the Weight of Glory

March 6, 2022 | 1st Sunday of Lent

Temptations

Creature comforts
And why not?
All you have to do is
Give up a few rocks
These sun-baked stones
That burn your hands and cut your feet
Could soon become a desert treat!
Stop being so hard on yourself!

Fame
All yours for the taking
All you have to do is
Leave this lonely wilderness
Head right to the center of the noisy crowd
Drop in your branding clear and loud
Start showing what you've got!

Power
Not as easy, but well within your reach
All you have to do is
Want it more than anything
Make it your top priority
Your one and only deity
Instead of your strange, silly God
Of Suffering
Solitude
And Silence

~ Brother Eckhart Camden

Assistive Listening System Available

Children's programming is available on the lower level, see page 14 for details.

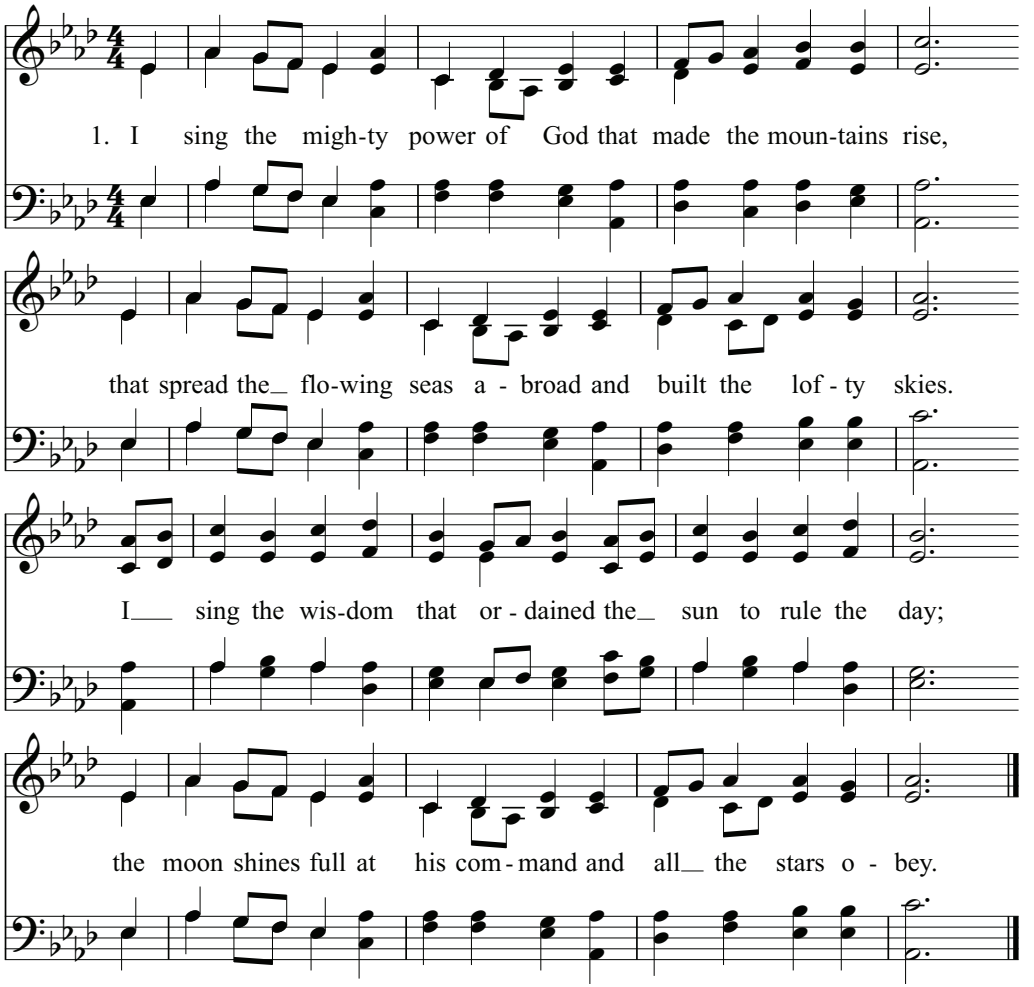
Large Print orders of worship and devices to improve hearing are available in the back of the sanctuary.

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.

