

Luke 24:17 'He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?" They stood still, their faces downcast'.

And do you ask what I am speaking of
Although you know the whole tale of my heart;
Its longing and its loss, its hopeless love?
You walk beside me now and take my part
As though a stranger, one who doesn't know
The pit of disappointment, the despair
The jolts and shudders of my letting go,
My aching for the one who isn't there.
And yet you know my darkness from within,
My cry of dereliction is your own,
You bore the isolation of my sin
Alone, that I need never be alone.
Now you reveal the meaning of my story
That I, who burn with shame, might blaze with glory.

- ~ Malcolm Guite
- ~ cover design by Jon Skinner

2nd Sunday of Eastertide, April 7, 2024 Covenant Presbyterian Church of Chicago

## 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** 

Larissa Bossemeyer

Prepare for worship

Dear God, by your power may we, with all the saints, comprehend the breadth and length and height and depth of the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that we may be filled with your fullness.

We come to worship you today. We come to sing, pray, and listen. You always hear us. Help us to hear you. Amen.

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

from the Easter Exultet, 6th cent.

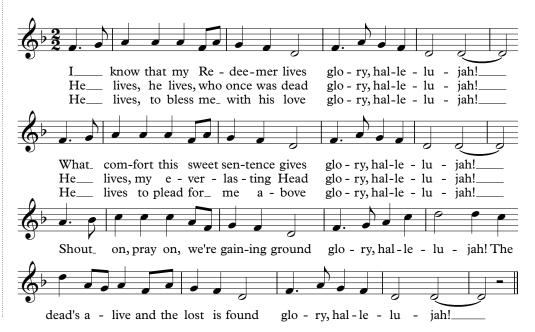
Leader: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!
Exult, all creation around God's throne!
Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!
Sound the trumpet of salvation!

All: Rejoice, heavenly powers!
Sing, choirs of angels!
Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!

To the one who is, and who was, and who is to come.



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



Leader: Rejoice, O church! Exult in glory!

The risen Savior shines upon you!

Let this place resound with joy,
echoing the mighty song of all God's people!

Al: Rejoice, heavenly powers!
Sing, choirs of angels!
Jesus Christ, our King, is risen! Amen.



I Know that My Redeemer Lives, Words: Samuel Medly, 1775, Music: from the Sacred Harp

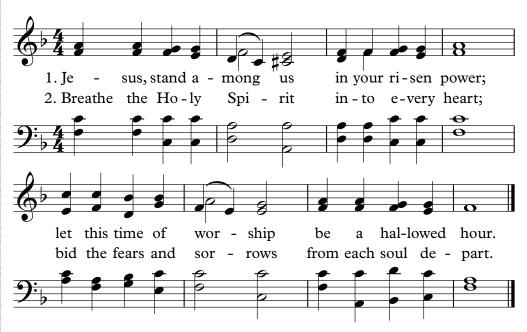
#### PRAYER OF ADORATION & INVOCATION

Leader: Glory to you, O God. We raise our joys and triumphs high for we stand in the warm and bright light of the ressurection of your Son, Jesus Christ.

All: By his dying, he destroyed death, and by his rising, you restore to us everlasting life. By your Spirit, make us glad with your presence.

We respond to God's call by adoring him and by realizing that he is among us as we gather.

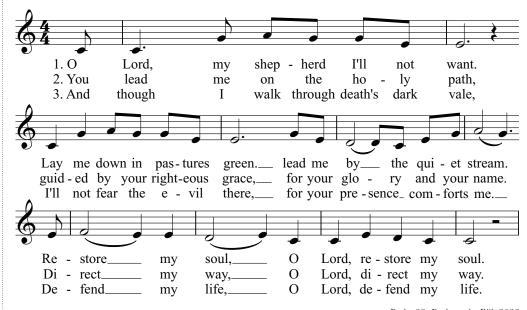
Silent moment of adoration



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

GOD FORGIVES AND CLEANSES US Leader: He was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.
All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

# Silent time of confession



Psalm 23, Paul van der Bijl, 2022

Leader: He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

All: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.



