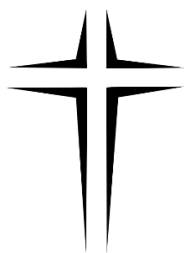


Embracing Peace

HOPE
PEACE
JOY
LOVE

Advent

2025 COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025

9:00 & 11:00am

PRELUDE

Improvisations on *While We Are Waiting, Come*
Megan Angriawan, pianist

WELCOME

Pastor Megan Berry

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Hymn: #88 “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” (v. 6)

(9:00) The Perry Family

Ernie, Ann, and Riess

(11:00) The Larget Family

Bret, Ann, and Jacob

MUSIC

#106 “Prepare the Way, O Zion”

CONFESSION, GOOD NEWS, TEN COMMANDMENTS & PEACE

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Charlie Berthoud

God of Peace, through the prophets and apostles you have challenged us to lay aside the words of destruction and prepare for your new creation. We confess that we continue to cling to our sinful ways – greed and lust, abuse and waste, envy and strife. Forgive us, Holy One. By your Spirit, lead us to live in a way that shows Your love and peace in this world. Amen.

Good News of the Gospel

Ten Commandments

Hymn of Praise

#119 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” (v. 3)

Passing of the Peace

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

CHILDREN’S TIME

Pastor Jess Scholten

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 in C208. See page 6 for more info.

Scripture: Isaiah 11:6

The Lord’s Prayer

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.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-10

Sermon: "Embracing Peace"

Pastor Megan Berry

MUSIC

(11:00) #87 "Comfort, Comfort Now My People"

OFFERING OUR LIVES & GIFTS TO GOD

Offerings can be put in the lectern as you exit the Sanctuary. You can also give online, by contacting the office, or by scanning the QR code on the back cover.

Special Music

(9:00) "Messiah" by Larry Olson
New Day Ensemble

(11:00) "O Little Town of Bethlehem" arr. Lloyd Larson
Covenant Handbell Choir

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

For 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) Randy Holveck, Sherry Hershberger

(11:00) Cara Cavin, Rhonda Rohn

Special Music

Improvisations on *Come to the Table of Grace*

Prayer

MUSIC

#137 "He Came Down" (love, light, peace)

(9:00) Ben Johnson, vocalist

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Improvisations on *Love Has Come*

Sunday flowers

This week's flowers are provided by Fern, Anne, and Ellen Lawrence in celebration of our Covenant family and in memory of those who passed away this year.



Thank you for joining us!

If you are a visitor today, please visit our Welcome Center just outside the sanctuary in the gathering space where 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

9:00am Piano-Led

A piano-led service frequently with the New Day Ensemble

11:00am Organ-Led

An organ-led service frequently with choir or handbells

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

Fellowship

10:00am Bradfield Café

Come join us for donuts, coffee, and fellowship!

Nursery

Hours: 8:45am-12:15pm

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 14, 2025 | 9:00 & 11:00am

Third Sunday of Advent | Carol Sing | Christmas Joy Offering

Preaching: Charlie Berthoud | "Songs That Change the World"

Text: Luke 1:46-55



Announcements

General Announcements

Clementines for Glenn Stephens Elementary - TODAY

Today, we are collecting clementines for our next fruit delivery to students and staff at Glenn Stephens Elementary. Look for the wagons in the narthex. Your generosity is much appreciated!

Parent Time Out - TODAY, 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 this evening, 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 sanctuary so we order enough food.

Advent Worship

As Christmas nears, we journey through the four Sundays of Advent, reflecting on HOPE, PEACE, JOY, and LOVE. On December 14, we will have a carol sing during worship, and on December 21 our annual children and youth Christmas pageant will be held at a single 10:00am service. Come and prepare your hearts for the light that shines in the darkness as God comes to be with us in Jesus' birth.

Advent Devotional

Each day of Advent, the 2025 Presbyterian Outlook devotional, *Draw Near*, gives a gentle invitation to draw closer into the heart of God with traditional Advent themes of hope, peace, joy, and love. The full Advent devotional is available in our weekly Connections email. Scan the QR code to join the Connections mailing list. Printed copies are also available in the office.



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 Thursday, December 18.**

Hat & Mitten Trees

Bring your donations of hats and mittens, but also snow pants, winter jackets, and snow boots! These items will be donated to The River for our friends in need of warm clothes during the colder months. Donations can be left on the trees outside of Pastor Megan's office through Sunday, January 4. Thank you for support!