All:



I Sing the Mighty Power of God, Words: Isaac Watts, 1715. Music: Gesangbuch der H. W. K. Hofkapelle, 1784

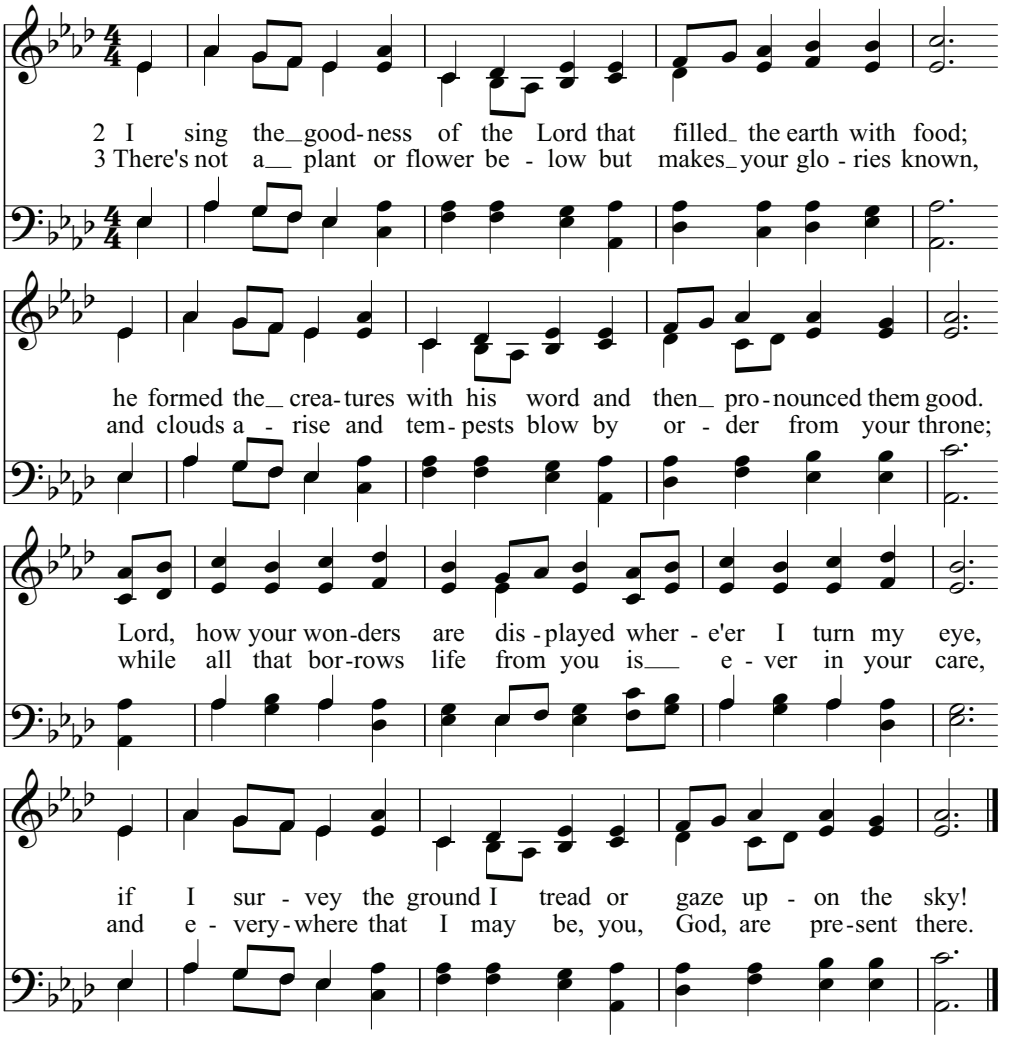
Lenten Call to Worship

from Psalm 107

Leader: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
All: for his steadfast love endures forever!

Leader: He made the storm be still,
and the waves of the sea were hushed.
**All: He turns a desert into pools of water,
a parched land into springs of water.**

Leader: Let us extol him in the congregation of the people,
and praise him in the assembly of the elders,
All: for his steadfast love endures forever!