## **LESSONS FROM THE WORD**

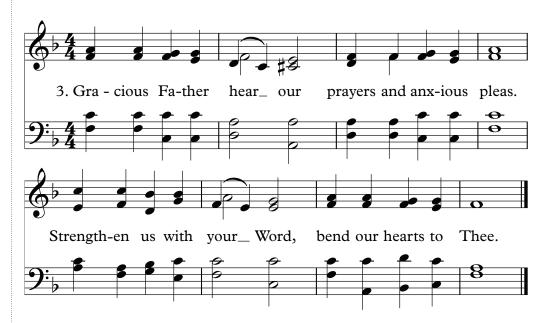
Old Testament Lesson - Isaiah 53:3-6, p.613

New Testament Lesson - 1 Corinthians 15:3-8, p.961

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

All: Thanks be to God.



THE WORD Pastor Dan Adamson

On the Road, Luke 24:13-35, p.885

<sup>13</sup> That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. <sup>16</sup> But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. 18 Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" <sup>19</sup> And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, 20 and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. <sup>21</sup> But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. <sup>22</sup> Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, 23 and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. 24 Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." 25 And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" <sup>27</sup> And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

<sup>28</sup> So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, <sup>29</sup> but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" <sup>33</sup> And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, <sup>34</sup> saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" <sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

## **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

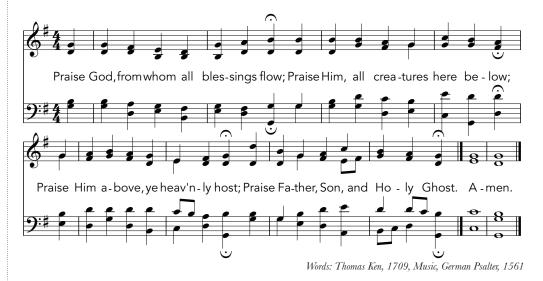
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

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.



COMMUNES WITH US

GOD

host of this family meal. We come to his table unified in peace and offer a communal prayer of deep gratitude for all that He has done through his Son.

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: Blessed God, you walk with us from the Jerusalem of our failure to the Emmaus of your glorious revelation.

Leader: You made us to be your companions, and gave us food and drink that we might share your life with you.

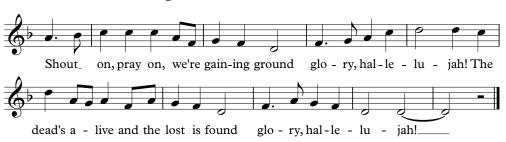
All: You created us from the dust of the earth, and you re-created us by water and the Spirit.

Leader: You called your chosen people, you sent Moses and the prophets, and you came among us in Jesus

All: that we might know you in his crucified and broken body and celebrate you in the everlasting joy of his resurrection.

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

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.

## **Song for Communion**

You are welcome to join in song:



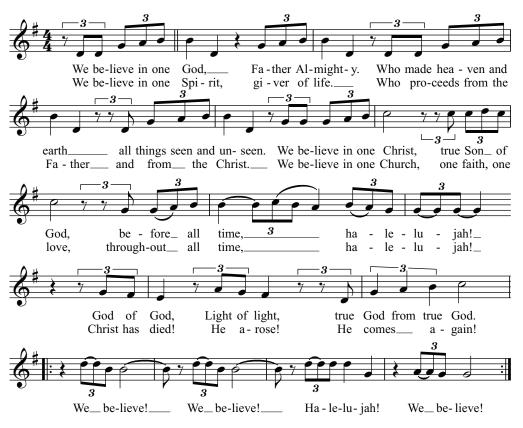
Fairest Lord Jesus, Words: Münster Gesangbuch, 1677. Music: Schlesische Volkslieder, 1842. addl. text vs2-4 by Erik Dewar, Ruth Newby, Caleb Wiley, College Church, Wheaton, 2016

