

whisper

in tersecting the horizenless deep
lingers harboring chaos
a trouble always near
just under my well kept surface
tumults an unfathomable fury
welling up to consume and devastate
a darkness devouring
the howling wind to pull me down
down

in terceding spirit
harbor the chaos
a whisper hovering near
divide me from my consuming deep
onto the solid ground of your grace
divide me from the devouring dark
into the light of your love
a gentle breeze to lift me up
up

~ Paul van der Bijl

Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024 Covenant Presbyterian Church of Chicago cover design by Jon Skinner

Welcome to Covenant

Children's programming is available during both services 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

Pastor Aaron Baker

Prepare for worship

from Psalm 107:1-3

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

Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble

and gathered in from the lands,

from the east and from the west,

from the north and from the south.



GOD GATHERS US TO WORSHIP Leader: Blow a trumpet in Zion;

All: Sound an alarm on my holy mountain!

Leader: Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,

All: The day of the LORD is coming; it is near.

Leader: For the Lord says, "I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,

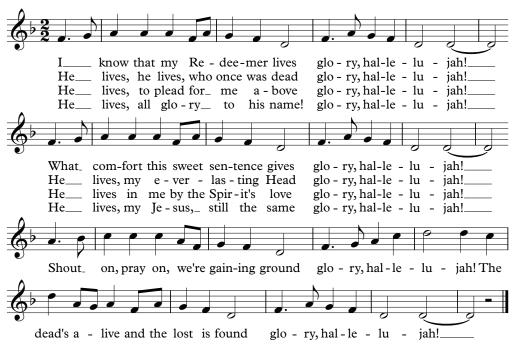
And you shall know that I am in your midst,

And that I am the LORD your God and there is none else."

All: Let us rejoice in the LORD our God.

And praise Him for the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Change the Color: Red recalls the tongues of flame in which the Holy Spirit descended at the first Pentecost.



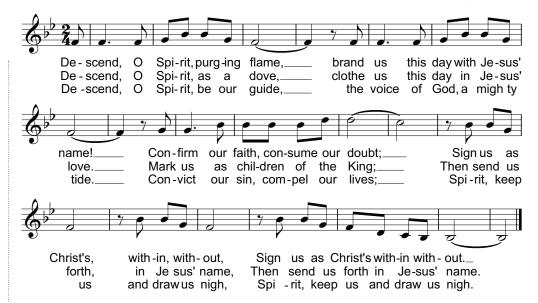
I Know that My Redeemer Lives, Words: Samuel Medly, 1775, Music: American Folk melody

PRAYER OF ADORATION & INVOCATION

Leader: Lord, our God and Father, we thank you and adore you for the presence and promise of your Holy Spirit among us as we gather. We come in the name of Christ, eager to hear your Word.

All: Descend on us with your Spirit as you did when the Church was born on the day of Pentecost.

Silent moment of adoration



Holy Baptism, Words, vs.1, Scott Brenner, 1903, vs.2-3, Steve Hendershot, 2012; Music, Paul vdBijl, 2012

Emily Keyton Schmitt, daughter of Greg and Laura

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 Emily 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:

"Descend, O Spirit purging flame..."

WITH US

COVENANT

GOD MAKES

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

Leader: Those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.

For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

GOD FORGIVES AND CLEANSES US

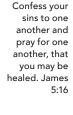
All: Holy Spirit, help us to set our minds on you.

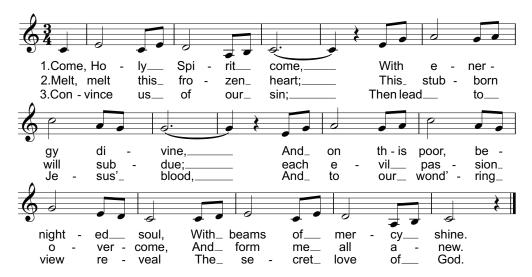
Help us in our weakness and forgive us our sins.

Intercede for us and strengthen our faith to believe and trust in you.

Amen.

Silent time of confession





Abbeville, Words: Benjamin Beddome, Bourton-on-the-Water Baptist Church, Cotswald, UK, 1800; Music: The Sacred Harp, E.J. King, 1844 nor sword.

Leader: Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

All: Nothing shall separate us from the love of Christ.

Neither tribulation,

nor distress,

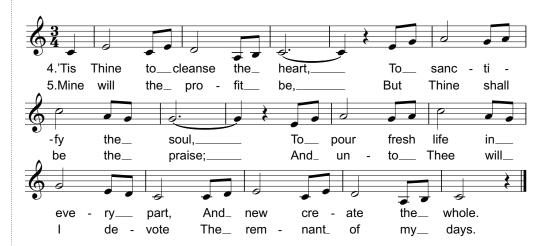
nor persecution,

nor famine,

nor nakedness,

nor danger,

In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.



Old Testament Lesson - Joel 2:23-29, p.762 Gospel Lesson - John 14.15-18, p.901

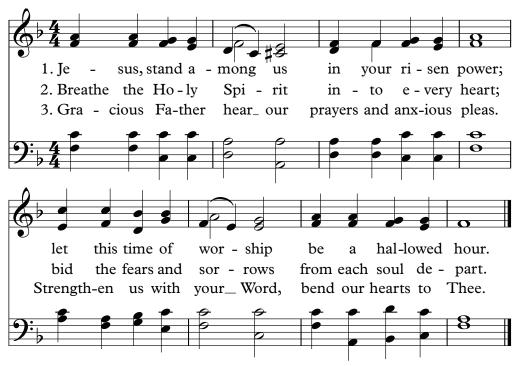
Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

In him you also, when vou heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

> Ephesians 1:13–14

All: Thanks be to God.



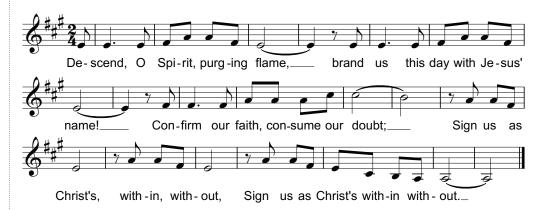
Jesus Stand Among Us, Words: William Pennefather, 1873, Music: Friedrich Filitz, 1847

THE WORD Pastor Dan Adamson

The Day of Pentecost, Acts 2:1-13, p.909

¹ When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

⁵ Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. ⁶ And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. ⁷ And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? ⁹ Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, ¹¹ both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." ¹² And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³ But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine."



9

COME WITH PEACE

Leader: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

Leader: Lift up your hearts

GOD COMMUNES WITH US

All: We lift them up to the Lord

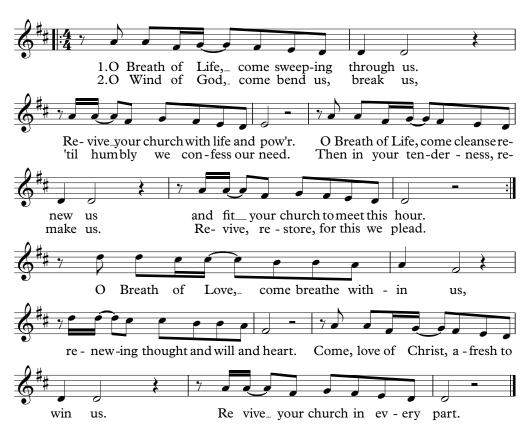
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise

Greet each other in the name of Christ.

COME WITH GENEROSITY

We come to the Table with a generous heart and give back to God a portion of what he's already given us. Offer your resources back to God in support of the work of the church by placing your offering in the box on the back wall. You can also give online at covenantchicago.org/give, use the QR code on page 16, or text a donation amount to 84321.



O Breath of LIfe, Words: Bessie Porter Head, 1920; Music Andy Piercy, Holy Trinity Anglican Church, London UK, 2006 Leader: It is a good and joyful thing always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God of glory. We thank you for giving back to us what we have offered you. Accept these offerings of bread, wine and gifts to you Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, to the work of your kingdom.

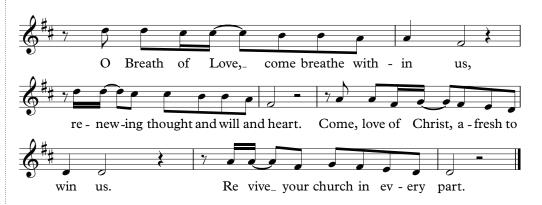
All: God of surprises, your Spirit brooded over the waters at creation and lived among your chosen people in wilderness, exile, and promised land.

Leader: Your Spirit filled Mary's womb at the moment of Jesus' conception and came upon him like a dove at his baptism. When Christ died on the cross your power raised him from the tomb on the third day, and that same evening he breathed your forgiving grace on those who had deserted him.

All: On the day of Pentecost you sent your Spirit upon the fearful disciples, filling them with fire, with power, with wonder and joy, and making them your church.

Leader: And so we gladly thank you, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, singing the hymn of your unending praise:

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.



COME TO THE TABLE

Please note that we serve both red wine and white grape juice. Gluten free bread is available in a separate dish.

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.

Silent prayers for reflection

* written by members of the congregation

Prayer for those taking communion *

Gracious Lord Jesus, how can it be that the loving, holy God of the universe would die for a sinner such as me? Without your selfless act of love, I would be destined to eternity without you. By eating this bread and drinking this cup, I acknowledge your atoning work of grace in my life. As this bread and wine are absorbed into my body for nourishment, may you likewise be absorbed into my soul to transform me into the person you envision be to be. Amen.

Prayer for those searching for truth *

Jesus, you once encountered someone who was challenged in their faith; they told you "I believe, help my unbelief." I too find myself lacking sufficient faith to live as you desire. Please help me take a small step beyond my comfort zone and move toward you in faith. I rest in your loving kindness to me. Amen.

Prayer of belief *

Jesus, I'm not sure what I believe to be true in life. I'm curious about the claims you've made and the works you performed. I am aware that I need someone/something more than just myself. My failings are ever before me. I now see that despite those failings, your love for me is greater than I ever imagined. So I turn to you now as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for those struggling with sin *

Lord Jesus, I am very aware that I have failed to live according to your teachings. I have assumed the throne of my life and chosen to pursue my own sources of happiness even when I knew it was in opposition to your best desires for me. I humbly come to you and acknowledge my poor choices. By eating this bread and drinking this cup, I once again ask for your forgiveness and grace. Amen.

Song for Communion

You are welcome to join in song:

- Chorus -

All: Lord, have mercy, have mercy upon us. O Lord, have mercy, have mercy upon us.

Leader: O God the Father,

All: Have mercy upon us

Leader: Creator of heaven and earth,

All: Have mercy upon us

- To Chorus -

Leader: O God the Son,

All: Have mercy upon us

Leader: Redeemer of the world,

All: Have mercy upon us

- To Chorus -

Leader: O God the Holy Spirit,

All: Have mercy upon us

Leader: Sanctifier of the faithful,

All: Have mercy upon us

- To Chorus -

Leader: Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, one God,

All: Have mercy upon us

- To Chorus -

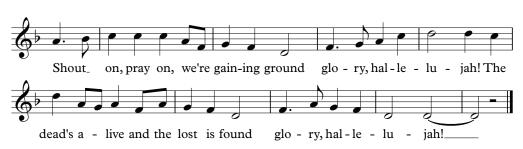
O Lord, Have Mercy, Words and Music, Steve Williamson, Church of Resurrection, Wheaton, IL, 2007

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 Pastor Aaron Baker

Announcements, events and opportunities at Covenant during the coming weeks

WITH JOY





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

WITH BLESSING

Pastor Dan Adamson

WELCOME TO COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TODAY AT COVENANT

1st Service, 9:00am

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

- Coffee and snacks in the Fellowship Hall and classrooms
- Nursery: Ages 0-4 (Lower Level)
- Sunday School: PreK-8th Grade (Lower Level)
- Sunday School: High School (Youth Room, Ed Building)
- Adult Education: From Gospel to Apocalypse (Fellowship Hall, Ed Building)
- Adult Education: In the Company of Jesus (Conference Room, Ed Building)
- Adult Education: Covenant Life Class (All Saints Room, Lower Level)

Volunteers in Service Today:

Communion Servers: Fernando Kim, Patrick Fisher, Jennie and Ryan von Drehle (9:00); Andrew Dykstra, Ian Troll, Larissa Bossemeyer (11:15)

Ushers: Anika Heavenr, Matt Ver Steeg, Mark Scheerhorn (9:00); Christie Kay, James Leach (11:15)

Welcome Table: Beth Brinley (9:00); Brent Banash (11:15)

Musicians: Paul van der Bijl, guitar, vocals; Kevin Jones, bass, mandolin, vocals; Adriane Fink, piano; Erica Norman, vocals; Rachael Holzhausen, vocals; Paul David Young, electric guitar, keys, 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

Summer Common Ground: From June 2 through 16, Covenant will offer two Common Ground classes, one which is designed to be family-friendly. During this time, there will be no Sunday School for children or youth. A nursery will be open for children 0-4. Beginning June 23, Covenant will be on summer break during Common Ground; no classes or childcare will be available. We invite you to join us between the services in the courtyard and Fellowship Hall for snacks and coffee.

From Gospel to Apocalypse: In this series, we'll look at the full New Testament canon and see how these texts relate to the broader story of Scripture. We'll also spend time each week in specific passages to help us better understand these books of Scripture. Today, Jason Stanghelle will teach on the pastoral epistles. Class meets in the Fellowship Hall.

In the Company of Jesus: Throughout the Gospels, Jesus teaches and cares for his disciples in unique ways. What can we learn from the way Jesus cares for those who are closest to him and what can it tell us about how he speaks to us? Join us in the Conference Room for our last week as Larissa teaches on John 21.

Covenant Life Class: Join us for our Covenant Life Class taught by the staff. This 6 week class is for those who are interested in learning more about the church and the things we care about most, starting with the gospel. This class is a requirement for those who wish to become members. Class will meet in the All Saints Room. For more information, contact Pastor Dan (dadamson@covenantchicago.org).

Beauty and Meaning: Exploring Covenant's Sanctuary. Join us for this 3-week class that will focus on different artistic and architectural elements of our sanctuary. This class will be run in two parallel sessions. In the All Saints Room, the staff will lead a session accessible to families with elementary aged students. A parent is required to attend with their child. In the Library, PD Young will lead a session aimed towards adults and older students. Each week, we'll end by exploring the sanctuary together. We'll cover themes including biblical scenes, architecture, and symbolism. This class will start on June 2.

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. Childcare is available. Contact Devon Spencer (devonspencer1112@gmail.com) with questions about this group.

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 Lynda Adamson (ladamson@covenantchicago.org).

Common Ground Volunteers: Covenant is looking for additional volunteers to help with coffee and snacks for Common Ground. Volunteers help with either setup (during the 9:00 am service) or clean up (during the 11:15 service), as well as helping during Common Ground to replenish coffee as needed. Most volunteers serve once a month. If you'd be interested, please contact Larissa Bossemeyer (lbossemeyer@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 on the second Saturday of every month and we're aiming to grow to serve more clients. In order to do that, we're looking for volunteers to serve in some of the non-legal roles. We could use one more volunteer to help on Saturday mornings to greet guests and support them as well as someone to take on some design work both for a social media account and a print brochure to help clients find our clinic. If you'd be interested in helping in either of those roles, please contact Linda Gehrs (lmgehrs@gmail.com). Most volunteers serve once every other month.

NEWS AND UPDATES

One Service Sundays: Mark your calendar for our one service Sundays this summer at 10:15. On May 26, June 30, July 7, August 25 and September 1, we'll have one service at 10:15. There will be no Common Ground on these weeks. On June 30 and August 25, we'll have a cookout after the service.

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).

Sermon Devotional Emails: Twice a week, a team from Covenant sends sermon devotional emails that will help you reflect on and pray through the prior week's sermon text and Scripture lessons. Email devotional@covenantchicago.org to sign up.

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.

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 Dan (dadamson@covenantchicago.org).

Sermon Text Next Week: Galatians 5:16-26

Giving OR 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, Ioshua 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

2012 W. Dickens Chicago, IL 60647 773.486.9590

covenantchicago.org