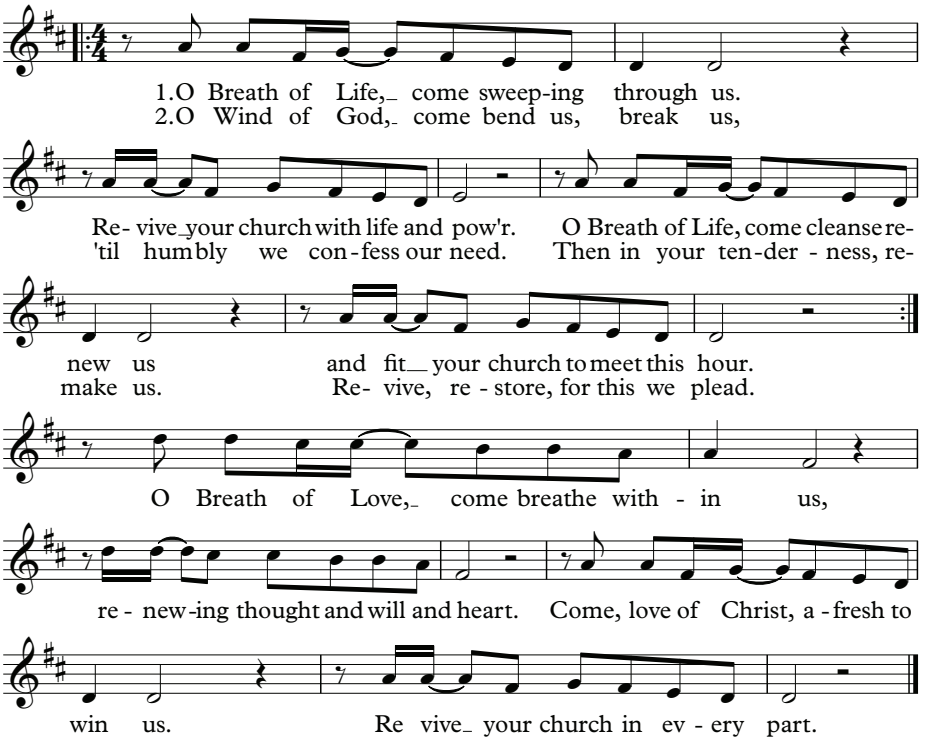
Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

moment of silent adoration

Prayer of silent adoration:

> *O God, we praise and adore you for your steadfast love endures forever.*
> *In this season of Lent open our hearts in welcome,*
> *that your Son, Jesus Christ, who made the storm be still and who bore the temptation in the desert may find in us a dwelling prepared for him.*

Leader: Father, through your Son, you have turned our deserts into pools of water,
All: Come Holy Spirit and visit us with you presence today. Amen.



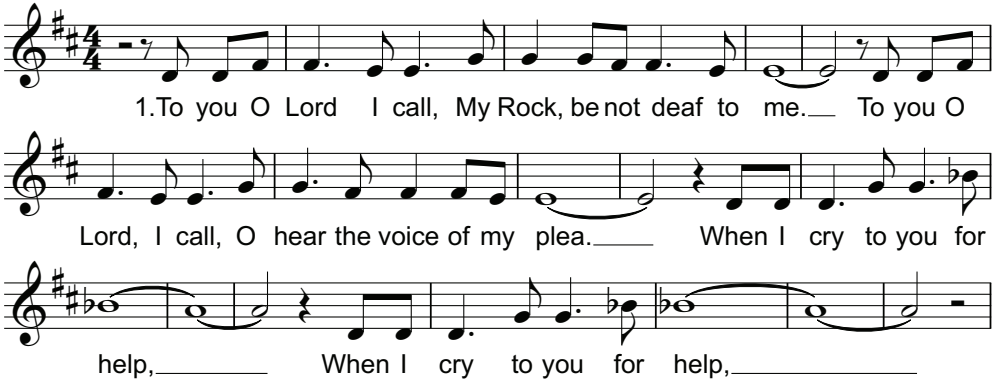
O Breath of LIfe, Words: Bessie Porter Head, 1920; Music Andy Piercy, 2006

Confession of Sin, *from Psalm 28*

Leader: To you, O LORD, I call;
my rock, be not deaf to me,
lest, if you be silent to me,
I become like those who go down to the pit.

