

Behold His Glory

2nd Sunday of Epiphany | January 14, 2024 | Covenant Presbyterian Church of Chicago



Welcoming Angels

Between the last war
and the next one,
waiting for the northbound train
that travels by the river,
I sit alone in the middle of the night
and welcome angels.
Welcome back old hymns, old songs,
all the music, the rhyme and rhythm,
welcome angels, archangels,
welcome early guesses,
at the names of things,
welcome wings.
I have grown tired of disbelief.
What once was brave is boring.
Welcome back to my embrace stranger,
visitor beside the Jabbok.
Welcome wrestling until dawn,
until it is my hip thrown out of joint,
my pillow stone, my ladder
of antique assumptions.
Welcome what is not my own:
glory on top rung, coming down.

~ *Pat Schneider*

Children's programming is available during both services on the lower level, see page 15 for details.

Large Print orders of worship and *devices to improve hearing* are available in the back of the sanctuary.

Welcome

Silent moment to prepare for worship

By your power may we, with all the saints, comprehend the breadth and length and height and depth of the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that we may be filled with your fullness. Amen.



Ho - - ly God, Ho - ly and migh - ty,
Ho - ly im - mor - tal one, Have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

Trisagion, Words, 1st Century prayer; Music, Fernando Ortega, 2011

Call to Worship

Nehemiah 9:6

Leader: You are the LORD, you alone.

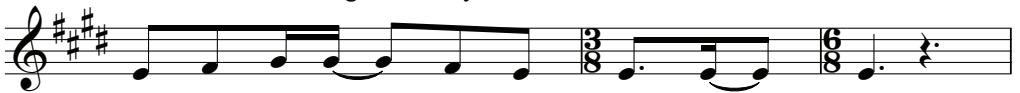
All: You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host.

Leader: You have made earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them.

All: You preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you.



1. Who else com - mands all the hosts of__ hea - ven?
2. What oth - er beau - ty de - mands such__ prai - ses?
3. What oth - er glo - ry con - sumes like__ fi - re?



Who else could make__ ev - 'ry king bow__ down?
What oth - er splen - dor out - shines the__ sun?
What oth - er pow - er can raise the__ dead?



Who else can whis - per and dark - ness trem - bles? On - ly a Ho - ly God.
What oth - er maj - es - ty rules with jus - tice? On - ly a Ho - ly God.
What oth - er name re - mains un - de - feat - ed? On - ly a Ho - ly God.

Refrain



Come and be - hold Him, the One and the On - ly. Cry out, sing



Ho - ly, for - ev - er a Ho - ly__ God. Come and wor - ship the Ho - ly God.

Only A Holy God, by Michael Farren, Jonny Robinson, St. Pauls Anglican Church Castle Hill, New South Wales, Australia, 2016

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Leader: O God, our Father, you are the One and the Only. We thank you and adore you for your great goodness and mercy. We are humbled before your majesty and find quiet joy and peace in your presence.

All: **Come Holy Spirit, and visit us with your presence today. Amen.**

moment of adoration



4. Who else could res - cue me from my__ fail - ing?



Who else would of - fer his on - ly__ Son?



Who else in-vites me to call Him Fa-ther? On-ly a Ho-ly God!

Refrain



Come and be-hold Him, the One and the On - ly. Cry out, sing



Ho - ly, for - ev - er a Ho - ly__ God. Come and wor-ship the Ho - ly God.

Confession of Sin

From Psalm 130

Leader: Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!

All: O Lord, hear my voice!

Leader: Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

All: If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

Leader: But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.

All: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope.

Sing to Confess



1. Out of the depths I cry to You, in dark-est plac-es I will call.
2. Were You to count my sin-ful ways, how could I come be-fore Your throne.



In-cline Your ear to me a-new, and hear my cry for mer-cy, Lord.
Yet full for-give-ness meets my gaze, I stand re-deemed by grace a lone.



I will wait for You, I will wait for You, on Your word I will re-ly.



I will wait for You, my soul waits for You, for Your love is my de light.

silent time of confession

Most merciful God,
I confess that I have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what I have done, and by what I have left undone.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved my neighbor as myself.
I am truly sorry and I humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on me and forgive me;
that I may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

From Psalm 130

Leader: My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning,
All: more than watchmen for the morning.

