

Wings of Refuge

November 8, 2020
Covenant Presbyterian Church of Chicago
24th Sunday of Pentecost



Welcome

Call to Worship

from Psalm 91 and Romans 10: 9, 13

Leader: Let us worship God.

**All: He is our refuge and our fortress,
our God, in whom we trust.**

Leader: Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

**All: Let us call upon our true God, believing him in our hearts,
confessing him with our mouths, and worshiping him in spirit and in truth.**

1. Re - joice, the Lord is King: Your Lord and King a - dore!
 2. Je - sus, the Sa - vior, reigns, The God of truth and love;
 3. His king - dom can - not fail, He rules o'er earth and heav'n;
 4. Re - joice in glo - rious hope! Our Lord and judge shall come

Re - joice, give thanks and sing, And triumph e - ver - more. Lift
 When He has purged our stains, He took his seat a - bove; Lift
 The keys of death and hell Are to our Je - sus giv'n: Lift
 to ga - ther all his saints to their e - ter - nal home: Lift

up your heart, Lift up your voice! Re-joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!
 up your heart, Lift up your voice! Re-joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!
 up your heart, Lift up your voice! Re-joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!
 up your heart, Lift up your voice! Re-joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

Rejoice the Lord is King, Words: Charles Wesley, 1746; Music, John Darwall, 1770

Confession of Sin, from Psalm 41 & 42

Leader: As a deer pants for flowing streams,
so pants my soul for you, O God.
My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.
When shall I come and see the face of God?

**All: O LORD, be gracious to me;
heal my soul, for I have sinned against you!**

Leader: Deep calls to deep at the roar of your waterfalls;
all your breakers and your waves have gone over me.

**All: My soul is cast down within me;
therefore I remember you, O God.**



As a deer in want of wa - ter, so I long for you, O Lord.
Bit - ter tears of lam-en - ta - tion are my food by night and day...
From the land be-yond the Jor - dan, in my grief I think of you;—

All my heart and be-ing fal - ter, thirst - ing for your liv - ing word.
In my deep hu-mil - i - a - tion "Where is now your God?" they say...
from the foot - hills of Mount Her-mon I will still re - mem - ber you..

When shall I be - hold your face?— When shall I re ceive your grace?
When my sor - rows weigh on me,___ then I bring to mem - o - ry___
As the wa - ters plunge and leap,___ stor - my trou - bles o'er me sweep.

When shall I, your prais-es voic-ing, come be-fore you with re - joic - ing?
how with throngs I would as-sem-ble, shout-ing prais - es in your tem - ple.
Day and night God's song is with me as a prayer to him who loves me.

Psalm 42, Words: Psalter Hymnal, 1987; Music, Genevan Psalter, 1551, arr. by Paul van der Bijl, 2010

Silent time to pray and confess

Assurance of Pardon, *from Psalm 42*

Leader: Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you in turmoil within me?

All: **Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my salvation and my God.**

Song of Assurance,



O my soul, why are you grie-ving, why dis-qui - et-ed in me?



Put your hope in God, be- liev-ing he will still your re -fuge be...



I a - gain shall praise his grace for the com -fort of his face;



he will show his help and fa - vour, for he is my God and Sa -viour.

Lessons from the Word

Gospel Lesson -
New Testament Lesson -

John 13.34-35
1 Peter 4.7-11

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

The Word

Pastor Aaron Baker
This Last Kindness, Ruth 3

Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, should I not seek rest for you, that it may be well with you? Is not Boaz our relative, with whose young women you were? See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. Wash therefore and anoint yourself, and put on your cloak and go down to the threshing floor, but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. But when he lies down, observe the place where he lies. Then go and uncover his feet and lie down, and he will tell you what to do." And she replied, "All that you say I will do."