All: **Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy,**
when I cry to you for help,
when I lift up my hands
toward your most holy sanctuary.

Sing to Confess



Silent time to pray and confess

A prayer for confession:

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

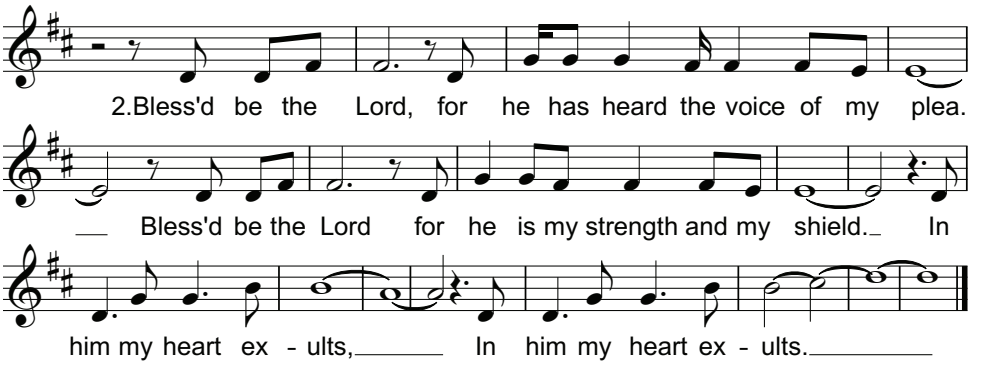
Assurance of Pardon, *from Psalm 28 and Romans 8*

Leader: Blessed be the LORD!
For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.

All: **The LORD is my strength and my shield;**
in him my heart trusts, and I am helped;
my heart exults,
and with my song I give thanks to him.

Leader: For the law of the Spirit of life has set us free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

All: **Sing to Assure**



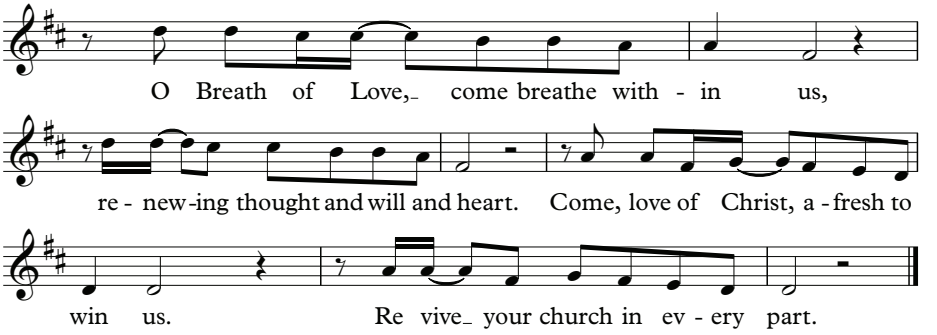
Psalm 28, Music by Paul van der Bijl, 2015

Lessons from the Word

read by Adriane Finke ①, Sarah Marlow ②

Old Testament Lesson -	Ezekiel 34.11-13
Gospel Lesson -	Mark 10.35-45

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



The Word

Pastor Aaron Baker
Spend and Be Spent, 2 Corinthians 12:11–18

11 I have been a fool! You forced me to it, for I ought to have been commended by you. For
I was not at all inferior to these super-apostles, even though I am nothing. 12 The signs of a
true apostle were performed among you with utmost patience, with signs and wonders and
mighty works. 13 For in what were you less favored than the rest of the churches, except that
I myself did not burden you? Forgive me this wrong!

14 Here for the third time I am ready to come to you. And I will not be a burden, for I seek
not what is yours but you. For children are not obligated to save up for their parents, but
parents for their children. 15 I will most gladly spend and be spent for your souls. If I love you
more, am I to be loved less? 16 But granting that I myself did not burden you, I was crafty,
you say, and got the better of you by deceit. 17 Did I take advantage of you through any of
those whom I sent to you? 18 I urged Titus to go, and sent the brother with him. Did Titus
take advantage of you? Did we not act in the same spirit? Did we not take the same steps?

Notes:

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.

