

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., adapted

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

EUCARIST

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY #607 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN #621 *I Will Call Upon the Lord* (sung 3 times)

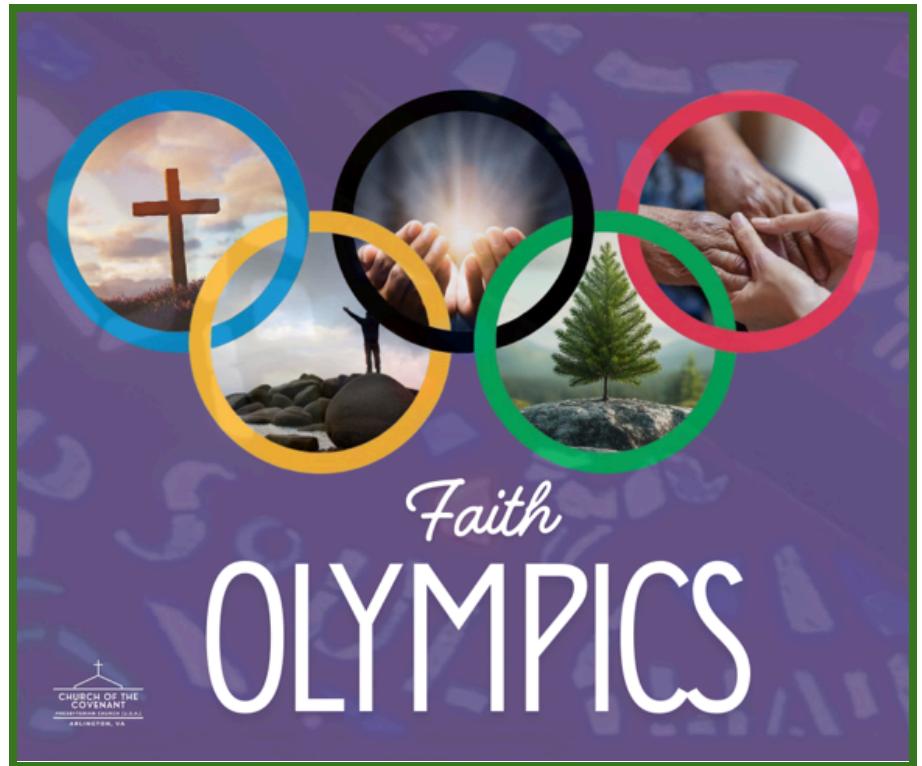
*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Thank you for sharing in this time of worship with us. The liturgist is Joan McDermott. The Usher is Kristen Tyagi. Coffee hour is hosted by Barbara Washburn and Bill Murphey. 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. There is also childcare available in the room off the front of the sanctuary.

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 "Teen Lounge," which is past the bathrooms, through the double doors, on the left past the library. 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.



Design by Kristen Tyagi

CHURCH OF THE COVENANT

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
Email: thechurchofthecovenant@gmail.com

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

January 25, 2026

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

11:00 am

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

GATHERING

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS & MOMENT OF PREPARATION

Rev. Caitlin Culp

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Though many, we form one body in Christ.

All: We belong to one another.

One: By God's grace we have different gifts.

All: We will use them in faith.

One: Rejoice in hope, stand firm in trouble, be constant in prayer.

All: Filled with God's Spirit we will serve the Lord.

***OPENING HYMN #726** *Will You Come and Follow Me?*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

God, all that you require of us is to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. We confess we are entangled in systems that trade justice for the luxury of the few. Forgive us for fearing the risks of following you. Forgive us for failing to trust the grace you give freely. Teach us again that we cannot earn your grace, only humbly accept it. Audacious Spirit, give us the courage to do your justice. Compassionate Christ, teach us to love kindness and to share each other's burdens gladly. *Silent prayer...*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

***RESPONSE #582** *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

PASSING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Isaiah 9:1-4

Joan McDermott

FIRST SCRIPTURE

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Kent Hamaker

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Matthew 4:12-23

SERMON

Bobsled Team Race: Trust

Caitlin Culp

***HYMN #519**

You Are My Strength When I am Weak (sung 3 times)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)**

(from The Belhar Confession)

One: We share one faith,

All: have one calling,

One: are of one soul and one mind;

All: have one God and Creator,

One: are filled with one Spirit,

All: are baptized with one baptism,

One: eat of one bread and drink of one cup,

All: confess one Name,

One: are obedient to one Lord,

All: work for one cause, and share one hope.

One: Together we come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ;

All: are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity;

One: know and bear one another's burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ

All: that we need one another and up build one another,

One: admonishing and comforting one another;

All: that we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness.

One: Together we pray;

All: together we serve God in this world.

One: In the name of Jesus, who calls us to unity, reconciliation, and justice. **Amen.**