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 9:00am 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 meets weekly from 10:00-10:50am. *Sunday School is for children 3 years old through 8th grade.*

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!

Visit covenantmadison.org/children for more info on Children's Ministries at Covenant.

Adult Education

"Jesus Seminar: What the Seminar Accomplished" – TODAY, 10:00am

Covenant member Fred Ross will lead an examination of the "Jesus Seminar," a controversial group of biblical scholars and laymen who promoted a revised historical account of Jesus in the 1980s and 1990s.

Upcoming Classes:

Dec. 14 – "Racial Justice for the Long Haul" with guest speaker Christine Jeske

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

Youth Connection

Youth Connection meets tonight from 5:00-6:30pm. Join us for some fun and fellowship! *Youth Connection is for grades 6-12.*

Wacky Wednesday – December 17, 6:00-8:00pm

From 6:00 to 8:00pm on December 17, bring a craft you're working on or come to learn a craft that Megan will provide! This will be a great time of fun and fellowship to get our creative juices flowing together.

Visit covenantmadison.org/youth for more info on Youth Connection at Covenant.

Generosity & Capital Campaigns

The Generosity Campaign asks people to support Covenant's ministry with their time, talents, and treasures. We are also running a Capital Campaign to raise funds for our Parking Lot Project from 2026 to 2028. 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/give.

Generosity Campaign: So far, we have received **168** pledges totaling **\$902,353.95**.

Capital Campaign: So far, we have received **136** pledges totaling **\$605,390 (not including the \$150,000 matching anonymous donation)**.

Upcoming Events

Soul Sisters - Sunday, December 14, 12:00pm

All women of Covenant are invited to join the Soul Sisters gathering on December 14 at noon in Room A106. Please bring your own lunch! This month's discussion will be on the series "The God We Can Know - Exploring The 'I Am' Sayings of Jesus." To learn more, email Barb Eikenberry at barb.eikenberry@gmail.com.

Families with Young Kids Christmas Party - Sunday, December 14, 4:00-6:00pm

Families with young kids, come join us as we gather in Bradfield Hall for fellowship. Childcare will be provided from 4:00 to 5:00pm with pizza, salad, and cookie decorating provided at 5:00pm for a Christmas celebration. Join us!

Christmas Pageant - Sunday, December 21, 10:00am

Covenant's children & youth will perform the annual Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 21! **Note: there will only be one worship service at 10:00am this Sunday.**

Blue Christmas Prayers & Fellowship - Sunday, December 21, 2:00pm

If, for whatever reason, the holidays are difficult for you this year, you are encouraged to come to a special worship service, when we acknowledge the pain in our lives and give thanks for the support we have from each other and in Jesus Christ. Light refreshments will follow. All are welcome!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services - Wednesday, December 24

4:00 Family Service (*New Day Ensemble*)

6:00pm Traditional Service (*Covenant Handbell Choir*)

8:00pm Traditional Service (*Covenant Chancel Choir*)

One Worship Service & Epiphany Stars - Sunday, December 28, 10:00am

There will be one worship service on Sunday, December 28 at 10:00am. Pastor Charlie will share a reflection, and you can pick up your **Epiphany Star** for 2026!

Covenant Staff and Officers

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
Ann Perry, Administrative Assistant
Vicki Alexander, Nursery Supervisor
Eileen Durand, Anne Lawrence,
 Nursery Assistants
Jay Petrie, Livestream Operator
Mary Kieta, Sunday Host
Rodrigo Morales, Custodian
Rick Bartz, Maintenance Assistant

DEACONS

Class of 2025
 Bob Cole
 Sherry Hershberger
 Mary Kieta
 Lynn Vande Sande

Class of 2026
 Ann Larget
 Cara Cavin
 Randy Holveck
 Chan Sommers

Class of 2027
 Jane Bertram
 Melissa Hardy
 Cornelia Hempe
 Art Kanitz

ELDERS/SESSION

Class of 2025
 Christine Barden
 John Guequierre
 Marilyn Krichko

Class of 2026
 Barb Eikenberry
 Skye Doney
 Jane Kolakowski

Class of 2027
 Tom Hershberger
 Rhonda Rohn
 JR Schmidt

Clerk of Session
 Laurie Jones

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

info@covenantmadison.org
covenantmadison.org



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