Leader: O *People of God*, hope in the LORD!
**All: For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with him is plentiful redemption.
And he will redeem us
from all our iniquities.**

Sing to Assure



3. So put your hope in God a-lone. Take cour-age in His power to save,
4. Now He has come to make a way, and God Him-self has paid the price,



com-plete-ly and for-ev-er won by Christ's e-merg-ing from the grave.
that all who trust in Him to-day, find heal-ing in His sac-ri-fice.



I will wait for You, sure-ly wait for You, through the storm and through the night



I will wait for You, my soul waits for you, for Your love is my de light.

Psalm 130, words and music by Jordan Kauflin, Matt Merker, Keith Getty and Stuart Townend, 2018, Christ Covenant Church, Atlanta, GA.

Lessons from the Word

read by Nicole and Patrick Fisher ①, Sharon Durling ②

Old Testament Lesson -
New Testament Lesson -

Isaiah 64.1-4, p.623
Colossians 3.1-4, p.984

Reader: The Word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God

**All sing: To Him who is able
To keep you from falling
To Him to Him to Him
To Him to Him to Him**

**We are standing in His presence
With our garments clean and white
All glory honor power majesty to Jesus Christ**

Jude 23-24, by Sandra McCracken, 2016, Westside Anglican Fellowship, Nashville, TN.

The Word

Pastor Aaron Baker

Glory at the Jordan, Mark 1:4–11, p.836

⁴ John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸ I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

**All sing: To Him who is able
To keep you from falling
To Him to Him to Him
To Him to Him to Him**

**We are standing in His presence
With our garments clean and white
All glory honor power majesty to Jesus Christ**

Sacrament of Communion

2 Corinthians 13:11-14: Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

Leader: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Greet each other in the name of Christ

Giving back to God a portion of what he's already given us is an important part of the Christian life. The bread and wine we use in communion are a picture of the gifts that God has given us, offered back to him as an act of worship. You can offer your resources back to God in support of the work of the church by placing your offering in the boxes in the back on the way out. You can also give online at covenantchicago.org/give, use the QR code on page 16, or text a donation amount to 84321.



1. The Lamb has ov - er - come; the Lamb has ov - er -
2. No grave could hold Him down; No grave could hold Him
3. At God's right hand is He; at God's right hand is



come. The bat-tle's done and the vic-tor-y is won; the
down. Up from the ground "He is ris-en!" was the sound; No
He. Our Per-fect Plea as He lives to in - ter cede; At

Chorus



Lamb has ov - er - come.
grave could hold him down.
God's right hand is He. (to CHORUS) Worth-y is the



Lamb who was slain Glor-y be un - to His name. Worth - y



is the Lamb who was slain; glor - y be un - to His name.

The Lamb Has Overcome, Words and Music: Luke Morton, 2011, Green Lake Presbyterian Church, Seattle, WA.

The Great Thanksgiving, by Samuel Wells, vicar, St. Martin-in-the-fields, Church of England, 2016

Leader: As we approach this meal, we thank and praise you
because you make these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine,
into the means of our redemption,
and you turn our fallen folly into the occasion of your risen glory.

All: In Christ the Lamb you gave us every good thing.

Leader: Though we strayed from your ways and slayed your holy one,

**All: you set before us this gracious banquet
in which that crucified and risen Lamb reconciles us with you.**

Leader: And so we live in gratitude for your mercy
and in praise of your grace,
joining the the company of heaven in their constant hymn:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**



4. The tab-le now is spread; The tab-le now is spread. This



wine and bread brok- en bod-y and blood shed; The tab-le now is spread.



Worth-y is the Lamb who was slain; glor - y be un - to His name.



Worth-y is the Lamb who was slain; glor - y be un - to His name.

Distribute the Bread & Cup

Please note that we serve both red wine and white grape juice.
There is individually wrapped gluten free bread available.

Receiving Communion

Communion (also called The Lord's Supper or the Eucharist) is the family meal of baptized Christians. We invite all to partake of this sacrament who trust in Jesus Christ alone for salvation, and seek strength to live more faithfully for him.

