

Prayer

Prayer the Churches banquet, Angels age, Gods breath in man returning to his birth, The soul in paraphrase, heart in pilgrimage, The Christian plummet sounding heav'n and earth;

Engine against th' Almightie, sinner's towre, Reversed thunder, Christ-side-piercing spear, The six daies world-transposing in an houre, A kinde of tune, which all things heare and fear;

Softnesse, and peace, and joy, and love, and blisse, Exalted Manna, gladnesse of the best, Heaven in ordinarie, man well drest, The milkie way, the bird of Paradise,

Church-bels beyond the stars heard, the souls bloud, The land of spices, something understood.

~ George Herbert

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

Call to Worship



O Worship the King, Words: Robert Grant, 1833, St. Mary's Church, Poona, India; Music: Johann M. Haydn (1737-1806)

from Psalm 104

Leader:

Bless the LORD, O my soul!

O LORD my God, you are very great! You are clothed with splendor and majesty,

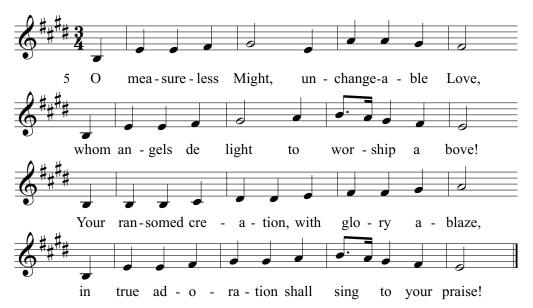
covering yourself with light as with a garment,

stretching out the heavens like a tent.

All: May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works.

I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praise to my God while I have being.



Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Leader: Holy Father, in true adoration we thank you and sing your praise and worship you in our frailty. You cover us and in your presence renew us. We rest and find peace in you.

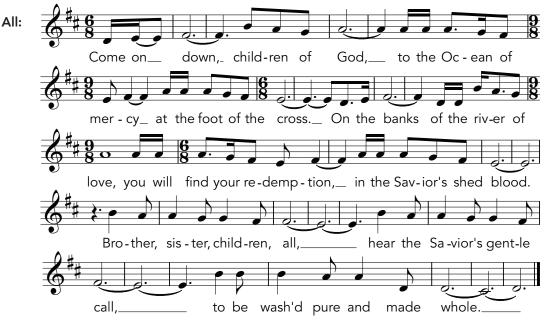


Leader: Father, by the power of your Holy Spirit and through your Son, Jesus Christ, open our eyes and hearts to your presence today. Amen.

Sacrament of Baptism

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of you calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all in all. - Ephesians 4:4-6

Sing to Prepare, Ocean of Mercy



by Paul van der Bijl, 2006

Charlotte Amy Bilhorn, daughter of Donna and Andy Prayer of Congregational Blessing:

All: Ever-living God, in your mercy you promised to be not only our God but also the God of our children. We thank you for receiving **Lottie** by baptism. Keep her always in your love. Guide her as she grows in faith. Protect her in all the dangers and temptations of life. May she be a faithful disciple of your son Jesus Christ to her life's end. In Christ's name. Amen.

All sing: "Brother, sister, children all...

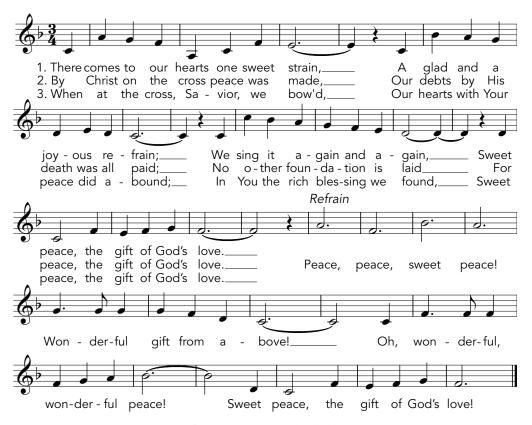
Confession of Sin, from 1 Peter 5:6–9

Leader:

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith.

All: Father, our anxieties consume our hearts and minds.
Forgive us our pride, thinking we are in control.
Grant us humility and single-minded watchfulness under your mighty hand.

Silent time to pray and confess



Sweet Peace: Words and Music, P.P. Bilhorn, 1887, Moody Church, Chicago; arr. and addl. text, PvdBijl, 2023

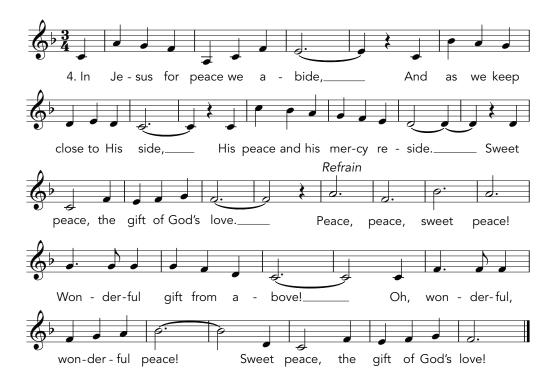
Assurance of Pardon, from 1 Peter 1:3–4, 5:10-11

Leader: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope

through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

All: The God of all grace, who has called us to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish us. To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.