#### **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.



Based on the Nicene Creed, by Paul van der Bijl & Dave Jarvis, 2023, a song in triplets to exalt the Trinity. IN COMMUNITY Larissa Bossemeyer

Announcements, events and opportunities at Covenant during the coming weeks

#### **WITH JOY**

GOD SENDS US



Hallelujah is Our Song, Words and Music by Sarah Hart, Holy Family Catholic Church, Brentwood, TN, 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 Narthex
- Nursery: Ages 0-4 (Lower Level)
- Sunday School: PreK-8th Grade (Lower Level)
- Sunday School: High School (Youth Room, Ed Building)

## Volunteers in Service Today:

Communion Servers: Barry Reece, Josh Norton (9:00); James Leach, Tyler and Lamont Black (11:15)

Ushers: Fernando Kim, Jonathan Clarke (9:00); Andrew Dykstra (11:15)

Welcome Table: Jon Skinner (9:00)

Musicians: Paul van der Bijl, guitar vocals; Matthew Siefert, bass; Adriane Fink, piano; Dave Jarvis, saxaphone, 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

**From Gospel to Apocalypse:** Join us for this 9-week class taught primarily by Olivia Stewart Lester (Associate Professor of New Testament and Early Christianity, Loyola University). Throughout this series, we'll be introduced to the full New Testament canon and 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 will begin on April 14 in the Library.

**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 for this 6-week class beginning April 14 in the Conference Room. We'll look at stories centered on things like power, suffering, listening well, and fear with an eye towards learning what Jesus means to teach us as we seek to follow him.

**Covenant Life Class:** Join us for our Covenant Life Class taught by the staff. This 6 week class, beginning April 14 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).

#### **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.

**Pickleball at Covenant:** Join others from Covenant for pickleball in the gym on some Saturdays from 9 to 11 am. All are welcome to join; instructors will be available if you're new to the sport. Sign up on our website (covenantchicago.org/pickleball/) for upcoming dates. Questions? Contact Ian Cull (iancull74@gmail.com).

**Men's Retreat:** Join others from Covenant on April 26-28 for our annual men's retreat at Covenant Harbor in Lake Geneva, WI. You can find more information and register online at https://covenantchicago.org/events/mens-retreat/. Contact men@covenantchicago.org with questions.

**Congregational Meeting:** Covenant will have our annual congregational meeting today at 10:30 am in the sanctuary. We'll talk about the budget that began on April 1, hear some updates about the previous year, and talk about some projects we hope to tackle together in the coming year. Children's Sunday School classes and nurseries will be available, but there will be no adult classes during this time.

**Dinners Together:** Covenant is planning to host small potluck dinners for 8-12 guests at homes throughout the city on May 11 and 18. If you'd be open to hosting at your home, please contact Pastor Dan (dadamson@ covenantchicago.org) to learn more.

#### **SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES**

**Sunday Morning Sound Technicians Needed:** If you are interested in helping run sound on occasional Sunday mornings, please contact PD Young (pauldavidy@gmail.com).

**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).

**April Mercy Bin:** For the month of April, Covenant is collecting donations to support New Moms, an organization working to change the future for young moms experiencing poverty and homelessness in Chicagoland by offering housing, job training, and family support. Current needs are for Enfamil baby formula (especially NeuroPro and Gentlease NeuroPro), disposable diapers (particularly sizes 4, 5, and 6) and diaper wipes. Donations will be collected in the Mercy Bin in the back of the Narthex throughout the month. Questions? Contact Deb Van Der Molen (dvmolen79@gmail.com).

**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 (Imgehrs@gmail.com). Most volunteers serve once every other month.

#### **NEWS AND UPDATES**

**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.

**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).

**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.

**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).

Giving QR 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:
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:
Trayer 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

