

COVENANT *News*

A monthly publication of Covenant Presbyterian Church – Charlotte, North Carolina



Message from Bob



Dear friends,
John Updike
was a very
distinguished
author,
essayist,

literary critic, and poet. He
was also a Christian, a church
member, and a Sunday School
teacher. He died not long ago
and those of us who were
regularly enriched by his writing
greatly miss him. "Seven Stanzas
at Easter" is a poem he wrote in
1961 and speaks still:

*Let us not mock God with
metaphor,
analogy, sidestepping
transcendence,
making of the event a parable,
a sign painted in the faded
credulity of earlier ages.
Let us walk through the door.*

I offer this as an invitation to
"walk through the door" of Holy
Week and Easter this year. The
Saturday Easter pilgrimage
through the Sanctuary promises
to be particularly meaningful, as
do the various services across
Holy Week. I trust you will not
sidestep transcendence and
join us!

With gratitude for you all and
great hope for the future,

Bob

Bob Henderson
Senior Minister



Prepare For Holy Week Worship

*Holy Week At Covenant Will Be Rich With Worship
and Sacred Celebration*

Palm Sunday

On Palm Sunday (March 28), we'll
commemorate the triumphal entry
of Jesus into Jerusalem during
online worship with a virtual palm
processional featuring Covenant
families during the opening hymn.



Maundy Thursday

For Maundy Thursday (April 1), an
"at-home toolkit" is available at
CovenantPresby.org/Lent to help
set your table, prepare a meal,
say a blessing and break bread
together. Remember that you
share this feast with countless
Christians across the world who
celebrate in their homes.

Good Friday

On Good Friday (April 2), join a
livestream Tenebrae service at 7:30
p.m., where we will share the Good
Friday story in word and special
music.

Easter Saturday On-Campus Celebration

The Saturday before Easter (April 3)
will be a day of celebration of new
life on the Covenant campus. Sign
up at CovenantPresby.org/Lent
for a time slot to visit Covenant
to enjoy vibrant music, exquisite
art, contemplative time in the
Sanctuary, and a menagerie of
baby animals.

All who come will have the
chance to spend prayerful time
in our worship space and be
given communion elements from



Jerusalem to take home for the
online worship service on Easter
Sunday.

Everyone is invited to bring a flower
for the cross and children are
encouraged to bring a basket for a
modified egg hunt. The carillon will
ring and live animals will be in the
circle all day.



Easter Sunday

On April 4, mark the resurrection
with Communion, carillon, brass,
timpani and organ. Hear familiar
songs "Jesus Christ is Risen Today"
and "Hallelujah Chorus" with
beautiful solos from Handel's
Messiah.

The morning also includes dancers,
a choir procession and Rob Dicks
at the organ for the celebratory
"Toccatina" from Symphony #5 by
C.M. Widor.

Livestream services are at 9:30 and
11 a.m.



"Notes" from Heather



Join us for
moving
music during
Holy Week.

On Good
Friday,

organist Rob Dicks, sets the
tone for reflection and worship.

A choral ensemble will sing "O
Sacred Head Now Wounded"
and a beautiful setting of "Jesus
Loves Me" and we will hear a
cello and organ duet.

Soloists Lauren Russell and
Ryan Harrison will sing "Abide
with Me" and "Were You
There?"

On Easter Sunday, the
Sanctuary will be filled with the
joyful sounds of brass, timpani,
and organ accompaniment.

You will hear familiar songs,
such as "Jesus Christ is Risen
Today" and "Hallelujah Chorus"
as well as beautiful solos from
Handel's Messiah.

Guest soloist, Todd Simpson,
and Charlotte Symphony
Orchestra first trumpeter
Alex Wilborn will share "The
Trumpet Shall Sound."

Enjoy dancers, choir procession,
familiar faces in the Lord's
Prayer and responsive reading,
and the ever-powerful
"Toccatina" from Symphony #5
by C.M. Widor to end worship in
full-volume glory.

**Heather Potter, director of
traditional music**

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday

An at-home toolkit will help you set your table, prepare a meal, say a blessing and break bread together.

Good Friday

A livestream Tenebrae service at 7:30 p.m. will share the Good Friday story in word and music.

Easter Saturday - Please RSVP

The Covenant campus will be alive with music, art, baby animals and contemplative time in the Sanctuary.

Easter Sunday

Join us to worship God and celebrate the resurrection with livestream services at 9:30 and 11 a.m.

CovenantPresby.org/Lent

HOLY WEEK 2021

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