

**People: The Christ who embodies the Word unveils the hidden plan, making us joint heirs of the promise of salvation through the gospel!**

Leader: O come, let us worship the Lord,

**People: for God has done wondrous things!**

*from The Visit of the Magi—Epiphany Sunday,*  
**on The Calvin Institute of Christian Worship**

Prayer of Invocation

\*Processional Hymn No. 22 Angels, from the Realms of Glory *Regent Square*

Call to Confession

**January Board Meeting**

There will be a combined board meeting of **Session, Deacons, and Trustees on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 6:30 P.M.** in the Covenant Room. Please let the church office know if you cannot attend.

**Women's Circle Activities**

The Covenant Women's Circle would like you to save the following date(s) for activities they are planning and watch your newsletter for more information:

**January 18th**—Yoga class with Jenna Carmichael

**February 8th**—"Labor of Love" making recycled ground mats for the homeless.

**Please save your plastic bags for us!**

**April 22nd**—"Sustainable Shopping" with Joyce Hatala.

**Dates to Remember**

January 26th—BiAnnual Meeting after worship

January 26th—Covenant Public Concert, 3:00 P.M.

February 2nd—Covenant Women's Association Annual Meeting after worship

February 23rd—Covenant Public Concert, 3:00 P.M.



**Stewardship**

Please remember to return your estimate of giving cards to the church office as soon as possible. If you did not receive a pledge card, please call the church office or pick

one up from any of the Welcome Tables. **Offering Envelopes** are on the window sills in the ambulatory. Please pick up your envelopes as soon as possible. If there is not a box with your name on it and you want envelopes, please call Mrs. Lee Carr at the church office.

*Quiet your Mind,  
Restore your Spirit*

Covenant Presbyterian Church invites you to walk with us on a peaceful journey. The Labyrinth will be available on January 8th and 22nd.

1:00—4:00 P.M.

5:30—8:30 P.M.

**Covenant Public Concerts**

The 2020 season gets started this month!

January 26, 2020

3:00 P.M.

Jay Stevesky, guitar

Ed Wargo, flute



# GOOD MORNING!

We're glad you have joined us for worship this Sunday! If you are a visitor or guest, let us know of your presence by filling out one of the Welcome envelopes located in each pew to receive The Covenanter, (newsletter) filled with the church's activities. Large print bulletins and hymnals are available—please ask an usher. Childcare is available during worship. **Godly Play** meets on the 3rd floor after the Children's Sermon (during worship) for children age 4 through 3rd grade.



**Children's Worship Bags** are located in the basket in front of the sanctuary. Please return bags to the basket after worship.

There will be a Fellowship Hour today following worship in the Sawtelle Auditorium (1st floor) hosted by The Grotzinger Family.

The Chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of  
Attorney & Mrs. Thomas J. Jones, Sr.  
By Attorney Thomas J. Jones, Jr., Mark Jones,  
Attorney Christopher Jones and Jeffrey Jones

### Participating in Worship Today

Rev. Scott G. Loomer, Pastor  
Rev. Dr. Martha Jordan, Associate Pastor  
Dr. Tim Smith, Organist/Director of Music  
Mrs. Linda Frangos, Liturgist

### Annual Reports

Covenant Presbyterian Church's BiAnnual meeting has been scheduled for **Sunday, January 26, 2020**, following worship. All annual reports are asked to be submitted to the church office ***no later*** than Sunday, January 12, 2019. This will make it possible for the reports to be distributed on January 19th ahead of the meeting. Please email reports to Patti Ollendyke at [cpcpatti@epix.net](mailto:cpcpatti@epix.net).



Prayer of Confession

*Silent Confession . . .*

**Gracious God, fresh from straw and manger, we come today with Christmas glories still ringing in our ears. But we confess that the jubilation of Christmas morning easily fades into the always mundane, often difficult realities of a New Year.**

**Keep strong in us this day our faith in the child who split time in two, so that never again may we doubt that God is with us. Renew and strengthen us in all faith and hope, in Christ's name we pray. 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*

**Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

Welcome, Joys & Concerns

### GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 60: 1-6

*NRSV*

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.



*It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, joining our songs with the hosts of heaven from every time and place...*

*Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ we take from you this bread and this cup, and joyfully celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of His coming. Great is the mystery of faith...*

*We pray in the name of Christ Jesus.*

Words of Institution

Bread Broken

(Please receive as served, remembering that we come to Christ individually)

Cup Shared

(Please hold and receive together when directed by the pastor, remembering we are also a part of the united community of faith)

Prayers of the People

\*Sharing the Peace of Christ

*You are invited to greet one another saying,*

***‘The peace of Christ be with you...and also with you’***

\*Hymn No. 68      What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright      *Puer Nobis Nascitur*

### **GOD’S WORD REVEALED**

Sermon      “What We Can Know of the Magi”      *Rev. Scott G. Loomer*

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory      Do you hear what I hear?      *Harry Simone*

*Said the night wind to the little lamb, “Do you see what I see? Way up in the sky, little lamb.*

*Do you see what I see? A star, dancing in the night with a tail as big as a kite.”*

*Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy, “Do you hear what I hear?*

*Ringing through the sky, shepherd boy. Do you hear what I hear?*

*A song, high above the tree, with a voice as big as the sea.”*

*Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king, “Do you know what I know?*

*In your palace warm, mighty king. Do you know what I know?*

*A child, shivers in the cold, let us bring Him silver and gold.”*

*Said the king to the people everywhere, “Listen to what I say:*

*Pray for peace, people everywhere. Listen to what I say.*

*The child, sleeping in the night, He will bring us goodness and light.”*

Chancel Choir

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

(All the baptized faithful are welcome to receive Holy Communion. It is our commemoration of the Last Supper of our Lord, a time to offer thanks, remember Christ's sacrifice and resurrection, and to be strengthened and nourished in faith.

The *Communion Wafer* in center cup is *Gluten Free*)

Words of Invitation and Institution

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**