

**CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter – May 17, 2009 – 11:00 AM**

Welcome Pastor John Benson

Families with children are welcome in worship.  
Nursery care is also available for infants and toddlers  
Downstairs throughout the service

Prelude Sandra Benson, Organist  
Becky Ericson, Pianist

*Celebration Medley* – arr. Wyrzten

\*Call to Worship Psalm 98:1

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song,  
for he has done marvelous things.

People: *His right hand and his holy arm  
have gotten him victory.*

\*Hymn 261

*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

\*Unison Prayer Collect for the 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter, BCP

O God, You Have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

The First Lesson Acts 10:44-48

Second lesson 1 John 5:1-6 Bud Clark, Reader

Life Together: Announcements and Prayer Requests

Stewardish Presentation Randall S. Swenson  
Covenant Estate Planning Officer

Offertory

Hymn 48

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn 634

*Great Source of All Our Life*

Sermon John 15:9-17

**“THE SERIOUS BUSINESS OF HEAVEN”**

\*Hymn 498

*I Sing with Joy and Gladness*

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

\*Those who are able please stand.

**Welcome!** Whether this is your first time with us, a return visit, or something that you do every Sunday, we're happy that you're here! Please fill out the Home Page insert in this bulletin, including your address and prayer requests, and make it part of your offering this morning. The offering is an opportunity to share financially in the ministries and mission of this congregation – if you're a visitor or a newcomer, as our guest you are under no obligation to participate. We hope to see you again soon!

## COMMUNITY COVENANT CHURCH

Celebrating our 37<sup>th</sup> year of Ministry

7018 Sydenstricker Road; Springfield, VA 22152

CCC Webpage [www.covenantchurchva.org](http://www.covenantchurchva.org)

703-455-4150 [communitycovenant@verizon.net](mailto:communitycovenant@verizon.net)

### SERVING TODAY

Greeters: Youth Group  
Ushers: Tom Connelie & Carl Rodgers  
Reader: Bud Clark  
Nursery/Assistant: Shelley Connelie  
Snack: The Roberts  
Sound Technician: Jim Hamilton  
Candle Lighter: Andrea Hamilton

*Our mission as a congregation is calling people from this community and around the world into communion with Christ. Our communion with him and with each other grows as we enter into the promises and challenges that a covenant with Christ includes.*

### SERVING NEXT WEEK: May 24

Greeters: Carl & Rosalie Rodgers  
Ushers: Gordon Sloat & Paul Seguin  
Reader: Jim Hamilton  
Nursery/Assistant: Mar Hamilton  
Snack: Claire Bentley  
Sound Technician: Bob Ericson.  
Candle Lighter: Andrea Hamilton

### THIS WEEK

Tuesday	10:00 AM	Women's Bible study
Thursday		Ascension of the Lord
Saturday	3:00 PM	Covenant Crafters <i>Bring something to work on</i>
	6:00 PM	Hobo Salad Supper <i>Everyone's invited Sign up in the hallway</i>
	7:00 PM	Books and Culture Group <i>Join in the discussion</i>
Sunday	9:30 AM	Intergenerational Sunday School <i>Sandy and John share their story</i>
	11:00AM	Worship Service <i>Celebration of the Ascension</i>

### Birthdays and Anniversaries Celebrated this week:

Wednesday Rob Ericson  
Saturday Rich Newberg, Elisabeth Reitman,  
Joe Munroe

### When you come to church on Sunday, remember to . . .

*Bring your Bibles* – Its not all in the bulletin

*Bring canned goods* for outreach to those in need through the food pantries at ECHO and Rising Hope

*Bring change* for the change box to fund capital improvements

*Bring a dollar or two* to help our Youth Group support Yohannes Makalew, our Compassion International sponsored child in Indonesia

**Remember that this building is regularly used** by many other groups. If you are planning an activity, please check the complete calendar in the church office and contact Aaron Knowles, our Administrative Assistant, before scheduling an event. Aaron can be reached by calling the church office or 703-425-5633. The deadline for bulletin announcements is 9 AM Friday.

## Scripture Lessons to read for Sunday, May 24:

Acts 1:1-11	Out of sight!
Psalm 47	God has gone up with a shout
Ephesians 1:14-23	Everything under his feet
Luke 24:44-53	He blessed them as he left them

**It is time to make casseroles for Rising Hope.** If you would like to bring in a casserole to be served to the homeless living on Route 1, sign up on the sign-up sheet on the table outside the sanctuary. Please bring your casserole in by Sunday, May 29. Contact Mary Hamilton if you have a question.

### **Summer schedule begins soon and who wants snack and picnics?**

The Sunday School year ends on Sunday, May 31. (Sunday morning snacks have usually ended then, too.) Our summer schedule begins on Sunday, June 7, with worship at 10 Am through Labor Day weekend. If you want to have snacks during our informal fellowship time following services this summer, please do two things – 1) register an opinion on your Home Page today and 2) sign up to bring snacks if we decide to go ahead. We're also looking for someone (or two or more) to plan, publicize and coordinate after-service summertime picnics in our new picnic area.

**In the Covenant Companion:** "Friendships That Form Futures" – reflections on the roles mentors play in our lives by Richard A. Johnson, Director of North Park' University Ministries department and co-founder of Spark Ventures. Subscriptions to our award-winning denominational magazine are \$19.95 a year. Call 773-784-3000.

**How to contact Pastor Benson:** By phone (703-451-6624; 703-455-4150; 703-505-0626) by mail (6624 Reynard Drive, Springfield, VA 22152) or by email (johnsbenson@hotmail.com). Please get in touch immediately when you or someone in your family is in the hospital, facing surgery or in need of pastoral care.

**Last call for our special Easter offering:** Our goal of \$500 for an "Above and Beyond" offering to help the Covenant Church in Clifton Park, NY, with their new building mortgage has been exceeded! Praise the Lord. If you want to help us do "exceedingly beyond all that we ask or think!" make an offering today using the special envelopes available on the credenza. Make checks payable to Community Covenant Church and designate them "Easter Offering."

**We're looking for new Church Council members** – 3 chairs will be vacant in June: Worship and Music, Christian Education, and Fellowship. If you are a church member and are thinking of serving as part of our congregation's leadership team, please speak to Rob Ericson or Pastor Benson. We are also open to suggestions about whom to consider for these positions. Please remember this need in prayer.

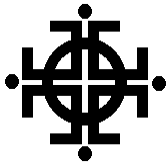
**The church garden is tilled and ready for planting.** It is open to everyone to use. Just get with Jim Hamilton or one of our young people if you have suggestions about what to plant, want to provide seeds or plants, need assistance with planting or want the youth group to do it for you.

**We plan to honor all our graduates** on Sunday, June 14. If you know someone in the church family who is graduating from High School, College, or has received an advanced degree in the past year, please make a note of it on your Homepage.

**Get Connected with Covenant Newswire** – this free service delivers the latest news from Covenant Churches around the world to your home or office in a single daily email. It's a great way to keep informed about what's happening among the mission friends. To sign up, visit the Covenant Web Page ([www.covchurch.org](http://www.covchurch.org)) and click on the Newswire button.

***Covenant World Mission Prayer Line: 1-800-FON-PRAY***

**Did you miss last week's sermon?** Hear it and read the bulletin each week on the church website. It is updated weekly. Please visit us at [www.covenantchurchva.org](http://www.covenantchurchva.org).



*The character of the Evangelical Covenant Church is expressed by our logo: at the center is the cross. Next is a circle – the symbol of our unity in Christ. Then four different people, joined together, reach out to the world in love. Find out more about the Covenant at [www.covchurch.org](http://www.covchurch.org)*