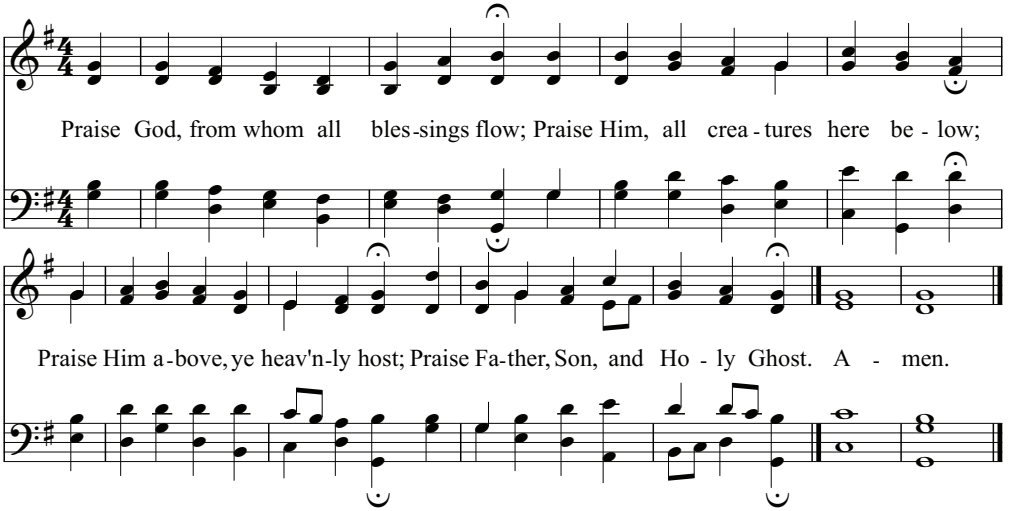
Leader: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts
All: We lift them up to the Lord.

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.

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



Lenten Great Thanksgiving

Leader: As we approach your table, grant us the peace with each other that we find in you so that we can come to this feast united in love. Accept now our offerings of bread, wine and gifts to you Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, to the work of your kingdom.

With clear hearts and minds,
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Leader: It is truly right to give you thanks and praise. We remember during our journey through Lent that from the dust of the earth you formed us into your image and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away from you our love failed, but your love remained steadfast.

All: For forty days and forty nights rain fell upon the earth,
Leader: and you saved Noah and his family on the ark and made covenant with every living creature on earth.

All: For forty days and forty nights you spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai,
Leader: and gave us your commandments and made us your covenant people.

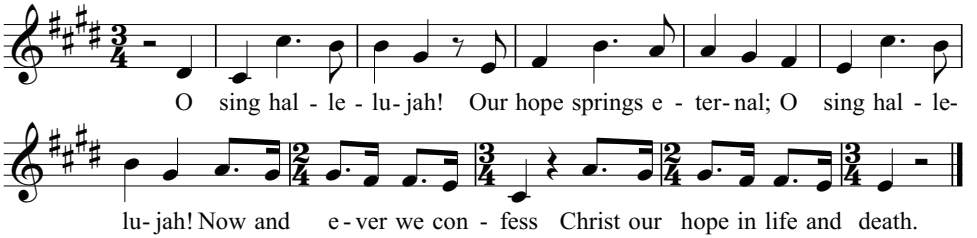
All: For forty days and forty nights your prophet Elijah fled in fear to Mount Horeb,
Leader: for we killed your prophets and forsook your covenant but still you remained faithful to us.

All: For forty days and forty nights your Son Jesus Christ fasted and was tempted in the wilderness,
Leader: and by his sufering, death and resurrection you delievered us from slavery to sin and death and made with us the new covenant by water and the Spirit.

All: For forty days and forty nights we remember Christ's sacrifice.
Leader: Lead us to repentance for sin and the cleansing of our hearts,
and with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,
may we praise your name and join their unending 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.



