

## Covenant Community Church

19th Sunday after Pentecost

October 22, 2023

don't play favorites. <sup>17</sup> Now tell us what you think about this: Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"

<sup>18</sup> But Jesus knew their evil motives. "You hypocrites!" he said. "Why are you trying to trap me? <sup>19</sup> Here, show me the coin used for the tax." When they handed him a Roman coin, <sup>20</sup> he asked, "Whose picture and title are stamped on it?"

<sup>21</sup> "Caesar's," they replied. "Well, then," he said, "give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and give to God what belongs to God."

<sup>22</sup> His reply amazed them, and they went away.

The word of the LORD.     **Thanks be to GOD.**

\*Second Hymn #11                     *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Sermon

Pastoral Prayer

\*Closing Hymn #113             *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty*

**We Respond**

Prayers of the People     (Lord in your mercy...**Hear our Prayer**)

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

\*Offering Response:

*Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness.*

*And all these things shall be added unto you, Allelu, alleluia.*

\*Prayer of Dedication

**We Are Sent Into the World**

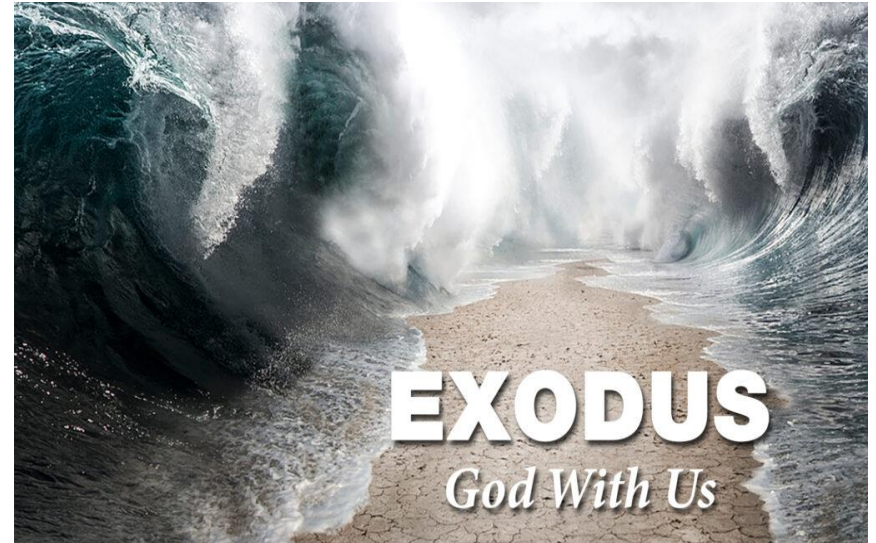
Benediction

\*Benediction Response (please stand & turn to face each other as we sing)

**ALL:** *The LORD bless you and keep you, the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious, gracious, gracious to you, the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you, give you, give you peace.*

Leader: Go in Peace, to Love and Serve the Lord!

**People: Thanks be to God!**



## We Gather

Welcome and Announcements

\*Call to Worship (Psalm 96:1-9) NLT ©

Leader: Sing a new song to the Lord!  
Let the whole earth sing to the Lord!

**People: Sing to the Lord; praise his name.  
Each day proclaim the good news that he saves.**

Leader: Publish his glorious deeds among the nations.  
Tell everyone about the amazing things he does.

**People: Great is the Lord! He is most worthy of praise!  
He is to be feared above all gods.**

Leader: The gods of other nations are mere idols,  
but the Lord made the heavens!

**People: Honor and majesty surround him;  
strength and beauty fill his sanctuary.**

Leader: O nations of the world, recognize the Lord;  
recognize that the Lord is glorious and strong.

**People: Give to the Lord the glory he deserves!  
Bring your offering and come into his courts.**

Leader: Worship the Lord in all his holy splendor.  
Let all the earth tremble before him.