Lessons from the Word

read by Brendan and Katie Oosse ①, Taylor Nesse ②

Old Testament Lesson - Psalm 70.4-5, p.484

New Testament Lesson - 1 Thessalonians 5.6-11, p.987

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

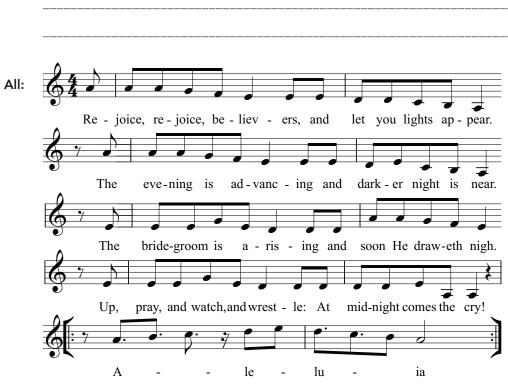
Jude 23-24, by Sandra McCracken, 2016, Westside Anglican Fellowship, Nashville, TN.

The Word

Pastor Aaron Baker The Midnight Feast, Matthew 25:1–13, p.830

^{1 &}quot;Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³ For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴ but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵ As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. ⁶ But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷ Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹ But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' ¹⁰ And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. ¹¹ Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' ¹² But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' ¹³ Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Notes:		



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 AII: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts

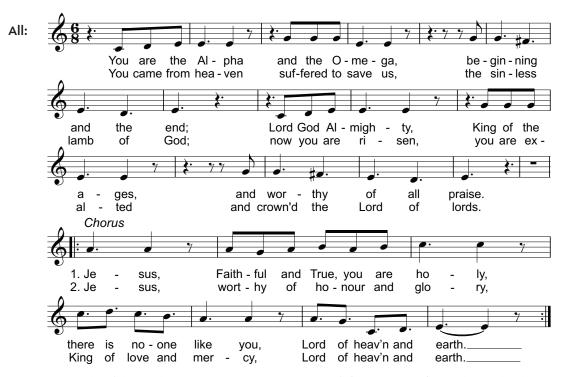
All: We lift them to the Lord.

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.



You Are the Alpha and the Omega, Words and Music, Andy Clark and Matt Weeks, Northgate Church, Chester, UK, 2022

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.

All: 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.

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

All: For forty days and forty nights your Son Jesus Christ fasted and was tempted in

the wilderness,

Leader: and by his suffering, death and resurrection you delivered 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:

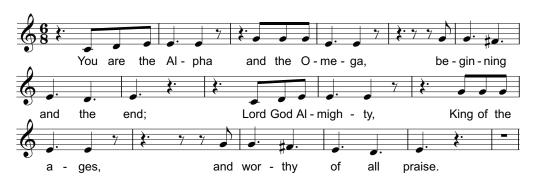
All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,

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:



Rejoice, Rejoice Believers, Words: Laurentius Laurenti, 1700; Music: Paul van der Bijl, 2008

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.



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, from the book of Revelation

Leader: Christian, what do we believe about Christ and his Kingdom?

All: We believe there will be a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth will pass away, and the sea will be no more.

Leader: And how will the Kingdom come?

All: The holy city, new Jerusalem, will come down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Leader: What will the holy city be like?

All: The water of life, bright as crystal,
will flow from the throne of God
and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city
and on either side of the river will be the tree of life.
We will see his face, and his name will be on our foreheads.
And night will be no more. We will need no light of lamp or sun,
for the Lord God will be our light, and we will reign forever and ever.

Leader: And what will Christ, the Lamb, do for us in the holy city?

All: He will wipe away every tear from our eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things will pass away.

Leader: And why do we believe this is true?

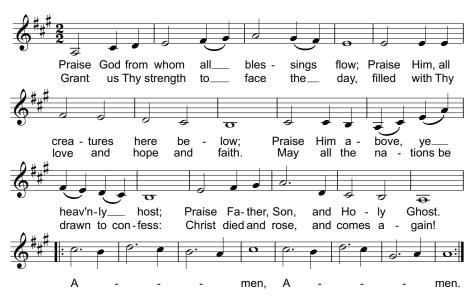
All: For the Lord says:

"Behold, I am making all things new and these words are trustworthy and true." "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be your God and you will be my people.

Leader: He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."

All: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!





