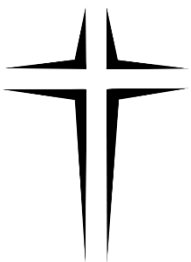




Covenant Presbyterian Church Advent Sermon Series 2024

DO NOT BE AFRAID

Pastor Jess Scholten



COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024
9:00 am & 11:00 am

"But the angel said to him, 'Do not be afraid, Zechariah.'" -Luke 1:13

 PRELUDE

(9:00) "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
Megan Angriawan, pianist
Ben Lewandowski, vocalist

(11:00) "Cantiques on Carols by Denizot" by A.P.F. Boëly
Doug McNeel, organist

 WELCOME

Pastor Jess Scholten

 LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

(9:00) The Von Bergen Family
Nick, Jenny, Claire, and Brooke

(11:00) The Covenant Chancel Choir

 MUSIC

(9:00) #93 "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"
(11:00) #109 "Blest Be the God of Israel"

 CONFESSION, GOOD NEWS, TEN COMMANDMENTS, & PEACE

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Charlie Berthoud

One: God of hope, God of arrival, the days are coming, and your promise is arriving,

All: yet we struggle to wait. We forget how to live as your people.

One: In our impatience, we choose despair, forgetting that in darkness, new life grows.

All: Turn us back to your hope.

One: In our anxiety, we choose ways of fear and violence, believing that our own strength will save us.

All: Turn us back to your peace.

One: In our want, we believe stories of scarcity, forgetting what you have done and given to us.

All: Turn us back to your joy.

One: In our insecurity, we forget we are beloved, choosing ways of self-protection over self-giving.

All: Turn us back to your love.

One: Grant us sacred attention this Advent season,

All: that we might bear witness to your coming, always in our midst and on the way. Amen.

Good News of the Gospel

Ten Commandments

Hymn of Praise

#82 "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Passing of the Peace

Please greet one another, sharing the peace of Christ. Also, please sign and pass the friendship pad found in the pew rack.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Pastor Megan Berry

All children are invited to join us on the chancel steps. After Children's Time, children 3 years old through 1st grade are invited to attend Kaleidoscope Kids (9:00 only) in C208. See page 6 for more info.

The Lord's Prayer

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LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Pastor Jess Scholten

Scripture: Luke 1:8-22

Sermon: "Do Not Be Afraid"

OFFERING OUR LIVES & GIFTS TO GOD

Offerings or Commitment Cards can be put in the lectern located in the sanctuary's vestibule as you exit. You can also give online, by contacting the office, or by scanning the QR code on the back cover.

Special Music

(9:00) "King of Kings" by Hillsong Worship

New Day Ensemble; Megan Angriawan, director

(11:00) "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" arr. Julian Wachner

Covenant Chancel Choir; Melissa Hinz, director

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

We invite you to come forward to receive communion by intinction, dipping a gluten-free cracker in juice. Individual cups are available, if desired. If you would rather be served in your seat, just raise your hand. Children of all ages are welcome to take communion.

Joys, Concerns, and Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

(9:00) Marilyn Krichko, Lynn Vande Sande

(11:00) Mary Kieta, Mark Soderberg

Special Music

"Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)" by Chris Tomlin

Katherine Moore, vocalist

Prayer

MUSIC

(9:00) "Blessed Assurance" by Crosby and Knapp

(11:00) #107 "Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn" (v. 1, 2, 4)

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

(9:00) "Messiah" by Larry Olson

(11:00) "Grand Choer - Sortie" by A.P.F. Boëly



Thank you for joining us!

If you are a visitor today, please visit our Welcome Center just outside the sanctuary in the gathering space. You can pick up more information about the church and chat with a member. If you have questions, please contact the church office!

Masks are optional when in the building. Please be respectful of those who choose to wear a mask. Masks and hand sanitizer are available at the Welcome Center.

Email: info@covenantmadison.org | Phone: (608) 233-6297

Worship

9:00 am Piano-Led

A piano-led service frequently with the New Day Ensemble

11:00 am Organ-Led

An organ-led service frequently with choir or handbells

Livestream available here: youtube.com/c/CovenantPresbyterianChurch.

