

THE
WORK
OF THE
SPIRIT

Avowal

As swimmers dare
to lie face to the sky
and water bears them,
as hawks rest upon air
and air sustains them,
so would I learn to attain
freefall, and float
into Creator Spirit's deep embrace,
knowing no effort earns
that all-surrounding grace.

~ Denise Levertov

2nd Sunday of Pentecost, May 26, 2024
Covenant Presbyterian Church of Chicago
cover by Jamie Gray

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 Dan Adamson

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.*



1. We are_ called,___ we are_ called by the Lord. Gath-ered in___
2. We are_ called,___ we are_ called by the Lord. Gath-ered in___
3. We are_ called,___ we are_ called by the Lord. Gath-ered in___



by the Shep-herd of our souls. Let us come___ be re-newed and be re - stored.
as the sheep in - to his fold. Let us come___ to be healed and be made whole.
to the o - pen arms of God. Let us come___ and be shelt-ered in his love.



We are___ called, we are___ called by the Lord. ___



To the faith-less and the faith-ful, to the lost,___ the found_ or fear-ful.
To the help-less and the help-ful, to the wea - ry, worn,___ or a - ble.
To the joy-less and the joy-ful, to the an - gry, scared_ or sta - ble.



Let us___ come to the Sa - vior, let us___ rest in his fa - vor.
Let us___ come to the Ta - ble, let us___ eat and be grate - ful.
Let us___ come to his Word,___ let us___ hear and be heard. ___



We are___ called, we are___ called,___ by the___ Lord. ___

We Are Called, by Paul van der Bijl, 2024

GOD
GATHERS
US TO
WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 84

Leader: How lovely is your dwelling place,
O LORD of hosts!

**All: My soul longs, yes, faints
for the courts of the LORD.**

Leader: My heart and flesh sing for joy
to the living God.

**All: We are blessed to be in your house,
ever singing your praise!**

Therefore,
since we have
confidence to
enter the holy
places by the
blood of Jesus,
by the new and
living way that
he opened for
us through the
curtain, that
is, through his
flesh, let us
draw near with
a true heart in
full assurance of
faith. Hebrews
10:19–22



1. Oh how good to be___ to - ge - ther In this wea - ry world
2. On this day the Lord___ has fa - shioned Come re - joice with all___
3. When it looked like e - vil con - quered When we felt the dark -
4. Tell the theme of his___ pro - vi - sion How he met our e -



___ we trod. What a gift, and what___ a trea - sure,
___ your might. Raise a ban - ner of___ sal - va - tion,
- est hour. In des - pair we sought___ the Fa - ther,
- very need. He has been our firm___ foun - da - tion,



Kin - dred in the house___ of God___
He has led us through___ the night. ___
He has proved his migh - ty pow'r. ___
He will e - ver, al - ways be. ___



Oh the joy,___ oh the sweet - ness To be ga -



- thered in the name of the Lord___ E - ver - more,___ he will keep



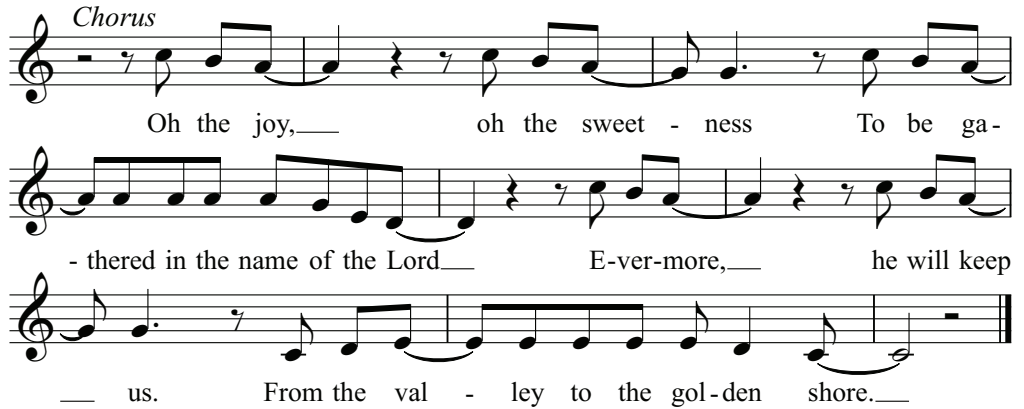
___ us. From the val - ley to the gol - den shore. ___

PRAYER OF ADORATION & INVOCATION

Leader: O God, it is good to be gathered together in your house. We thank you and adore for your presence among us.

Silent moment of adoration

Chorus



Oh the joy, — oh the sweet - ness To be ga -
- thered in the name of the Lord — E-ver-more, — he will keep
— us. From the val - ley to the gol - den shore. —

Leader: Oh the joy and sweetness to be in your house ever singing your praise,

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



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

CONFESSION OF SIN

from Galatians 4:8-9

Leader: Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to those that by nature are not gods. But now that you have come to know God, or rather to be known by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world, whose slaves you want to be once more?

**All: Father, we so easily forget that you truly see us and know us.
We so easily idolize the empty and worthless promises the world has to offer. We so quickly find ourselves enslaved by those idols.
Forgive us and grant us the strength to turn back to you and your love.**

GOD
FORGIVES
AND
CLEANSES
US

1. God in hea-ven, high and ho - ly, mea - sure of all good and
2. Sin - ners here so poor and nee - dy, who would come and clear the
3. Jus - tice sa - tis - fied at Cal' - vry; sin there si-lenced by His
beau - ty, who can stand be - fore the fire of ho - li - ness?
guil - ty? If you num-bered all our sins, Lord, who could stand?
mer - cy. Where, O death, is your re - ply to Christ, our King?
In my place He_ stood, all my debt nailed to_ the
wood._ All my stains washed white by the blood of Christ,_ my life.

In My Place, Words and Music by Matt Damico, Kenwood Baptist Church, Louisville, KY, 2019

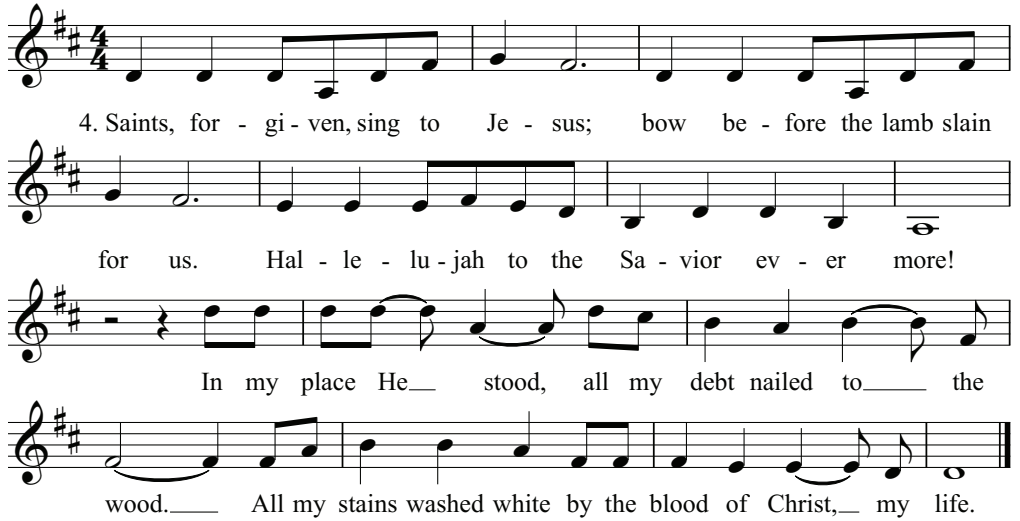
Silent time of confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

from Galatians 5:1 & 2:20-21

Leader: For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

All: For we have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer we who live, but Christ who lives in us. And the life we now live in the flesh we live by faith in the Son of God, who loved us and gave himself for us.



4. Saints, for - gi - ven, sing to Je - sus; bow be - fore the lamb slain
for us. Hal - le - lu - jah to the Sa - vior ev - er more!
In my place He___ stood, all my debt nailed to___ the
wood.___ All my stains washed white by the blood of Christ,___ my life.

LESSONS FROM THE WORD

read by Andy Billhorn

Old Testament Lesson - Psalm 128.1-2, p.518

Gospel Lesson - Luke 6.43-45, p.863

GOD SPEAKS TO US

A great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks, but the Lord was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. And after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper. And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak.
1 Kings 19:11-13

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.



O splen dor of the fa-ther's light, that makes our day light lu-cid bri-ght
True Sun, break out on earth and shine, in ra-diance with your light di-vine—



O light of light and sun of day, now shine on us your bright-est ray.
By daz-zling of your Spi-rit's might, o give our ja-ded sens-es light.

O Splendor of the Father's Light, Words: St. Ambrose (340-397). Music: mode 1, Antiphoner, 1400's

THE WORD

Pastor Aaron Baker

Fruit of the Spirit, Galatians 5:16–26, p.975

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.



The Fa-ther sends his son, our Lord, to be his bright and shin-ing wo-rd



Come, Lord, ride out your gleam-ing course and be our dawn our light's_ true source.

COME WITH PEACE

Leader: The Lord be with you

All: And also with you

Leader: Lift up your hearts

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.



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.

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

COME WITH THANKSGIVING

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: In the beginning you laid the foundation of the earth and created us in your image. You set for us a Table in the Garden where we feasted together with you in peace.

Leader: But we turned from you, leaving sin and death to reign.

All: Still you loved us and sought us and invited us to feast with you again.

Leader: You sent us bread from heaven and broke the stone to quench our thirst. You gave us a land flowing with milk and honey. You sent us the prophets and priests to call us back to you. And still we rebelled against you because of our sin.

All: Through Christ, and by his death, resurrection and ascension, you filled us with living bread and quenched our thirst with living water and opened a place for us at your Table to commune together in peace again.

Leader: Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim and sing:

**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.**

Chorus

Oh the joy, — oh the sweet - ness To be ga -
- thered in the name of the Lord — E-ver-more, — he will keep
— us. From the val - ley to the gol - den shore. —

As this broken
bread, once
dispersed
over the hills,
was brought
together and
became one
loaf, so may
your Church
be brought
together from
the ends of the
earth into your
kingdom.

from the earliest
recorded
communion
prayer, Didache,
100 AD

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 me 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:

The image shows a musical score for a song. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

1. A - las! and did my Sav - ior bleed, and did my Sov - reign
2. Was it for crimes that I have done, he groaned up - on the
3. Well might the sun in dark - ness hide and shut his glo - ries
4. But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay the debt of love I

die? Would he de - vote that sa - cred head for sin - ners such as I?
tree? A - maz - ing pit - y! Grace un - known! And love be - yond de - gree!
in, when God, the might - y Ma - ker, died for man the crea - ture's sin.
owe; Here, Lord, I give my - self a - way; 'Tis all that I can do.

Alas and Did My Savior Bleed, Words: Isaac Watts, 1707. Music: Hugh Wilson, 1800.

RESPOND TO THE TABLE

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

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

5. Thanks to the Lamb, the lov - ing Lamb, who died on Cal-vary's

tree. The Lamb was slain, yet lives a - gain, to in - ter - cede for me.

IN COMMUNITY

Pastor Dan Adamson

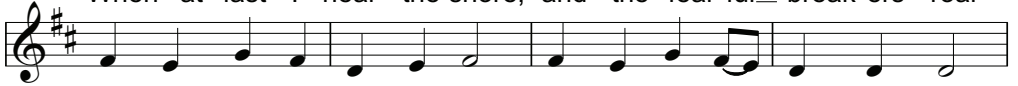
Announcements, events and opportunities at Covenant during the coming weeks

WITH JOY

GOD
SENDS
US



Je - sus, Sav - ior pi - lot me ov - er life's temp - est - tuous sea;
Though the sea be smooth and bright spark' - ling with the_ stars of night,
As a mo - ther stills her child, You can hush the_ o - cean wild;
When at last I near the shore, and the fear - ful_ break - ers roar



un - known waves be - fore me roll, hid - ing rock and_ treach' - rous shoal;
and my ship's path be a - blaze with the light of_ bet - ter days;
boist' - rous waves o - bey Your will when You say to_ them "Be still!"
be - tween me and peace - ful rest, then while lean - ing_ on Your breast,



chart and com - pass came from Thee! Savior pi - lot Me.____
still I know my need of Thee! Savior pi - lot Me.____
Won - drous Sov - reign of the sea, Savior pi - lot Me.____
may I hear Thee say to me: "I will pi - lot Thee."

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

WITH BLESSING

Pastor Aaron Baker

Service, 10:15am

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

Volunteers in Service Today:

Communion Servers: Shawn Bandel, Brad Lewis

Ushers: Leslie Lucas, Nathaniel Salsedo

Welcome Table: Phil Koerner

Musicians: Paul van der Bijl, guitar, vocals; Brian Riggs, bass, Paul David Young, electric guitar, keys, vocals; Russell Kamp, 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. Class next week will be taught by Pastor Aaron and look at James, Jude and 1-2 Peter.

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. 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.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2024 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Brianna Locke: (New Trier High School) attending Northeastern University (Boston, MA)

Laelia van der Bijl: (Jones College Prep) attending University of Wisconsin-Madison

Lucy Adamson: (Lincoln Park High School) attending University of Missouri

Levi Taylor: (Northside College Prep) attending DePaul University

Flannery Pierson: (Lincoln Park High School) attending University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Anna Ward: (Northside College Prep) attending University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

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: Romans 8:1-11



Giving QR code

PASTORAL STAFF

Aaron Baker
Pastor, abaker@covenantchicago.org

Dan Adamson
Associate Pastor, dadamson@covenantchicago.org

SUPPORT STAFF

Larissa Bossemeyer
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Gene Pierson
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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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