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

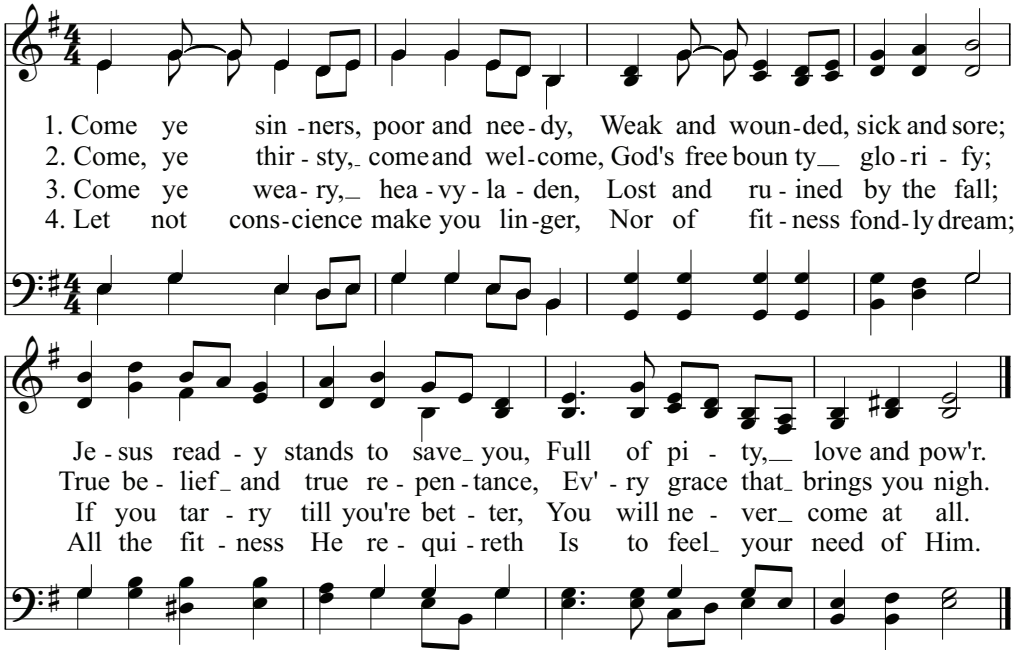
Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but, through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the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

Music for Communion

You are welcome to join in song:

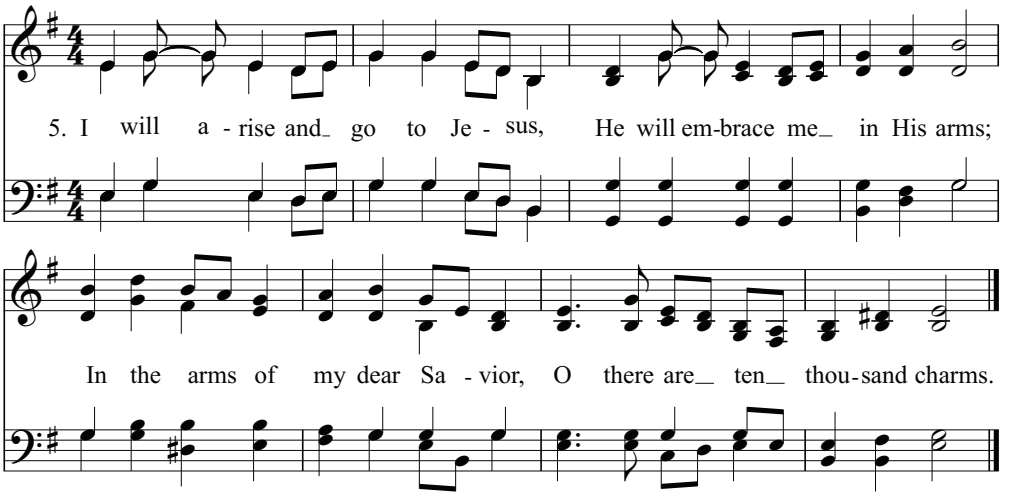


Come Ye Sinners, Words: Joseph Hart, 1759. Music: William Walker, 1835.

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.

