

Worship Attendance

Sunday, January 26, 2020—149

Yearly Average—120

Last Year's Average to Date—95



Church Staff

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

This Week at Covenant:

- *Feb. 2nd, Women's Association meeting after worship
- *Feb. 2nd, Confirmation class, 2:00 P.M.
- *Feb. 4th, Church & Community, 7:00 P.M.
- *Feb. 4th, Christian Ed. Committee, 6:30 P.M.
- *Feb. 5th, Fellowship Committee, 6:30 P.M.
- *Feb. 6th, Infant Care board, 6:00 P.M.
- *Feb. 8th, Labor of Love, 10:00 A.M.

Next Week:

- *Feb. 9th, Confirmation class, 2:00 P.M.
- *Feb. 10th, Communications, 4:00 P.M.
- *Feb. 11th, Session, 7:00 P.M., Covenant Rm.
- *Feb. 12th, Labyrinth available
- *Feb. 12th, Women's board meeting, 11:30 A.M., Covenant House
- *Feb. 13th, Worship & Music, 12:00 P.M.
- *Feb. 15th, Yoga, 10:00 & 11:30 A.M.

Today's Ushers: Team 2

Sara & Matt Scott, Emily Maher, Marilyn Griffiths, Rufus Holmes, JoAnn Cortazar

Feb. 9th: Team 3

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

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

Covenant Presbyterian Church
550 Madison Ave.
Scranton, PA 18510



Covenant
Presbyterian
Church
Scranton

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COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 2, 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.

O God, we come into your gracious presence preoccupied with our cares, afraid to face our emptiness. Disclose your wisdom in the reading of your Holy Word, and in the proclamation of your gospel. May our labors be pleasing to you, and may we be inspired to proclaim the good news of Jesus our Sovereign. Amen.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude Prelude on *Nettleton* *David Aaron Miller*
 Variations on 'Kum ba yah' *John Behnke*
Someone's Praying, Lord – Someone's Crying, Lord – Someone's Singing, Lord

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.

Prayer of Invocation

*Processional Hymn No. 483

Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above *Mit Freuden Zart*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God who makes all things new, you send rivers in the desert, and bounty amidst famine. Forgive those times we do not trust you with our whole heart; when we do not look to you for truth and life; when we do not follow you with all our strength.

In mercy, forgive us for turning away from your way. Give us new hearts that we would rest in your love, and enjoy your goodness, revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Empower us by your Spirit that in all things we might offer glad witness to the good news of your reign.

**Covenant Community
Connections**

**Events for the community offered
free of charge, sponsored in part
by the Women's Circle at
Covenant Church**

February 8th

10:00—11:30 AM, Labor of Love
Bring your clean plastic grocery bags and a pair of scissors to help make waterproof ground mats for our homeless community. If you crochet, bring a size L or M crochet hook.

**February 15th—RESCHEDULED
from January 18th**

10:00 AM—Chair Yoga
11:30 AM—Traditional Yoga
Jenna Carmichael, instructor
Come at 9:30 AM for tea and social time before the 10:00 AM one-hour class, or stay after the 11:30 one hour class.

March 24th

5:30—8:00 PM Understanding Medicare
Enjoy a light supper and hear an informative presentation by APPRISE.
Reservations required for this event, call the church office.

**All are Welcome—and most
importantly—Invite a Friend!**



Nursery Workers Needed
Covenant Church is searching for **Child Care workers** for our **Sunday Nursery**. This is a paid position and interested persons must have all child care clearances performed. Please contact Pastor Martha at the church office with questions.

Covenant Women's Spring Tea

Friday, April 24, 2020 ~ 6:30 P.M.
Hostesses are needed! Our theme this year is USA—many states to choose from! States already chosen include: Hawaii, Louisiana, New York, Florida and Pennsylvania Please speak to Norma Ciero if you are interested in hosting a table. (570-881-4459)

Covenant Public Concerts

Many thanks to all who attended last week's concert, and to those who helped supply goodies for the reception.

Our next concert will be here in three short weeks!

Poor Man's Gambit
Sunday, February 23, 2020
3:00 P.M.
A Celtic Celebration!



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 Chaffers & Santarsiero Families. Join us for a Super Bowl Extravaganza!

The Chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Bruce & Margaret Heisel
John & Marie Foy
By Jane & John Foy

Participating in Worship Today

Rev. Scott G. Loomer, Pastor
Rev. Dr. Martha Jordan, Associate Pastor
Dr. Tim Smith, Organist/Director of Music
Ms. Pam Huddy, Liturgist

Covenant Women's Association Annual Meeting

The women will hold their annual meeting after worship today, February 2, 2020, in the sanctuary. All women are invited to attend. We will be approving the budget for 2020 as well as planning upcoming activities.

Souper Bowl of Caring

Look for youth group members after worship and make your donation to the Souper Bowl of Caring. Monies will be donated to Breadbasket and Safety Net.



Accept our prayer this day, and hear us as we offer our silent and personal confession to you . . . *Silent Confession . . . 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

Old Testament Lesson Micah 6: 1-8 *NRSV*
Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord."

"With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Anthem Come Down, O Love Divine *Ralph Vaughan Williams*
Come down, O Love divine, seek thou this soul of mine, and visit it with thine own ardor glowing; O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear, and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing. O let it freely burn, 'till earthly passions turn to dust and ashes in its heat consuming; And let thy glorious light shine ever on my sight, and clothe me round, the while my path illuming. And so the yearning strong with which the soul will long, shall far out pass the power of human telling; for none can guess its grace, 'till he become the place wherein the Holy Spirit makes His dwelling.
Chancel Choir

Gospel Lesson Matthew 5: 1-12 *NRSV*
When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Children’s Sermon 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.***

*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. 405 What Does the Lord Require *Sharphorne*

*Charge & Benediction

*Choral Amen

*Postlude *Allegro from Organ Concerto No. 13* *G.F. Handel*

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

Celebration of Life

On Sunday, February 9, 2020 the Nelson & Ciero families will host Fellowship Time in the Sawtelle Auditorium following worship.

We will be celebrating Dana Nelson's ONE YEAR LUNGAVERSARY, plus Craig Westbrook Sr.'s TWO AND ONE HALF YEAR'S LUNGAVERSARY.

How amazing it is to have 2 members of the same congregation be blessed with successful lung transplants. Information will be available on how IMPORTANT & EASY it is to become a donor.

**Please join us on FEBRUARY 9th!
DONATE LIFE!**

GOD'S WORD REVEALED

Sermon "Descriptions . . . Not Prescriptions" Rev. Scott G. Loomer

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Text Giving: 570-363-4324



Offertory Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies Frederick Candlyn

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only Light, Sun of righteousness arise!

Triumph o'er the shades of night: Dayspring from on high be near; Daystar in my heart appear. Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by Thee; Joyless is the day's return, 'till Thy mercy beam's I see; 'till they inward light impart, glad my eyes and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine! Pierce the gloom of sin and grief! Fill me, Radiancy Divine; scatter all my unbelief; more and more Thyself display, shining to the perfect day.

Chancel Choir

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...

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.

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...

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

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn No. 386

O for a World

Azmon