Fellowship

10:00-10:45 am Bradfield Café

Come join us for donuts, coffee, and fellowship!

Nursery

Hours: 8:45 am-12:15 pm

Our professionally staffed nursery is available for children 3 years old and below.

Follow the frogs from the Welcome Center to the nursery located in room C101.

Next Sunday

December 8, 2024

"Do Not Be Afraid" Advent Sermon Series

"Don't Be Afraid of Change" | Preaching: Charlie Berthoud | Text: Luke 3:1-18



Announcements

General Announcements

“Do Not Be Afraid” Advent Sermon Series – December 1-22

When Jesus was born, the angels said, “Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah.” (Luke 2:10-11). For worship in Advent (the four Sundays before Christmas) our focus is “Do Not Be Afraid” – a message that runs through the Bible and is as relevant as ever today.

Advent Event – TODAY at 10:00am

Join us for our annual Advent Event. There will be snacks, crafts, and even ornament-making! Note that there will not be Adult Education this Sunday.

Aldo Leopold Monthly Book Club – TODAY at 12:00pm

Join our monthly book club that meets on the 1st Sunday each month! We are reading and discussing *A Sand County Almanac* by Aldo Leopold, reading one essay per month (leading up to the meeting). Today, we discuss “December.”

Time to Order Poinsettias!

To place an order, contact the church office and let us know: 1) how many you would like, and 2) how to list on the prayer list (in memory/honor/celebration of...). Poinsettias are \$15 for 1 and \$25 for 2. Checks can be made out to Covenant Presbyterian Church. **Please place orders by Monday, December 16.**

Clementines for Glenn Stephens – Next Week!

This would normally be a collection day for fruit for our mission partner school Glenn Stephens Elementary, but to accommodate their schedule, **we have moved this to Sunday, December 8!** More info on page 7.

Guatemala Marketplace Donations & Volunteers Needed!

TODAY is the final day that donations of new and/or pristine items with at least a \$10.00 value will be gratefully accepted in the narthex for the Guatemala

Marketplace on **Sunday, December 8!** And we are still looking for volunteers to help on December 8! If interested, please email Chan Sommers at dcsommers@gmail.com or Jane Bertram jane.s.bertram@gmail.com.

Adult Education

There is no Adult Education today, but please join us for our annual Advent Event in Bradfield Hall instead! Our next class will be on Sunday, December 15.

Visit covenantmadison.org/adult for more info on Adult Ed at Covenant.

Generosity Campaign

The Generosity Campaign asks people to support Covenant's ministry with their time, talents, and treasures. Please return commitment cards ASAP. You may place them in the offering lectern by the sanctuary entrance. To learn more or to fill out forms online, visit covenantmadison.org/generosity. Commitment cards and Serving Surveys are available at the Welcome Center, or you can fill it out online!

So far, we have received **182** pledges in the amount of **\$903,328.00**.

"Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations." -Psalm 90:1

Children's Ministries

Kaleidoscope Kids - TODAY at 9:00am

Kaleidoscope Kids teaches our children about parts of the worship service and meets every Sunday during 9:00 worship immediately following Children's Time. *Kaleidoscope Kids is for children 3 years old through 1st grade.*

Sunday School - TODAY at 10:00am

Sunday School begins in Bradfield Hall before going to classrooms. *Sunday School is for children 3 years old through 8th grade.*

Parent Time Out - Sunday, December 8, 4:00-7:00pm

Parents, it's time for a Time Out! Drop your kids off at the church from 4:00 to 7:00pm on December 8, and the youth will watch them so you can have some time to do parent things: Go Christmas shopping, have dinner together, or take a nap! We will order pizza for dinner, so please RSVP and make note of any new food allergies on the bulletin board outside the Lounge so we order enough food.

Families! Be sure to grab the **Family Worship Bags** and a **Children's Bible** from the narthex. **Wiggles & Giggles:** Our Lounge is available to let your wiggles and

giggles out while still participating in worship. Take advantage if you need to!