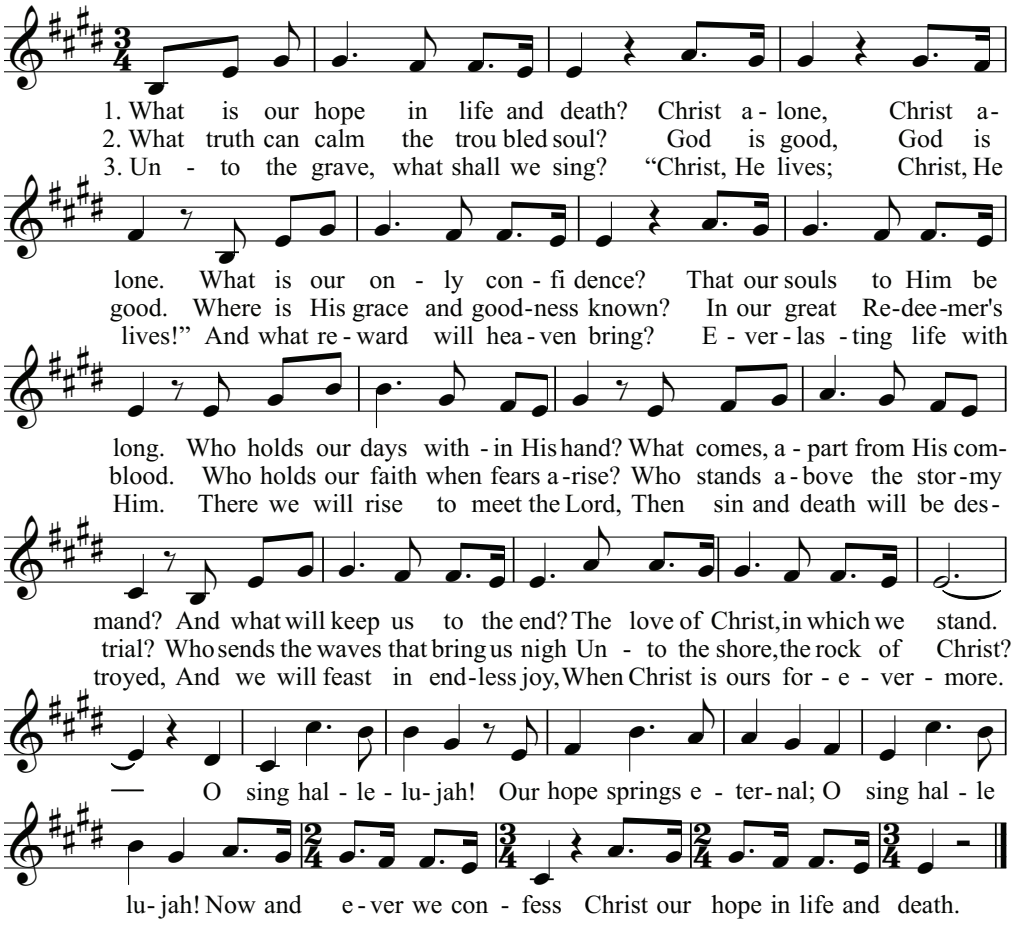
All: Great is this mystery of faith:
Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.



In Community

Announcements about Covenant events and opportunities during the coming weeks.

Go With Joy



Christ Our Hope in Life and Death, Jordan Kauflin, Keith Getty, Christ Covenant Church, Atlanta, GA, 2020

Benediction

Leader: *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 **available in classrooms** and the Fellowship Hall
- Nursery: Ages 0-4 (Lower Level)
- Sunday School: PreK-Middle School (Lower Level)
- Sunday School: High School (Youth Room, Ed. Building)
- Connecting to God in Prayer (Library, Ed. Building)
- Sundry Times and Diverse Manners: Reading the Old Testament (All Saints Room, Lower Level)

ANNOUNCEMENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY

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.

Updated Mask Requirements. In line with the state's updated guidelines, masks will be optional at Covenant for worship services, Common Ground, and children's and youth ministries. Volunteers in the Nursery (ages 0-4) will continue to wear masks for the time being.

Ukraine Relief Fund. Mission to the World, the mission arm of our denomination, has set up a relief fund to help provide food, transportation, shelter, and medical aid for Ukrainians in hostile areas and for refugees moving toward the western border. You can read more about this effort and donate at https://www.mtw.org/ukraine-crisis.

Lenten Devotional Guide. You can download a Lenten devotional guide appropriate for individual, family or group use on our website (https://covenantchicago.org/lent/). We'll also have a limited number of physical copies available on the Welcome Table.

Congregational Meeting: We'll have a congregational meeting in the gym on March 20 during Common Ground (10:15-11:10am). Nursery and kids classes will be offered as usual, but adult classes won't be held that week. Refreshments will be served in Fellowship Hall. We'll discuss the upcoming budget (our financial year runs from April to March), children's ministries, and plans for our upcoming 40th Anniversary celebration.