\*Opening Chorus *Shout to the Lord*

\*Opening Prayer and Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. AMEN**

\* All who are able are invited to stand

## We Hear The Word

Old Testament Reading Exodus 33:12-23 NLT©

<sup>12</sup> One day Moses said to the Lord, “You have been telling me, ‘Take these people up to the Promised Land.’ But you haven’t told me whom you will send with me. You have told me, ‘I know you by name, and I look favorably on you.’” <sup>13</sup> If it is true that you look favorably on me, let me know your ways so I may understand you more fully and continue to enjoy your favor. And remember that this nation is your very own people.”

<sup>14</sup> The Lord replied, “I will personally go with you, Moses, and I will give you rest—everything will be fine for you.”

<sup>15</sup> Then Moses said, “If you don’t personally go with us, don’t make us leave this place.” <sup>16</sup> How will anyone know that you look favorably on me—on me and on your people—if you don’t go with us? For your presence among us sets your people and me apart from all other people on the earth.”

<sup>17</sup> The Lord replied to Moses, “I will indeed do what you have asked, for I look favorably on you, and I know you by name.”

<sup>18</sup> Moses responded, “Then show me your glorious presence.”

<sup>19</sup> The Lord replied, “I will make all my goodness pass before you, and I will call out my name, Yahweh, before you. For I will show mercy to anyone I choose, and I will show compassion to anyone I choose.” <sup>20</sup> But you may not look directly at my face, for no one may see me and live.” <sup>21</sup> The Lord continued, “Look, stand near me on this rock.” <sup>22</sup> As my glorious presence passes by, I will hide you in the crevice of the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. <sup>23</sup> Then I will remove my hand and let you see me from behind. But my face will not be seen.”

\*Gospel Reading Matthew 22:15-22 NLT©

<sup>15</sup> Then the Pharisees met together to plot how to trap Jesus into saying something for which he could be arrested. <sup>16</sup> They sent some of their disciples, along with the supporters of Herod, to meet with him. “Teacher,” they said, “we know how honest you are. You teach the way of God truthfully. You are impartial and

# CWRD Year in Review

## JULY 2022-JUNE 2023

Thank you for your generous support and partnership with Covenant World Relief & Development.

Here is a glimpse of your support of CWRD this year!

\$1.1M sent to 28 partners in 18 countries for

**39** community development projects

- CLEAN WATER
- PEACEMAKING
- FOOD SECURITY & NUTRITION
- MICROENTERPRISE
- COMMUNITY HEALTH
- WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT
- TRAFFICKING PREVENTION & CARE
- AGRICULTURE
- REFUGEE CARE

**\$1.75M** GRANTED

**\$517K** 19 DISASTER RESPONSE GRANTS IN 9 COUNTRIES

including

- \$250K for the Ukraine response
- \$80K for the Turkey/Syria earthquake

**\$120K** WAS GRANTED THROUGH THE FREE INITIATIVE

6 domestic & 4 international projects focused on fighting sex trafficking.

**16** GRANTS\* serving refugees and IDP (Internally Displaced People) from at least 7 different countries

\*INCLUDING BOTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND DISASTER RESPONSE GRANTS

**\$666,793** RAISED FOR WASH (WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE) INITIATIVES

Covenant Kids Congo raised funds from 29 churches and 328 individuals for WASH initiatives in the DR Congo through Team World Vision.

**\$1 MILLION+** CWRD SURPASSED OUR \$1M MILESTONE GOAL OF DONATIONS FOR UKRAINE

From 2021 until now, CWRD has raised a total of \$1.04M and counting in designated funds for Ukraine from 140 churches and 1230 individuals.

100% of every gift to CWRD goes to ministry. 90% of every gift goes directly to ministry programs. God has blessed us with increased partnerships and projects. We depend fully on you to continue this ministry. If you would like to learn more about giving to CWRD, please go to [giving.covchurch.org/cwrd](https://giving.covchurch.org/cwrd).