Silent prayers for reflection

Prayer for those taking communion

Lord Jesus, your perfect life, your death and resurrection are the source of all blessing in this life and the life to come. As I eat this bread and drink this cup, renew me in the joy and glory of knowing and serving you. I come to this table on the basis of your merit only and not my own. As you have completely and fully offered yourself for me, I now completely and fully offer myself to you as a living sacrifice. Amen.

Prayer for those searching for truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for those struggling with sin

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Grant also that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the author and finisher of my faith. Amen.

Song for Communion

You are welcome to join in song:



1. Songs of thank-ful-ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to you we raise,
2. Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Proph- et, Priest, and King su - preme;
3. Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak - ened limbs and faint - ing soul;
4. Grant us grace to see you, Lord, mir - rored in your ho - ly Word.
5. Sun and moon shall dar - kened be, stars shall fall, the heav'n's shall flee.



man i - fest-ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far;
and at Ca - na, wed - ding guest, in your God head man i - fest,
man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might;
May our lives and all we do i - mi - tate and ho - nor you
Christ will then like light - ning shine; all will see his glo - rious sign.



Branch of roy al Da - vid's stem, in your birth at Beth - le - hem;
you re - vealed your power di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring ing good from ill;
that we all like you may be at your great e - pi - pha - ny!
All will then the trum - pet hear, all will see the judge ap - pear.

Refrain



"You are Christ," we all con - fess — God in flesh made man - i - fest.

God in Flesh Made Manifest, by Christopher Wordsworth, 1862, Lincoln Cathedral, UK.

Respond to the Table

Leader: Remembering your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we take from your creation this bread and this wine
and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising,
as we await the day of his coming.
With thanksgiving we offer our very selves to you
to be a living and holy sacrifice
dedicated to your service.

All: **Great is this mystery of faith:
Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

5. The day is draw - ing near; The day is draw - ing
near. He shall ap - pear and will wipe a - way each tear; The
Chorus
day is draw - ing near. *Worth-y is the*
Lamb who was slain *Glor-y be un - to His name.* *Worth - y*
is the Lamb who was slain; *glor - y be un - to His name.*

The Work of the People

Romans 12:4–6, *For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them.*

in prayer

Led by Olivia Stewart Lester ①, Christie Kay ②

A prayer for our community

Leader: Lord in your mercy

All: Hear our Prayer

A prayer for our city

Leader: Lord in your mercy

All: Hear our Prayer

A prayer for our world

Leader: Lord in your mercy

All: Hear our 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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Refrain

Come and be-hold Him, the One and the On - ly. Cry out, sing

Ho - ly, for - ev-er a Ho-ly_ God. Come and wor-ship the Ho-ly God.

in community

Events and opportunities at Covenant during the coming weeks.

Go With Joy

All:

Je-sus, Sav-ior pi - lot me ov - er life's temp-est-tuous sea;
Though the sea be smooth and bright spark'-ling with the_ stars of night,
As a mo-ther stills her child, You can hush the_ o - cean wild;
When at last I near the shore, and the fear-ful_ break-ers roar
un-known waves be-fore me roll, hid -ing rock and_ treach'-rous shoal;
and my ship's path be a -blaze with the light of_ bet - ter days;
boist'-rous waves o - bey Your will when You say to_ them "Be still!"
be-tween me and peace-ful rest, then while lean -ing_ on Your breast,
chart and com-pass came from Thee! Savior pi - lot Me.____
still I know my need of Thee! Savior pi - lot Me.____
Won-drous Sov-reign of the sea, Savior pi - lot Me.____
may I hear Thee say to me: "I will pi - lot Thee."

The image shows three staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a common time signature (C). The melody is simple and consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined to indicate phrasing. The first staff covers the first four lines of lyrics, the second staff covers the next four lines, and the third staff covers the final four lines.