Sundry Times and Divers Manners: Reading the Old Testament. The Old Testament can be hard to read. We can find ourselves lost among the names, customs, geographies and histories that are altogether unfamiliar to us. Yet, these texts were Scripture to the earliest Christians, and remain so to this day. How do we relate to these stories of Israel and Judah and the many genres of the Old Testament? Join us for a 9-week class in the All Saints Room during Common Ground at 10:15am as we reflect together on what it means to read these books as God's Word.

Connecting to God in Prayer: Why do we pray? What keeps us from praying? How do we pray when life is falling apart around us and how do we continue in prayer when what we long for most remains unanswered? Join us for a practical and honest six-week series on how we are invited to connect with God in prayer – in all

seasons of life. Each class will have a time of teaching and small group discussion. Join us in the Library during Common Ground at 10:15am.

Connect Small Groups. Covenant is offering two new small groups for those who would like to pursue a guided course of intentional discipleship. These groups will meet bi-weekly for nine months, engaging in readings from several books, with assignments given in Scripture meditation and the spiritual disciplines. During meetings, the groups will provide members with an opportunity to learn and practice deep listening skills. The women's Connect group will be led by Beth Reece and Jeanie Hoover, and the men's Connect group will be led by David Dillon and David Hoover. For more information, please contact Beth Reece (bethreece64@msn.com) or David Hoover (dhoover32@comcast.net).

Administer Justice

Gospel Justice Center Prayer Team: Last summer, Covenant launched the Gospel Justice Center, our chapter of a legal services clinic that serves our neighborhood on the second Saturday of every month from 9am to 12pm. We are looking for a few more volunteers who would be willing to join our team onsite to pray for us and our clients while we serve them. If you are interested in learning more about the work of the GJC or volunteering for our prayer team or in other ways, please email Linda Gehrs (lmgehrs@gmail.com).

Newcomers Lunch: Covenant is hosting a welcome Lunch on March 13th at 12:30 for those who are new to Covenant's community. This lunch is a great chance to meet others at Covenant and hear from the staff about ways to get more connected to the life of the church. Please RSVP to Pastor Dan if you'd like to attend (dadamson@covenantchicago.org).

Welcome Table Volunteers Needed: Covenant is looking for a few volunteers to serve at our Welcome Table on Sunday mornings at both services (9:00 and 11:15am). Volunteers will greet people as they leave the service and offer any helpful information regarding adult classes, youth Sunday school, and where to place tear off cards from the bulletin. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Mark Lester at office@covenantchicago.org.

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).

Volunteer with Common Ground: Covenant is looking for more volunteers to help in the kitchen for Common Ground. We are looking particularly for volunteers willing to serve during the 9 am service to make coffee and prepare snacks for the Fellowship Hall and adult classrooms. Most volunteers serve monthly. If you'd like to volunteer as an individual, family or small group, please contact Larissa Bossemeyer (office@covenantchicago.org).

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 David (dsalsedo@covenantchicago.org).

Meals Ministry: The Meals Ministry cares for our community by providing occasional meals to individuals and families. If you have recently experienced health problems, have welcomed a new child into your family, or have suffered a loss, please visit covenantchicago.org/meals-ministry/ to request a meal. The Meals Ministry also seeks volunteers to cook and deliver meals, and you can sign up to volunteer through the website link. Questions? Contact meals@covenantchicago.org.

Giving QR Code

Pastoral Staff

Aaron Baker
Pastor, abaker@covenantchicago.org

David Salsedo
Associate Pastor, dsalsedo@covenantchicago.org

Dan Adamson
Associate Pastor, dadamson@covenantchicago.org

Jeff Schneider
Church Planting Pastor, jeff@blvdpres.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, Kevin Jones, Brad Lewis, Steve Lehmann, David Salsedo.

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

Diaconate

Andrew Dykstra, Jonathan Ellison, Phil Koerner, Joel Miller, Shane Rector, Deb Van Der Molen, Matt Ver Steeg

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.

COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH of CHICAGO

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

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773.486.9590

covenantchicago.org