

CELEBRATION OF THE ASCENSION
Sunday, May 24, 2009 – 11:00 AM

Almighty God, your only Son was taken up into heaven and in power intercedes for us. May we also come into your presence and live forever in your glory; through your son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. ("Prayers of the Day," Lutheran Book of Worship)

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

*Call to Worship Psalm 47:5-7

Leader: God has gone up with a shout.

People: The Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

Leader: Sing Praises to God, sing praises.

People: Sing praises to our King, sing praises.

Leader: For God is the king of all the earth.

People: Sing praises with a psalm.

*Hymn 265

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

*Prayer of Invocation

*The Lord's Prayer

The First Lesson Acts 1:1-11 Jim Hamilton. Reader

The Epistle Ephesians 1:15-23

Life Together: Announcements and Prayer Requests

Offertory

Hymn 48

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn 298

He Is Exalted

Sermon Luke 24:44-53

BLESSING OF THE ASCENSION

*Hymn 676

Go, My Children.

*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 37th year of Ministry

7018 Sydenstricker Road; Springfield, VA 22152

CCC Webpage www.covenantchurchva.org

703-455-4150 communitycovenant@verizon.net

SERVING TODAY

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

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 31

Greeters: Youth
Ushers: Andrea & Jim Hamilton
Reader: Rob Ericson
Nursery/Assistant: Kathy Knowles
Snack: None Scheduled
Sound Technician: Tom Connelie.
Candle Lighter: None Scheduled

THIS WEEK

Monday Memorial Day
"Brave men and worthy patriots, dear God, and famous to all ages"
- John Milton, Tractate of Education
Tuesday 10:00 AM Women's Bible study
Sunday 9:30 AM Last Sunday School for this school year
11:00AM Worship Service
Celebrating the Day of Pentecost

Birthdays and Anniversaries Celebrated this week:

Wednesday Keegan Murray
Thursday Brenda Redding, Josh Reitman
Saturday Daniel Tobin

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:

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| Ezekiel 37:1-14 | Can these bones live? |
| Psalms 104:24-34 | The earth is full of his creatures |
| Acts 2:1-21 | The day of Pentecost |
| John 15:26-27 | When the Advocate comes |

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. The deadline has been extended to May 31st. 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: "Shala, Portrait of a Mother" – Tammy Swansib-Draheim, pastor of First Covenant Church in Mason City, Iowa, remembers a love-filled life, a grace-filled heart, a servant's heart and a thankful heart. 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.

SUPPORT CHIC! The Youth Group will have a yard sale to support Chic. Please consider what you may want to donate. The yard sale will be held some time during June.

The flowers on the altar today are given by Rob and Becky Ericson in memory of Byron Cochrane and Irma & Norman Ericson.

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.

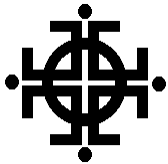
Pastor Benson is flying to Kansas City tomorrow. He will return by car on Wednesday with the Benson's daughter, Jennifer Garretson, and grandsons Thomas, Lars, and Markus. Tim will arrive on June 13. Laurel and Ben and grandson, Benson Borter, will arrive on Saturday for a "Benson Family June Reunion." Daughters Sarah and Kristen already live in the area.

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) 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.



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