



the  
Weight of Glory

September 19, 2021  
17th Sunday after Pentecost  
Covenant Presbyterian  
Church of Chicago

## Welcome

### Call to Worship

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*from Psalm 96*

Leader: Oh sing to the LORD a new song;  
                  sing to the LORD, all the earth!

**All: Sing to the LORD, bless his name;  
          tell of his salvation from day to day.**

Leader: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;  
                  let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

**All: Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy  
          before the LORD.**

Leader: Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;  
                  bring an offering, and come into his courts!

**All: Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness;  
          tremble before him, all the earth!**





1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 2 Praise him all ye hosts a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 3 Saints and an - gels sing his praise, Al - le - lu - ia!

Glo - ry to the Lord on high, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 E - ver bright and fair in love, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 An - cient of E - ter - nal Days, Al - le - lu - ia!

Heav'n and earth a - wake and sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Sun and moon lift up your voice, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Lord of earth and sea and sky, Al - le - lu - ia!

God is God and there - fore King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Night and stars in God re - joice, Al - le - lu - ia!  
 God most ho - ly, God Most - High, Al - le - lu - ia!

*Let the Whole Creation Cry, Words: Stopford Brooke, 1881. Music: Robert Williams, 1817.*

## Confession of Sin

from John 15

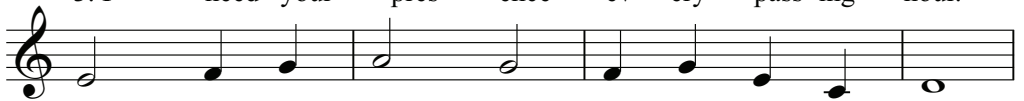
Leader: Jesus says, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in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

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

Silent time to pray and confess



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



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



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



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

*Abide With Me, Words: Henry Lyte, 1847, Music: William Monk, 1861*

## Assurance of Pardon

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from John 15 and Romans 8

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

All: **Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died and was raised and is interceding for us.**

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

The musical score is written on four staves in 4/4 time. The melody is simple and uses a mix of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

## Lessons from the Word

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Old Testament Lesson -  
Gospel Lesson -

Jeremiah 9.23-24  
Luke 24.44-49

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

## The Word

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Pastor Aaron Baker

In Him It's Always Yes, 2 Corinthians 1:12-22

For our boast is this, the testimony of our conscience, that we behaved in the world with simplicity and godly sincerity, not by earthly wisdom but by the grace of God, and supremely so toward you. For we are not writing to you anything other than what you read and understand and I hope you will fully understand—just as you did partially understand us—that on the day of our Lord Jesus you will boast of us as we will boast of you.

Because I was sure of this, I wanted to come to you first, so that you might have a second experience of grace. I wanted to visit you on my way to Macedonia, and to come back to you from Macedonia and have you send me on my way to Judea. Was I vacillating when I wanted to do this? Do I make my plans according to the flesh, ready to say "Yes, yes" and "No, no" at the same time? As surely as God is faithful, our word to you has not been Yes and No. For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you, Silvanus and Timothy and I, was not Yes and No, but in him it is always Yes. For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory. And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

## Celebrate the Table: The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

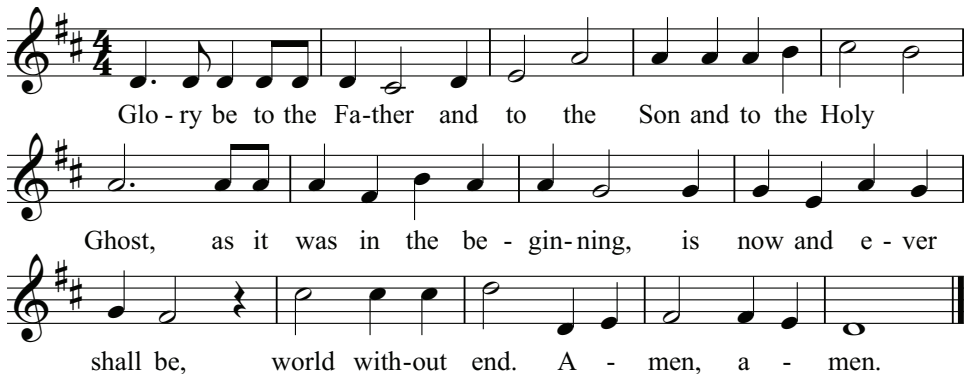
Leader: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe.

**All: In the fullness of time, out of your great love for the world, you sent your only Son to be one of us, to redeem us and heal our brokenness.**

Leader: By the baptism of his suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension you gave birth to your Church, and delivered us from slavery to sin and death. Once we were no people, but now we are your people, Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim:

**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.**



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Holy  
Ghost, as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and e - ver  
shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

*Gloria Patri, Words, anon, 2nd Cent., Music, Henry Wellington Greatorex, 1851*

## Distribute the Bread & Cup

Please note that we serve both red wine and white grape juice.  
There is 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.

### 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.**



Wor - thy is the\_ Lamb who was slain; Ho - ly, ho - ly is He;\_  
Fall be - fore the\_ throne of glo - ry;\_ gaze upon the crys - tal sea.\_  
Clothed in po - wer, might and splen - dour, th' Bride - groom calls us to the feast,  
Sing a new song to him who sits on\_ Heav - en's mer - cy seat.\_  
Join the my - riad saints and an - gels sing through all eter - ni - ty  
of ho - ly man - na\_ and li - ving wa - ter\_ our con - suma - tion now com - plete.  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the\_ Lord God\_ Al - might - y  
Who was\_ and is\_ and is\_ to come;\_ With all cre - a - tion I sing  
praise to the King of Kings; You are my ev - ry - thing and I will a - dore You.\_

*Revelation Song, Words and Music: Jennie Lee Riddle, 2004. verse 2-3 by vdBijl, 2010*



# News & Announcements

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## Announcements in our community

**Fall Service Update:** Covenant is excited to announce that beginning on October 3, we will have new service times of 9:00 and 11:15 am. In between the services, we will expand Common Ground to include children's Sunday School, adult education, and a place to gather with each other. You can find additional details about this plan on our website: <https://covenantchicago.org/fall-update/>.

**Current Service Requirements:** In accordance with the city's mask mandate, Covenant will require masks for everyone over 2 at both services. The 8:30 service will continue to offer designated rows for seating. At 10 am, there are no distancing requirements.

**September 26 Cookout:** Join other Covenant attenders for a fall cookout before we launch our new fall schedule. Next week after the 10 am service, we'll have a catered brunch cookout in the courtyard and grassy lot. This will be a great time to get to know other Covenant attenders and learn more about ways to get connected this year at Covenant. Please RSVP today to [dadamson@covenantchicago.org](mailto:dadamson@covenantchicago.org) so that we can order enough food for everyone.

**Women's Retreat.** Risky Invitations, Reckless Encounters: Where Jesus Meets Us. Join us on Saturday, October 16 from 10 am to 4 pm in the Fellowship Hall for a day of teaching, relaxation and connection with women in our church. Speakers Larissa Bossemeyer and Olivia Stewart Lester will guide us in a discussion about Jesus's encounters with four unexpected people in the Gospels. Additional details and registration is available on our website at [covenantchicago.org/events/womens-retreat/](https://covenantchicago.org/events/womens-retreat/). Questions? Contact [women@covenantchicago.org](mailto:women@covenantchicago.org).

**Covenant Life Class:** Consider joining us for our six week Covenant Life Class taught by the pastors during Common Ground starting on October 3rd. 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 in the Library at 10:15am. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Pastor David at [dsalsedo@covenantchicago.org](mailto:dsalsedo@covenantchicago.org).

**Liturgy: Practicing in the Presence of God.** How does participating in liturgy form us into the people of Christ? Join Paul van der Bijl and Larissa Bossemeyer for a weekly discussion to explore our liturgy, what it teaches us, and how God meets us in it. We'll meet during Common Ground in the All Saints Room. An optional podcast on the topic will be available the preceding Thursday. On October 3, we'll focus on an introduction to liturgy and the role of singing. Questions? Contact Larissa Bossemeyer ([lbossemeyer@covenantchicago.org](mailto:lbossemeyer@covenantchicago.org)).

**Covenant Musicians:** If you are a musician and would like to play and/or sing with the worship team on Sunday mornings, please contact our Worship Director, Paul van der Bijl at [pvanderbijl@covenantchicago.org](mailto:pvanderbijl@covenantchicago.org).

**Volunteer with Children's Ministry:** With our new fall schedule beginning on October 3, we'll need 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](mailto:ian@covenantchicago.org)).

**September Shoe Drive:** North Side Housing, a local non-profit, has invited Covenant to support them again this year by collecting shoes. We will be collecting new and gently used shoes of any size, any style, kids, men's and women's shoes. The last date to drop off the shoes at Covenant is September 26th. North Side Housing will earn funds based on the total weight of shoes collected. For more information please contact Pastor Dan ([dadamson@covenantchicago.org](mailto:dadamson@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. Please send your prayer requests to Pastor David ([dsalsedo@covenantchicago.org](mailto:dsalsedo@covenantchicago.org)) who will share them with the staff.



Now the days and hours and mo - ments of our su-ffering seem so...  
 Oh e - ter-nal weight of glo - ry Oh in - he - ri - tance di -  
 We will see our woun-ded Sa - vior, we'll be-hold Him face to...



long, and the toil-some wait and won-d'ring threa-ten si-lence to our  
 vine, we will see our Lord re - dee-ming ev - ery past and fu-ture  
 face, and we'll hear our an-guished sto - ries sung as vic-t'ry songs of



song. Now our pain is real and pre-ssing where our faith is thin and  
 time. All our pains will be trans - fi-gured like the scars of Christ our  
 grace. to Chorus



weak but our hope is set on Je - sus and we cling to Him our strength.  
 Lord. We will see the weight of glo - ry and our bro-ken years re-stored.



For be-hold I tell a mys-tery: At the trump-et sound we'll



wake! Death is swa-llowed up in vic-t'ry when we meet our King of



grace. E-v'ry year we thought was was-ted, e-v'ry night we cried how



long, all will be a pas-sing mo - ment in our Sa-vior's vic-t'ry\_ song.

*Eternal Weight of Glory, Words and Music by Wendell Kimbrough, 2016*

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.*

## Pastoral Staff

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Aaron Baker

Pastor, [abaker@covenantchicago.org](mailto:abaker@covenantchicago.org)

David Salsedo

Associate Pastor, [dsalsedo@covenantchicago.org](mailto:dsalsedo@covenantchicago.org)

Dan Adamson

Associate Pastor, [dadamson@covenantchicago.org](mailto:dadamson@covenantchicago.org)

Jeff Schneider

Church Planting Pastor, [jeff@blvdpres.org](mailto:jeff@blvdpres.org)

## Support Staff

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Larissa Bossemeyer

Director of Ministries: [lbossemeyer@covenantchicago.org](mailto:lbossemeyer@covenantchicago.org)

Gene Pierson

Director of Finance & Property: [gpierson@covenantchicago.org](mailto:gpierson@covenantchicago.org)

Ian Troll

Director of Children and Youth Ministries: [ian@covenantchicago.org](mailto:ian@covenantchicago.org)

Paul van der Bijl

Director of Worship and Music: [pvanderbijl@covenantchicago.org](mailto:pvanderbijl@covenantchicago.org)

## Session

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Aaron Baker (Moderator), Dan Adamson, David Dillon, Kevin Jones, Brad Lewis, Steve Lehmann, David Salsedo, Ryan Von Drehle. *Please direct correspondence for the Session to [session@covenantchicago.org](mailto:session@covenantchicago.org).*

## Diaconate

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Rich Lane, 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](mailto:diaconate@covenantchicago.org).*

## **Life at Covenant**

### **Worship Together:**

*We are made to worship the Triune God. Gathering around the Gospel every week has a profound affect on every part of our lives.*

### **Grow and Learn**

#### **Together:**

*Internalizing the truths of our faith together through our discipleship opportunities like small groups and classes are necessary for flourishing in the Christian life.*

### **Serve Together:**

*Every one has been given gifts by God's grace to use for our common life and for the life of the broken world. Every week there are numerous ways to serve at Covenant.*



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

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[covenantchicago.org](http://covenantchicago.org)