So she went down to the threshing floor and did just as her mother-in-law had commanded her. And when Boaz had eaten and drunk, and his heart was merry, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain. Then she came softly and uncovered his feet and lay down. At midnight the man was startled and turned over, and behold, a woman lay at his feet! He said, "Who are you?" And she answered, "I am Ruth, your servant. Spread your wings over your servant, for you are a redeemer." And he said, "May you be blessed by the LORD, my daughter. You have made this last kindness greater than the first in that you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich. And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you ask, for all my fellow townsmen know that you are a worthy woman. And now it is true that I am a redeemer. Yet there is a redeemer nearer than I. Remain tonight, and in the morning, if he will redeem you, good; let him do it. But if he is not willing to redeem you, then, as the LORD lives, I will redeem you. Lie down until the morning."

So she lay at his feet until the morning, but arose before one could recognize another. And he said, "Let it not be known that the woman came to the threshing floor." And he said, "Bring the garment you are wearing and hold it out." So she held it, and he measured out six measures of barley and put it on her. Then she went into the city. And when she came to her mother-in-law, she said, "How did you fare, my daughter?" Then she told her all that the man had done for her, saying, "These six measures of barley he gave to me, for he said to me, 'You must not go back empty-handed to your mother-in-law.'" She replied, "Wait, my daughter, until you learn how the matter turns out, for the man will not rest but will settle the matter today."

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: Eternal God, holy and mighty,
it is truly right and our greatest joy
to give you thanks and praise,
and to worship you in every place where your glory abides.

**All: You laid the foundation of the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands.
They will perish, but you will endure.**

Leader: You are always the same and your years will never end.
You made us in your image and called us to be your people,

**All: but we turned from you, leaving sin and death to reign.
Still you loved us and sought us.
In Christ your grace defeated death and opened the way to eternal life.**

Leader: Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with the heavenly choirs
and with all the faithful of every time and place,
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**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, Ho - ly Spi - rit. Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit. ___

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

Distribute the Bread & Cup

Please note that we serve both red wine and white grape juice.
All wafers are gluten free and available in a single serve cup

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.

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.**

News & Announcements

Announcements in our community

Let Us Pray for You. Covenant's staff meets remotely to pray for the congregation throughout the week. We would be honored to pray for you. Please send your prayer requests to Pastor Dan (dadamson@covenantchicago.org) who will share them with the staff.

Sermon Devotional Emails: You can sign up to get an email two times a week to help you reflect on and pray through the prior week's sermon text and Scripture lessons. To sign up, send us an email: devotional@covenantchicago.org.

November Mercy Bin: This month, Covenant is collecting donations for Breakthrough Urban Ministries and Sunshine Gospel Ministries. Both organizations are hosting Christmas stores to help families on the south and west sides celebrate the joy of the season through gift giving despite financial difficulties. You can support these organizations by visiting their online registries and ordering a gift or two (<https://covenantchicago.org/november-mercy-bin/>). Gifts can be brought or sent to Covenant through December 1. Questions? Contact Pastor Dan (dadamson@covenantchicago.org).

Trivia Night: Join us for a trivia night on Friday, November 20 at 7:30 pm. You're welcome to create your own team of 4 to 8, or let Covenant assign you a team as a way to get to meet others at Covenant. Registration deadline is November 20 at noon. You can sign up here: <https://covenantchicago.org/events/trivia-night/>

Ushers Needed: Covenant is looking for additional volunteers to serve as ushers at one of our Sunday morning services. Ushers remain in the narthex at the start and end of service to greet attendees and answer any questions they may have. If you'd be willing to serve in this way, please contact Jenny Smith (jenny.smith@yale.edu).

Small Groups: Covenant has many small groups that meet both online and in person. Every Wednesday at 7 pm, Pastor Dan leads a group that meets at the church. If you're interested in joining that group or another, please contact Pastor Dan (dadamson@covenantchicago.org).