Jesus Savior Pilot Me, Words: Edward Hopper, 1871, Music: Joseph Pensak, Redeemer Presbyterian, Burlington, VT., 2008

Leader: **Benediction**

Romans 15:5–7 May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome to Covenant Presbyterian Church

TODAY AT COVENANT

1st Service, 9am

- Nurseries, ages 0-4, lower level
- Children's Worship: preK-5th Grade, lower level

2nd service, 11:15am

- Nurseries, ages 0-4, lower level

Common Ground, 10:15am

- Coffee and snacks in the Fellowship Hall
- Communicants Class (All Saints Room, Lower Level)

Volunteers in Service Today:

Communion Servers: Anna Harvey, Fernando Kim, Sara Ellison (9:00); Larissa Bossemeyer, Mark and Ranya Faasse (11:15)

Ushers: Caroline Hoit, Chuck Michalek (9:00); Michael Bergstrom (11:15)

Welcome Table: Beth Brinley and Zoey Bee (9:00); David Hofman (11:15)

Large Print orders of worship and electronic hearing assistance devices are available in the back of the sanctuary. An usher can assist you with finding and using these items.

COMMON GROUND CLASSES

What's the Big Deal about the Kingdom? Why did Jesus talk so much about the Kingdom of Heaven and what is its importance to us today? Join us for this 4-week class as we explore what the kingdom is, where it is, how we can encounter it, and what it looks like to become its citizens. Each week, we'll use a different spiritual discipline to explore this topic such as lectio divina and the examen. Class will begin on January 21 in the Conference Room during Common Ground and will be taught by Jeanie Hoover and Michele Dillon.

Ezra-Nehemiah: Return, Rebuilding, and Reformation: Join us for this 4 week class designed to dive into the historical and theological dimensions of Ezra-Nehemiah. This class will serve to provide a comprehensive overview and focus on the three key themes of the book: the rebuilding of the house of God, the significance of ordinary people and the profound impact of the written word. Young Bok Kim (PhD in Near Eastern Languages, University of Chicago) will teach this class beginning on January 21 in the All Saints Room.

In Abundance and In Need: How Money Forms Us. Money is a part of many of our daily interactions – sometimes consciously and often hidden in the background. How does money shape us and how can the Bible speak to how we spend, save, give and manage money in our modern economy? Join us for this 4-week class as we discuss what money is, its role in our lives and how we can steward it. This class will meet in the Library beginning January 21 and will be taught by Brad Lewis, Patrick Fisher and Lamont Black.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Small Groups: Covenant small groups meet throughout the city. Small groups are a great way to get to know others at Covenant, study Scripture, and pray together. If you'd be interested in learning more about small groups, please contact Pastor Dan. (dadamson@covenantchicago.org).

Wednesday Morning Women's Group: Join women from Covenant in the All Saints Room at Covenant from 9 to 11 am each Wednesday for a small group. You're welcome to join whether you're able to come weekly or occasionally. This winter, they will read *Faithful: A Theology of Sex* by Beth Felker Jones. Childcare is available. Contact Devon Spencer (devonspencer1112@gmail.com) with questions about this group.

Pickleball at Covenant: Join others from Covenant for pickleball in the gym on some Saturdays from 9 to 11 am. All are welcome to join; instructors will be available if you're new to the sport. Sign up on our website (covenantchicago.org/pickleball/) for upcoming dates. Questions? Contact Ian Cull (iancull74@gmail.com).

Dinners Together: Join others from Covenant for potluck gatherings throughout the city. On January 27 and February 3, Covenant is organizing dinners for groups of 8-12. If you'd be interested in attending one of these get-togethers, please fill out the forms on the Welcome Table or on our website (covenantchicago.org/events/dinner-together/). Please let us know if you'd be willing to host! Questions? Contact Larissa Bossemeyer (lbossemeyer@covenantchicago.org).

Chicagoland United in Prayer. Together Chicago and their partner organization, Chicagoland United in Prayer, are hosting their annual prayer gathering on Sunday, February 4th at Apostolic Faith Church from 5-7pm. Christians from all over the city gather to pray for peace, justice, righteousness, and thriving in our city, and we're invited to join them. Learn more and register to attend at <https://chiunitepray.com/chicagoland-united-in-prayer-2024/>.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer with Children's Ministry: Covenant needs additional volunteers to help in our nurseries, children's worship classroom and Sunday school classrooms. We need volunteers during both services (9:00 and 11:15 am) and during Common Ground (10:15). To volunteer, contact Ian Troll (ian@covenantchicago.org).

Serve Breakfast at Breakthrough: On the fourth Saturday of every month, Covenant provides breakfast for the Breakthrough women's shelter. If you are interested in volunteering to help purchase, prepare and serve food to shelter guests, you can reach out to breakthrough@covenantchicago.org for more information or sign up for upcoming dates on our website: <https://covenantchicago.org/events/breakfast-at-breakthrough/>.

Gospel Justice Center Volunteers: Covenant hosts a legal aid clinic the second Saturday morning of every month, and we are growing! We are looking for folks to add to our current roster of volunteers. No legal experience or background is necessary and training is provided for all roles. We're in particular need of people to help with clients directly as intake specialists and as client advocates or people who can help with marketing by creating a brochure or managing a social media account. Please contact Linda Gehrs (LMGehrs@gmail.com) with questions or for more information. The commitment at most is one Saturday morning a month, but most volunteers serve one Saturday every two months.

NEWS AND UPDATES

Parents of Diverse Learners. If you have a child with a disability taking part in our children's ministry, we would like to try and find ways to meet your child's unique needs. One of our deacons, Kylene Young, has years of experience as a special education teacher and can work with you and our volunteers to tailor a plan. If you're interested in learning more, contact Ian (ian@covenantchicago.org) or Kylene (Kyleneyoung@gmail.com).

Emergency Childcare: No one likes to think about tough times, especially if children are involved, but in the spirit of "bearing one another's burdens," Covenant is hoping to compile a list of people who could help with short-term childcare after a medical emergency, car or bike accident, or other similar event. Students, retirees, stay-at-home moms, nannies with available days, or others with some free time who enjoy working with children, are invited to contact Deb Van Der Molen (dvmolen79@gmail.com) for an application, which requests information about prior childcare experience, first aid certification, and references. Financial compensation would be available.

Let Us Pray for You. Covenant's staff meets to pray for the congregation throughout the week. We would be honored to pray for you. You can share prayer requests by writing them on the tear out portion at the back of the order of worship or by emailing Pastor Dan (dadamson@covenantchicago.org).



Giving QR code

Pastoral Staff

Aaron Baker
Pastor, abaker@covenantchicago.org

Dan Adamson
Associate Pastor, dadamson@covenantchicago.org

Support Staff

Larissa Bossemeyer
Director of Ministries: lbossemeyer@covenantchicago.org

Gene Pierson
Director of Finance & Property: gpierson@covenantchicago.org

Ian Troll
Director of Children and Youth Ministries: ian@covenantchicago.org

Paul van der Bijl
Director of Worship and Music: pvanderbijl@covenantchicago.org

Session

Aaron Baker (Moderator), Dan Adamson, David Dillon, Dave Hoover, Brad Lewis, Steve Lehmann, Joshua Norton

Please direct correspondence for the Session to session@covenantchicago.org.

Diaconate

Andrew Dykstra, Jonathan Ellison, Phil Koerner, Joel Miller, Margret-Ann Natsis, Shane Rector, Jon Skinner, Deb Van Der Molen, Matt Ver Steeg, Kylene Young

Treasurer: Ben Harvey

If you're in need or wish to speak with a deacon, you can email us at diaconate@covenantchicago.org.

Welcome to Covenant

Please fill out this form, tear it out, and put it in one of the offering boxes at the back of the church.

circle one:

New to Covenant | Regular Attender | Member

Name:

Email:

Address:

Phone:

↑ *This is new or updated information* ↑

I am interested in:

- More information
- Small Groups
- Service Opportunities
- Membership
- Receiving the Email Letter
- Children and Youth Ministry
- Other:

Prayer Requests:

Covenant Life

Worship Together:

We are made to worship the Triune God, and our worship is always ordered around Jesus Christ and the forgiveness and grace he secured for us by his cross, resurrection and ascension. Gathering around this good news together on Sundays strengthens our appetites, imaginations and abilities to live as followers of Jesus.

Grow and Learn Together:

Learning about our faith and growing together in it forms us into human beings who are fully swept up into the work God is doing to reconcile all things to himself in Jesus. Learning is more than simply knowing; it is the internalization of truth that leads to mature thinking and acting.

Serve Together:

The natural outcome of receiving and experiencing grace is to be propelled outward into mission and service. All of us have been given gifts to use for the good of our common life and for the good of the broken world around us, and we encourage everyone to regularly use their gifts in service.



*a church, a city,
and a world
continually made new
by the grace of Christ*

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