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[@covenantworldreliefanddevelopment](https://www.facebook.com/covenantworldreliefanddevelopment)

[@covworldreliefanddevelopment](https://www.instagram.com/covworldreliefanddevelopment)



## Welcome!

Greetings! And a warm welcome to you!

We are glad to have you here—we are better together. If you are visiting us for the first time, please sign our guest book at the entrance, and complete a visitor's card

Please join us for coffee or tea after worship. We would like to get to know you.

## Announcements

**CCC Congregation Retreat, Saturday November 4, 8:30 AM-4:30 PM: Save the date--A One Day Christian Practices Retreat hosted by Jim and Chris Wilkens. *Have you wondered what are Christian Spiritual Disciplines?* Practical applications of several spiritual disciplines will be offered to use on your Faith Journey.**

## Upcoming Missional Opportunities

Check out the bulletin board in the Narthex/Lobby with the above title. Here is where information regarding opportunities will be posted. Currently there are two upcoming missions that CCC will participate in:

**October-November 2023--Covenant World Relief:** Covenant World Relief & Development (<https://covchurch.org/serve-globally/covenant-world-relief/>) works through local partners around the world to reduce human suffering for the most vulnerable people and support healthy communities. Lids and labels will be provided in order to convert a soup can into a coin bank to raise support for development and relief around the world. See insert in this Sunday's bulletin. Questions, talk with Wayne Border.

## Helping Us Worship

Pastor:

Scripture Reader:

Tech Team:

Rev. Jim Wilkens

Alice Marsh

Doug Morrell & Don Turner

**November 2023 - Operation Christmas Child:** The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. Through this project, Samaritan's Purse partners with the local church worldwide to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and make disciples of the nations. Check out their website at <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/mission-and-history>. This year CCC will participate in this ministry again. Questions, talk with Gary Coryer.

### Community Announcements

**Classes offered at Covenant Community Church:** Information is posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex/Lobby next to the kitchen.

**Essex Jericho Underhill Ecumenical Food Shelf Needs: The EJU Food Shelf is running low on pretty much everything! Our church is "mac and cheese and canned veggies".** Any non-perishable food or cash donations are graciously accepted! Food or cash donations can once again be dropped off at church on the shelf next to the doors in the Narthex or at the food donation boxes at Hannafords, Price Chopper in Essex, or the Jericho Market. If you have any questions, talk with Susan T.



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Learn more & give at [CovChurch.org/cwrdd](https://CovChurch.org/cwrdd)

# CWRD UPDATE

FALL 2023

## Creating Pathway to Health Care in Nepal



Families access health care center in Nepal on new path

Working with families of the Gorkha District in rural Nepal, Shanti Nepal helps organize and provide quality health care services, education, and supplies for the most disadvantaged in the community. More than 3,700 women, children, and families have received basic health care support.

In addition, Shanti Nepal seeks to reach people with disabilities and others marginalized by the caste system.

One issue facing the medical center was that patients needed to navigate a muddy hill to receive necessary medical attention. Mr. Jas Bahadur Aale Magar, a retired veteran from India, had developed skills in engineering in the army. He committed to constructing a stone walkway, making the Satdobate Health Center safe and accessible. Health centers like this are the only places where basic needs such as prenatal care and medication can be addressed. Completing the pathway

enhances the powerful impact this center has on this community.

Shanti Nepal also empowers community transformation through advocacy. The reorganized community-based advisory boards have worked closely with families and city government to provide medicine and education, specifically working to educate and provide safe drinking water and basic hygiene for the community. Surveys of stakeholders conducted by the advisory board have indicated only 6% of the respondents have a clean and sanitary toilet in their homes. Safe drinking water is also a major concern as only 24% of homes have access to the city water supply, with less than 1% indicating they have a consistent location for hand washing. Through Shanti Nepal's advocacy, municipal officials, and the advisory boards, family and group education has shown a sustained change for the Gorkha District and the surrounding communities.