Do you need help? If the ongoing repercussions of covid-19 present a financial or physical hardship for you, please contact our deacons (diaconate@covenantchicago.org). Your email will go directly to the deacons, and they'll treat it with confidence. If you're able, now is a great time to contribute to the Deacons Fund to meet the needs of others in our congregation.

Go With Joy

Je - sus, Sav - ior pi - lot me ov - er life's temp - est - tuous sea;
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;
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._
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

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

Aaron Baker

Pastor: x31, abaker@covenantchicago.org

David Salsedo

Associate Pastor: x39, dsalsedo@covenantchicago.org

Dan Adamson

Associate Pastor: x24, dadamson@covenantchicago.org

Jeff Schneider

Church Planting Pastor: jschneider@covenantchicago.org

Support Staff

Larissa Bossemeyer

Director of Ministries: x40, lbossemeyer@covenantchicago.org

Sherri Bredenberg

Director of Children's Ministries: x38, sbredenberg@covenantchicago.org

Michele Dillon

Director of Care and Counseling Ministry (CCM): mdillon@covenantchicago.org

Your email inquiry will be promptly answered.

Gene Pierson

Director of Finance & Property: x35, gpierson@covenantchicago.org

Ian Troll

Director of Youth Ministries: ian@covenantchicago.org

Paul van der Bijl

Director of Worship and Music: x33, pvanderbijl@covenantchicago.org

Session

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

Diaconate

Rich Lane, Andrew Dykstra, Jonathan Ellison, Phil Koerner, Paul Leo, Joel Miller, Shane Rector, Jenny Smith, Deb Van Der Molen, Matt Ver Steeg

Treasurer: Ben Meyer

If you're in need or wish to speak with a deacon, you can email us at diaconate@covenantchicago.org.

Covenant Life

worship | grow and learn | serve

We encourage everyone to get connected to the life of the church in these three ways:

Worship Together. We believe that humans are worshipping beings, made for communion with the Triune God, and that ordering our common worship around the Gospel on Sunday has a profound, formative effect on every part of our lives. The rhythm of Sunday worship is the rhythm of the whole Christian life and it stands counter to lots of other rhythms that clamor for our attention and allegiance in this world. Ordering ourselves together around it strengthens our appetites, imaginations and abilities to live as followers of Jesus wherever we find ourselves. Come to church on Sunday!

Grow and Learn Together. We believe that learning about our faith and growing together in it are necessary for flourishing in the Christian life. The goal of Christian learning is to form us into human beings who are fully swept up into the work God is doing in his world. Learning is more than simply knowing; it is the internalization of truth that leads to mature thinking and acting.

We'd like for everyone to take two core classes while you're here: the Covenant Life Class, an introduction to Christianity and to our church, and The Story of Scripture, which traces themes through Scripture and applies them to our everyday lives. After those classes, consider joining a more intimate Discipleship Cohort that meets with a mentor. For information about these opportunities, contact Pastor David Salsedo (dsalsedo@covenantchicago.org).

We'd like for everyone to consider joining a small group which meets together regularly to build meaningful relationships and live out the Christian life together. They're one of the most important ways of getting care and being connected at Covenant. To find out more about small groups, or to join the small group that meets at church on Wednesdays at 6.30pm, contact Pastor Dan Adamson (dadamson@covenantchicago.org).

Serve Together. We believe the natural outcome of receiving and experiencing grace is to be propelled outward into mission and service. Every one of us has been given gifts to use for the good of our common life and for the good of the broken world around us. We're called to give of ourselves because we're part of the story of God's reconciliation of all things. Every week there are numerous opportunities to serve at Covenant and elsewhere listed in the order of worship. We encourage everyone to regularly use their gifts in service. To learn more about opportunities to serve, contact Pastor Dan Adamson (dadamson@covenantchicago.org).



*a church, a city,
and a world
continually made new
by the grace of Christ*
2012 W. Dickens, Chicago, IL 60647 |
773.486.9590 | www.covenantchicago.org