

40 Days of Prayer

Draw near. Trust. Abide.

September 20th - October 29th



Rev. Caitlin Culp, **Pastor**
Kent Hamaker, **Director of Christian Formation and Outreach**
Melissa McMahan, **Music Director**

Church of the Covenant
2666 Military Road, Arlington VA 22207
703-524-4115
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SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

October 11, 2026

20th Sunday After Pentecost/Proper 23

11:00 am

(*) *You're invited to stand as you are able.*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

GREETING & PRAYER REQUESTS

Elder Susan Tarr

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Elder Elizabeth Pruchnicki

adapted from Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good'

One: In reverence, in wonder,

All: And in hope, we gather.

One: With unsettled questions in our hearts,

All: With the mystery of God surrounding us,

One: Acknowledging God's Spirit working in us,

All: We worship God.

***OPENING HYMN #451**

Open My Eyes, That I May See

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Responsive)

Elder Elizabeth Pruchnicki

adapted from Thomas Merton

Our Lord God, we have no idea where we are going. We do not see the road ahead of us nor do we really know ourselves, and the fact that we think we are following your will does not mean that we are actually doing so. But we believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And we hope that we will never do anything apart from that desire. And we know that if we do this, you will lead us by the right road though we may know nothing about it. Therefore we will trust you always, though we may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. We will not fear, for you are ever with us, and you will never leave us to face our struggles alone. Amen. *Silent prayer...*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Elder Elizabeth Pruchnicki

***RESPONSE #582**

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

PASSING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

Elder Elizabeth Pruchnicki

One: May the love and peace of Christ be with you all. **All: And also with you.**

ANTHEM

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

Leader: The word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Kent Hamaker

SECOND SCRIPTURE

John 3:16

Elder Elizabeth Pruchnicki

SERMON

"Through One, All"

Elder Elizabeth Pruchnicki

*HYMN #450

Be Thou My Vision

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)

Elder Elizabeth Pruchnicki

{adapted from *Belonging to God: A First Catechism*}

One: Why do we pray to God?

All: Because we were created to live with God, who desires the prayers of our hearts. Our hearts long for God, for we need God's help and guidance every day.

One: What do we mean when we pray to God as "Our Father"?

All: As Jesus taught us, we call upon God like little children who know that God cares for them and loves them. Because Jesus prayed to God as his Father, we too can pray to God in this way.

One: When we pray to God as our Father, do we mean that God is male?

All: No. God is Spirit and has no body.

One: What do we mean when we pray to God "in heaven"?

All: We mean that God draws near to us from beyond this world, and hears our prayers.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Elder Elizabeth Pruchnicki

Prayer requests are listed in the bulletin. You're invited to share prayer requests aloud.

EUCCHARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Elder Elizabeth Pruchnicki

*DOXOLOGY #607

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Elder Elizabeth Pruchnicki

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN #100

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

*BENEDICTION

Elder Elizabeth Pruchnicki

POSTLUDE

Thank you for sharing in this time of worship with us. We're grateful to Ruling Elder Elizabeth Pruchnicki for preaching and leading us in worship. Today's Usher is Mary Gibson. The liturgist is Bill Murphey. Coffee Hour is hosted by X. The worship service is recorded and available on YouTube and the church's website.

Large print hymn books, individual seat cushions, and children's activity packets are available from the usher at the entrance. Children of all ages are welcome to stay in the sanctuary for all parts of the worship service.

Bathrooms are located outside of the sanctuary to the right, through the narthex, and up the small set of stairs in the foyer. A diaper changing station is in the Sunday School Room, which is off the front of the sanctuary. An ADA-accessible bathroom is located in the fellowship hall. To access the fellowship hall, drive around to the parking lot and enter through the double doors.



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PRAYER LIST

Diane Becky, sister-in-law of Kristen & aunt of Nora Dick Dolores

Heather, friend of Kristen & Nora's Annette Darla Lola

EIPC as they continue their search for a pastor Our country's leaders.

Those impacted by health crises. Othow and his ministry in South Sudan.

Peace in the Middle East; for cessation of hostilities between Israel, Iran, & USA.

**If you have prayer requests you'd like added to this list, email covenantpastorpcusa@gmail.com.
Prayers remain on this list for two weeks unless we hear otherwise.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS