

A photograph of a field of golden wheat under a bright sun. The sun is in the upper left, creating a lens flare and a warm, golden glow over the entire scene. The wheat stalks are in the foreground, some in sharp focus and others blurred. The text "BEHOLD HIS GLORY" is overlaid in the center in a white, serif font with a slight drop shadow.

BEHOLD
HIS
GLORY

Transfiguration

For that one moment, 'in and out of time',
On that one mountain where all moments meet,
The daily veil that covers the sublime
In darkling glass fell dazzled at his feet.
There were no angels full of eyes and wings
Just living glory full of truth and grace.
The Love that dances at the heart of things
Shone out upon us from a human face
And to that light the light in us leaped up,
We felt it quicken somewhere deep within,
A sudden blaze of long-extinguished hope
Trembled and tingled through the tender skin.
Nor can this blackened sky, this darkened scar
Eclipse that glimpse of how things really are.

~ *Malcolm Guite*

6th Sunday of Epiphany | February 11, 2024

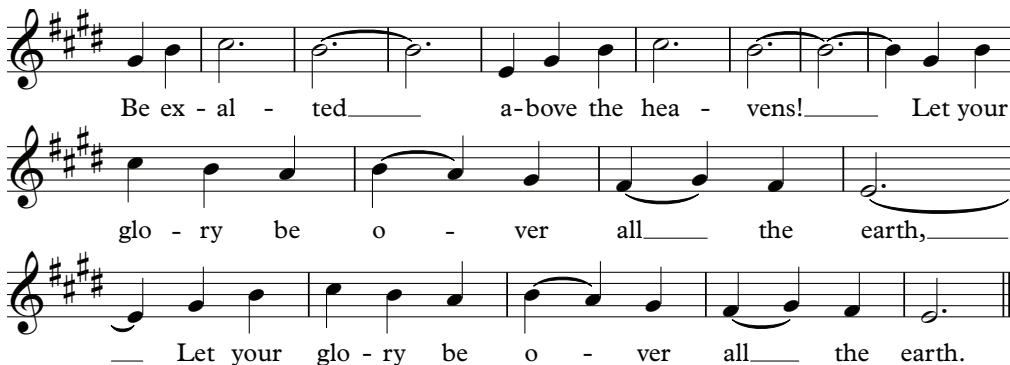
Children's programming is available during both services on the lower level, see page 15 for details.

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.



Be ex - al - ted a - bove the hea - vens! Let your
glo - ry be o - ver all the earth,
Let your glo - ry be o - ver all the earth.

Call to Worship

from Psalm 57

Leader: Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me,
for in you my soul takes refuge;

All: In the shadow of your wings I will take refuge.

Leader: My heart is steadfast, O God,

All: my heart is steadfast!

Leader: I will sing and make melody!

All: Awake, O my soul!

Leader: Awake, O harp and lyre!

All: With our song, we will awake the dawn!

Leader: I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples;
I will sing praises to you among the nations.

**All: Be exalted, O God, above the heavens!
Let your glory be over all the earth!**



1. O God be mer - ci - ful__ to me.__ My soul, take re - fuge
2. My heart is fixed, my song__ shall raise__ im - mor - tal hon - ors
3. Your stead - fast love is great,__ O God.__ I rest my hope in



in__ the Lord.__ I shel - ter 'neath thy spread - ing wing.__
to__ thy name.__ A - wake, my tongue, to sound his praise.__
thee__ a - lone;__ I'll spread thy sa - cred truths a - broad,__



__ O save__ me from__ the threat' - ning storm.__
__ A - wake,__ my soul__ to lift__ his name.__
__ To all__ man - kind__ thy love__ make known.__

Chorus



Be ex - al - ted__ a - bove the hea - vens!__ Let your



glo - ry be o - ver all__ the earth,__



__ Let your glo - ry be o - ver all__ the earth.

Psalm 57, vs. 1-2 by Isaac Watts, 1720; vs. 3 by William Wrangham, 1829; music and chorus by Paul van der Bijl, 2015

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Leader: O God, how merciful you are and what joy and comfort we find under the shadow and refuge of your wing. We adore you. May all the earth see your glory and exalt in your greatness.

Awake, O my soul. Come Holy Spirit:

All: Open our eyes to your presence among us today.

silent moment of adoration

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first two phrases: "Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit. Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit.____". The second staff contains the melody for the final two phrases: "Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit, a - men. A - men." The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit. Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit.____

Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit, a - men. A - men.

Confession of Sin

from John 15

Leader: Jesus says, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me."

All: **Jesus, you have bound us to yourself in love, and we draw our life from you. Forgive us our tendency to sustain ourselves and find our meaning in anything but your grace and mercy.**

Silent time to pray and confess



1. A - bide with me: fast falls the ev - en - tide;
2. Swift to its close life ebbs out ev - ery day;
3. I need your pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour.



the dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way.
What but your grace can foil the tempt - er's power?



When o - ther help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Change and de - cay in all a - round I see.
Who like your - self my guide and strength can be?



Help of the help - less, Lord, a - bide with me.
O Lord who chang - es not, a - bide with me.
Through cloud and sun - shine, Lord, a - bide with me.

Abide With Me, Words: Henry Lyte, All Saints' Church, Brixham, UK, 1847; Music: William Monk, 1861

Assurance of Pardon

from John 15 and Romans 8

Leader: Jesus promises, "If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full."

All: **There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set us free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.**

4. I fear no foe with you at hand to bless,
though ills have weight, and tears their bit - ter - ness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, your vic - to - ry?
in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music in 4/4 time, written in treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a '4.' indicating a fourth ending. The music is simple, using quarter and eighth notes. The final note of the fourth staff is a whole note, indicating the end of the phrase.

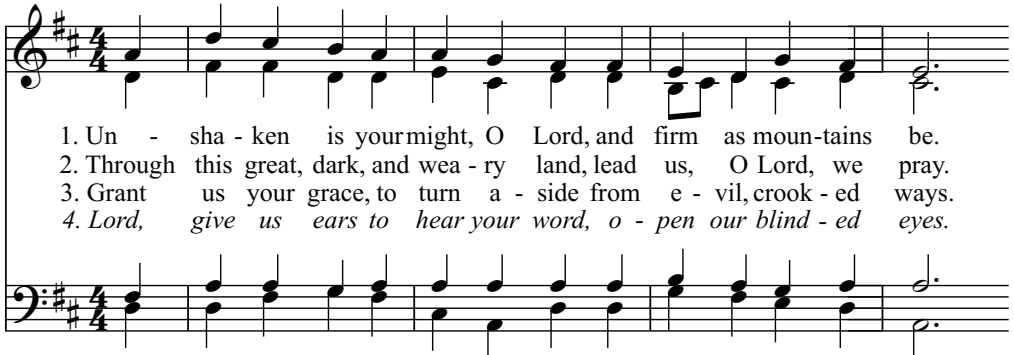
Lessons from the Word

read by Matthew Clay ①, Rachel Salsedo ②

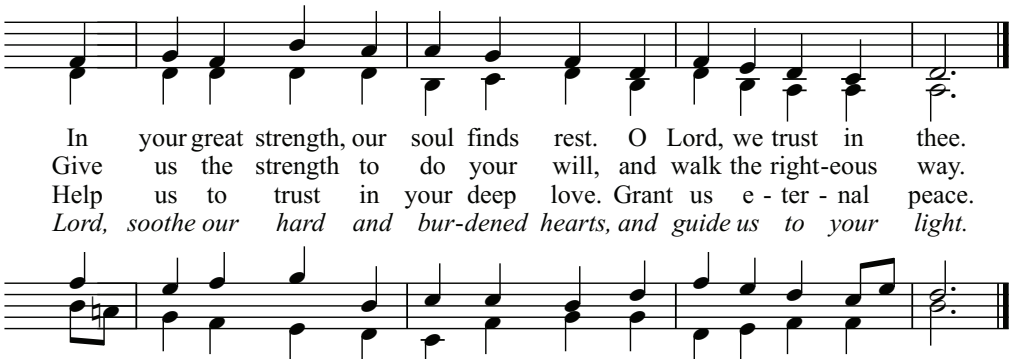
Old Testament Lesson -
New Testament Lesson -

Psalm 50.1-6, p.473
2 Corinthians 4.16-18, p.966

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



1. Un - sha - ken is your might, O Lord, and firm as moun-tains be.
2. Through this great, dark, and wea - ry land, lead us, O Lord, we pray.
3. Grant us your grace, to turn a - side from e - vil, crook - ed ways.
4. Lord, give us ears to hear your word, o - pen our blind - ed eyes.



In your great strength, our soul finds rest. O Lord, we trust in thee.
Give us the strength to do your will, and walk the right-eous way.
Help us to trust in your deep love. Grant us e - ter - nal peace.
Lord, soothe our hard and bur-dened hearts, and guide us to your light.

Psalm 125, Words based on Isaac Watts text, ca 1700s, v4 by vdB; music by Alexander Reinagle, 1836

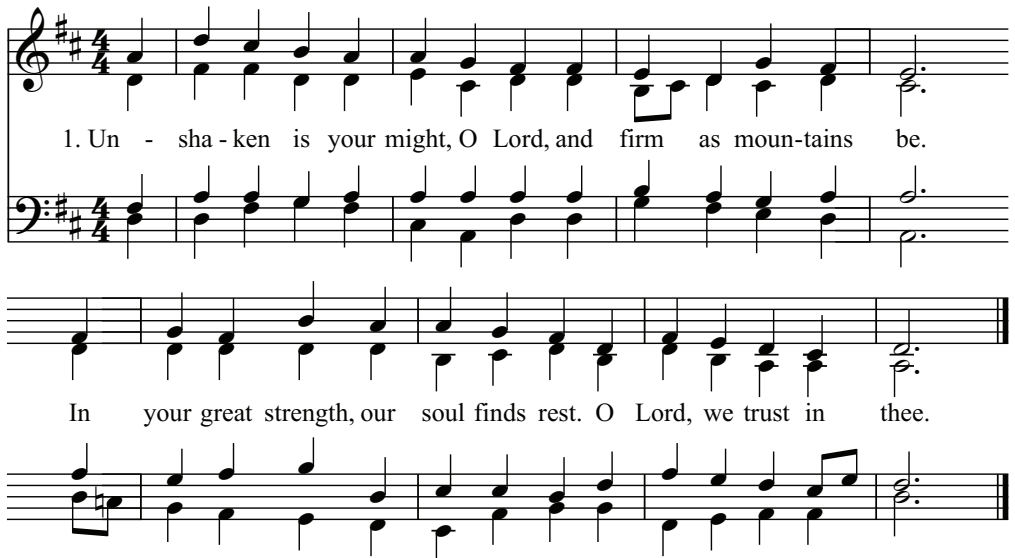
The Word

Pastor Aaron Baker

Glory on the Mountain, Mark 9:2–13, p.844

² And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³ and his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴ And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. ⁵ And Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." ⁶ For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷ And a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him." ⁸ And suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only.

⁹ And as they were coming down the mountain, he charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of Man had risen from the dead. ¹⁰ So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead might mean. ¹¹ And they asked him, "Why do the scribes say that first Elijah must come?" ¹² And he said to them, "Elijah does come first to restore all things. And how is it written of the Son of Man that he should suffer many things and be treated with contempt?" ¹³ But I tell you that Elijah has come, and they did to him whatever they pleased, as it is written of him."



1. Un - sha - ken is your might, O Lord, and firm as moun-tains be.

In your great strength, our soul finds rest. O Lord, we trust in thee.

Passing the Peace and Preparing the Gifts

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 15, or text a donation amount to 84321.

Doxology Words: Thomas Ken, 1709, Music, German Psalter, 1561

Praise God from whom all bles-sings flow. Praise him all crea-tures here be - low.

Praise him a-bove ye heav'-nly hosts. Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A - men.

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.

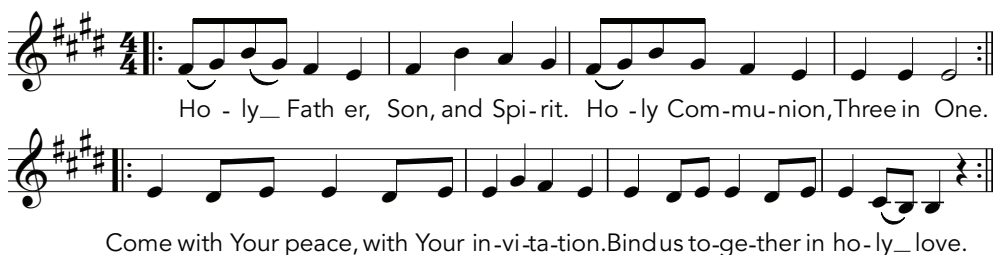
Leader: Though we strayed from your ways and slayed your holy one,

**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.**



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn: "Ho - ly_ Fath er, Son, and Spi-rit. Ho -ly Com-mu-nion, Three in One." The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "Come with Your peace, with Your in-vi-ta-tion. Bind us to-ge-ther in ho-ly_ love." Both staves end with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Trinity Song, by Sandra McCracken, Westside Anglican Fellowship, Nashville, TN, 2016

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

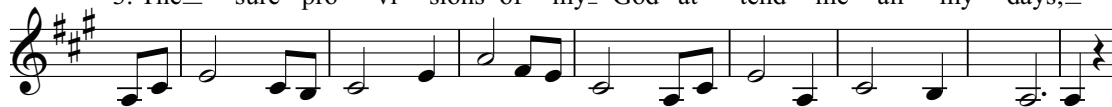
You are welcome to join in song:



1. My_ shep-herd will sup-ply my_ need, Je - ho - vah is his name;_

2. When I walk_ through the shades of_ death, his_ pre - sence is my stay;_

3. The_ sure pro - vi - sions of my_ God at - tend me all my days;_



in_ pas - tures fresh he makes me feed be - side the li - ving stream.

one_ word of_ his sup - por-ting breath drives all my fears a - way._

oh,_ may his_ house be my a - bode and_ all my work be praise.



He brings my_ wand'-ring spi - rit_ back when I for - sake his ways_

His hand, in_ sight of all my_ foes, will still my_ ta - ble spread;_

There would I_ find a set - tled rest while o - thers go and come,_



and_ leads me,_ for his mer-cy's sake, in_ paths of truth and grace._

my_ cup with_ bles-sings o - ver - flows; his_ oil a - noints my head._

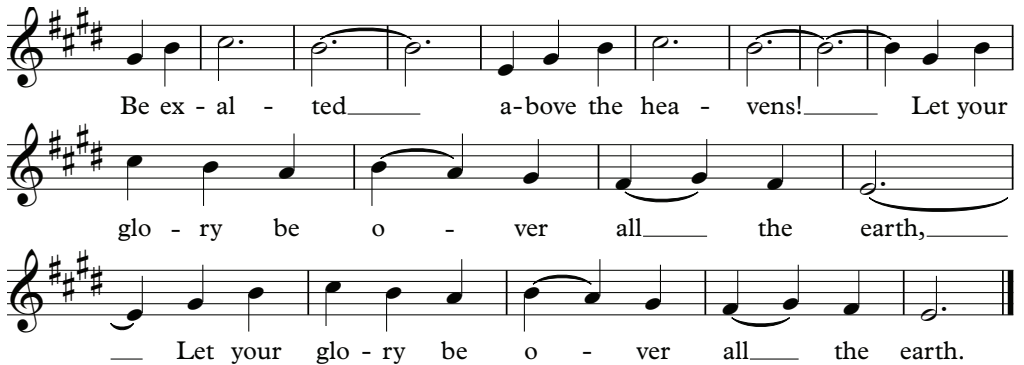
no_ more a_ stran-ger or a_ guest, but_ like a child at home._

Words: Isaac Watts, Mark Lane Congregational Chapel, London, UK, 1719; Music, American Folk Melody

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.**



Be ex - al - ted a - bove the hea - vens! Let your
glo - ry be o - ver all the earth,
Let your glo - ry be o - ver all the earth.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn. The second staff contains the melody for the second line. The third staff contains the melody for the third line. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The music ends with a double bar line at the end of the third staff.