Doxology, Words: Thomas Ken, 1709; Music, John Hatton, 1793, Chorus, Redeemer Knoxville, 2014

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

2nd service, 11:15am

Nurseries, ages 0-4, lower level

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

Common Ground, 10:15am

- Nursery: Ages 0-4 (Lower Level)
- Sunday School: Pre-K-8th (Lower Level)
- Sunday School: High School (Youth Room, Ed Building)
- Adult Education: For Forty Days and Forty Nights (Conference Room, Ed Building)
- Adult Education: Imagining Our Neighbor (Library, Ed Building)
- Adult Education: Covenant Life Class (All Saints Room, Lower Level)
- Coffee and snacks available in all classrooms and the Fellowship Hall

Volunteers in Service Today:

Communion Servers: Jonathan Spalink, Mike Fisher Dubois, Mark Lester (9:00); James Leach, Christie Kay,

Matthew Siefert (11:15)

Ushers: Kim Edison, Margret-Ann Natsis (9:00); Rich Van der Molen (11:15)

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.

Covenant Life Class: Consider joining us for our four-week Covenant Life Class taught by the pastors during Common Ground. This class is a requirement for those who wish to become members, but it's equally valuable for those who are interested in learning more about the church and the things we care about most, starting with the gospel. The class will meet at 10:15am in the All Saints Room.

For Forty Days and Forty Nights: The season of Lent started on Ash Wednesday and ends on Easter. Join us for this four-week class that will explore the history, traditions and practices of Lent and Holy Week. We'll reflect on the themes of fasting, repentance and death and talk about the history and practices of Lent in the church broadly and at Covenant. Class meets in the Conference Room during Common Ground and is taught by Larissa Bossemeyer. This week we'll talk about fasting.

Imagining Our Neighbor: Art and Empathy. The stories we encounter in film, music and literature invite us to imagine experiences and emotions that we may not have firsthand experiences of. How does art help us to be more empathetic people? In what ways do stories help us to love our neighbors? Join us for this four-week class during Common Ground in the Library as we look at how different media invite us into seeing and loving the people around us.



Line Dance and Chili Cook-Off: Join us and Lincoln Square Presbyterian Church on March 25 at 6 pm in Covenant's gym for a chili cook-off where you can sample the chilis competing in this year's cook-off. At 7 pm, we will host a line dance. We need your help to make this cook-off a success! If you'd like to compete in the chili cook-off, help setup and decorate the gym, assist with kitchen prep or help with cleanup, please fill out the form at https://covenantchicago.org/events/chili-cookoff/ or contact Paul van der Bijl (pvanderbijl@covenantchicago.org).

Break hrough

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.

Congregational Meeting: We'll have a congregational meeting in the gym on April 2 during Common Ground at 10:15 am. We'll talk about the 2023-24 budget, the Accessibility project that was started last year, and some other initiatives and partnerships that we've been able to build over the last year. Nurseries and children's Sunday School will be available.

Mentoring at Pulaski School: This spring we are launching a partnership with our neighborhood CPS school, Pulaski International School of Chicago. We are looking for 4-6 adults who would be willing to serve in our pilot program as mentors to 6th through 8th grade students in the month of May. There will be a training session in April to equip the mentors. After that, the time commitment is one day a week from 4-5 pm throughout the month of May. If you are interested or just want to learn more, please reach out to Martha Metcalfe at martha. metcalfe@gmail.com by March 27.

Men's Retreat: Save the date for our annual Men's Retreat at Covenant Harbor in Lake Geneva, WI from April 28-30. Look for more information and registration soon.

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 other women from Covenant on Wednesday mornings from 9 to 11 am for a small group. They are currently studying Vanishing Grace by Phillip Yancey. Childcare is available. Contact Emily Willis for more details (emily.m.schroeder@gmail.com).

Pickleball at Covenant: Pickleball will be available in the Covenant gym on some Saturday mornings, from 9-11 am. Bring your own paddle and join other Covenant folks for some co-ed fun and exercise. Instructors will be available if you have never played and there will be a few paddles available to borrow if needed. Sign up at covenantchicago.org/pickleball for upcoming dates. Contact Ian Cull (iancull74@gmail.com) with questions.



Gospel Justice Center: Please pray for Covenant's Gospel Justice Center, a legal-aid clinic created in partnership with Together Chicago and Administer Justice, and run entirely by Covenant volunteers. On the second Saturday of every month, we welcome our neighbors with legal questions from the Logan Square, Bucktown, Garfield Park and Humboldt Park neighborhoods. Please pray for us to care well for our guests, and pray for us to grow in our ability to become a more known presence in our neighborhood.

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.

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).

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

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, Margret-Ann Natsis, 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

Name:

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

circle one:

New to Covenant | Regular Attender | Member

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:		
Pray	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