Visit covenantmadison.org/children for more info on Children's Ministries or contact Pastor Megan Berry at mberry@covenantmadison.org with questions.

Youth Connection

Youth Connection - TODAY 5:00-6:30pm

Join us for some fun, fellowship, and snack! *Youth Connection is for grades 6-12.*

Visit covenantmadison.org/youth for more info on Youth Connection or contact Pastor Megan Berry at mberry@covenantmadison.org with questions.

Upcoming Events

First Wednesdays Potluck - Wednesday, December 4, 12:00pm

Cook something at home or pick something up at your favorite restaurant to share and join us for our monthly potluck! Sally Lorenz, Chan Sommers, & Jane Bertram will share about Covenant's mission objectives in Guatemala and the upcoming Guatemala Marketplace fundraiser. Beverages, plates, and utensils will be provided.

Clementines for Glenn Stephens - Sunday, December 8

December is citrus season! We will be collecting clementines in December for Glenn Stephens students as part of our Healthy Snack Program. If you'd like to help, please bring a bag (or two) of clementines to the gathering place in the narthex on **Sunday, December 8th**. Look for the red wagon! **Note: This is a week later than our usual collection day due to the school calendar.** Thank you!

Guatemala Marketplace - Sunday, December 8, 8:30am-1:00pm

The Guatemala Marketplace is fast approaching on December 8! Be sure not to miss unique items contributed by our church family plus handcrafted Guatemalan textiles and ornaments. This year's fundraising event will be a sale. A limited number of items will be offered by auction. All revenue from the Marketplace supports Covenant's mission objectives in Guatemala.

Soul Sisters - Sunday, December 8, 12:00pm

All women are invited to join the Soul Sisters gathering at church on Sunday, December 8 in room A106 (**note room change**). Please bring your own lunch for the first part of the Meeting. We will explore more of Jesus' parables and watch the video from Amy-Jill Levine's "Short Stories by Jesus - The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi." To learn more about Soul Sisters or to join, please contact Barb Eikenberry at barb.eikenberry@gmail.com.

Covenant Staff and Officers

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| <p>Charlie Berthoud, Pastor/Head of Staff Megan Berry, Pastor for Children, Youth & Families Jess Scholten, Pastor for Mission, Spiritual Growth & Care Melissa Hinz, Minister of Music & Pastoral Care Megan Angriawan, Assistant Music Coordinator Arlene Kennedy, Children’s Music Director Doug McNeel, Organist Bailey Green, Church Administrator Janet Cresson, Financial Coordinator Vicki Alexander, Nursery Supervisor Eileen Durand, Anne Lawrence, Nursery Assistants Jay Petrie, Livestream Operator Mary Kieta, Sunday Host Rodrigo Morales, Custodian James McGregor, Maintenance Assistance</p> | <p>DEACONS</p> <p><i>Class of 2024</i> Margie Coons Emily Lanphear Steve Resan Chris Turner</p> <p><i>Class of 2025</i> Bob Cole Sherry Hershberger Mary Kieta Lynn Vande Sande</p> <p><i>Class of 2026</i> Ann Larget Cara Cavin Randy Holveck Chan Sommers</p> | <p>ELDERS/SESSION</p> <p><i>Class of 2024</i> Monica Mark Jennifer Morgan Mark Soderberg</p> <p><i>Class of 2025</i> John Guequierre Marilyn Krichko</p> <p><i>Class of 2026</i> Barb Eikenberry Skye Doney Jane Kolakowski</p> <p>Clerk of Session Laurie Jones</p> |
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COVENANT IS A MATTHEW 25 CHURCH

In accepting the PC(USA)’s Matthew 25 invitation, we commit ourselves to the work of dismantling structural racism, eradicating systemic poverty, and building congregational vitality. In everything we do – worship, education, mission, fellowship – we think about how we love God through loving our neighbor.



Covenant Presbyterian Church
 326 S. Segoe Road
 Madison, WI 53705
 (608) 233-6297
 M-TH 9-4, F 9-12

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covenantmadison.org



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