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 community

Events and opportunities at Covenant during the coming weeks.

in Statement of Faith

Apostles' Creed

All: I believe in God the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ
his only Son our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried:
He descended into hell;
The third day he rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Go With Joy



1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
2. Those he saves are his de-light, Christ will hold me fast;
3. For my life he bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;



When the temp-ter would pre-vail, He will hold me fast.
Pre-cious in his ho-ly sight, He will hold me fast.
Jus-tice has been sa-tis-fied; He will hold me fast.



I could ne-ver keep my hold _____ Through life's fear-ful path;
He'll not let my soul be lost; His prom-is-es shall last;
Raised with him to end-less life, _____ He will hold me fast



For my love is oft-en cold; He must hold me fast.
Bought by him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.
'Til our faith is turned to sight, When he comes at last!



He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;



For my Sa-vior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

He Will Hold Me Fast, Words: Ada R. Habershon, 1906; Music and addl. words, Matt Merker, Capitol Hill Baptist Church, Washington, DC, 2013

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
- Nursery: Ages 0-4 (Lower Level)
- Sunday School: PreK-8th Grade (Lower Level)
- Sunday School: High School (Youth Room, Ed Building)
- Adult Education: In Abundance and Need (Fellowship Hall, Ed Building)
- Adult Education: What's the Big Deal about the Kingdom (All Saints Room, Lower Level)

Volunteers in Service Today:

Communion Servers: Mark Lester, David and Michele Dillon (9:00); Laurie Baker, Tyler and Lamont Black (11:15)

Ushers: Matt Ver Steeg (9:00)

Musicians: Matthew Siefert, bass, classical guitar; Adriane Fink, piano; Paul David Young, electric guitar, vocals; Paul van der Bijl, guitar vocals; Adèle-Marie Buis, oboe; Cassidy Miller, vocals; Danny Medina, sound technician.

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 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. This class meets in the All Saints Room and is taught by Jeanie Hoover and Michele Dillon.

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 class as we discuss what money is, its role in our lives and how we can steward it. This class meets in the Fellowship Hall and is taught by Brad Lewis, Patrick Fisher and Lamont Black.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Ash Wednesday: Join us this Wednesday on February 14 for a service at 7 pm in the sanctuary. There will be an imposition of ashes for those who want to receive it and we'll celebrate the Lord's Supper. Childcare is available for children 4 and under.

Newcomers Gathering: Join us on February 18th from 6 to 8 pm to learn more about Covenant and get to know some of Covenant's staff and others who are new to our community. We'll meet at a home in Roscoe Village for appetizers and desserts. To learn more or to RSVP, contact Pastor Dan (dadamson@covenantchicago.org).

Spring Social: Mark your calendars for the evening of March 10 for an all-church event at Covenant. We'll have a dinner together featuring a chili cook-off and a night of bingo and games with prizes. Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks. Interested in competing in the chili cook-off or volunteering at this event? Contact Larissa Bossemeyer (lbossemeyer@covenantchicago.org).

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).

Save the Date! Join women from Covenant for a Girls Night Out on Saturday, February 24th at 7pm. More information to come! To sign up to receive emails from the Women's Events team, please contact Women@CovenantChicago.org.

Men's Retreat: Mark your calendars for April 26-28 for Covenant's annual men's retreat at Covenant Harbor in Lake Geneva, WI. More information is coming soon. Contact men@covenantchicago.org with questions.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Ushers Needed: Ushers are the first people to greet people as they come to Covenant. They pass out the orders of worship, help people find the bathrooms and classrooms, and help at the end of service to clean up the sanctuary. Most ushers serve once a month. If you'd like to join our usher team, please contact Margaret-Ann Natsis (margretann.natsis@gmail.com).

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

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.

Do you know about the Deacons Fund? If you are experiencing any kind of personal or financial hardship and would like some help, please contact our deacons (deacons@covenantchicago.org). Your email will go directly to the deacons, and they'll treat it with confidentiality. If you're able, now is a great time to contribute to the Deacons Fund to meet the needs of others in our congregation. You may contribute to the Deacons Fund by writing "Deacons Fund" in the memo of a check or by selecting the Deacons Fund option on Covenant's giving site.

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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covenantchicago.org

