



the
Psalms
of Ascent



6th Sunday of Pentecost | July 2, 2023

Anti-Psalm 121

*I look around,
where does my help come from?
My help comes from myself.
But I can make nothing.*

*I stumble constantly;
I am distracted and tired, in constant need of rest.
I can't keep focus,
My attention wanders even during commercials.*

*I keep myself,
but I've killed every plant I've tried to keep.
I wither under constant heat,
from pressure within and without.*

*I keep myself from evil, but evil hides even in my own heart,
my keeping brings no life.
I cannot control where I start or where I finish,
my security diminishes with each passing day.*

~ Todd Gwennap

cover by Lenae van der Bijl

Children's programming is available during both services on the lower level, see page 16 for details.

Large Print orders of worship and devices to improve hearing are available in the back of the sanctuary.

*Green for the Season of Pentecost
Green represents growth, bountifulness, hope,
and the victory of life over death in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.*

Welcome

Silent moment to prepare for worship

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. Amen.

Ho - - ly God, Ho - ly and migh - ty,
Ho - ly im-mor-tal one, Have mer-cy, have mer-cy on us.

Trisagion, Words, 1st Century prayer; Music, Fernando Ortega, 2011

Call To Worship

From Psalm 145

Leader: I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.

**All: Every day I will bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.**

Leader: Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,
and his greatness is unsearchable.

**All: We will pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness
and will sing aloud of your righteousness.**

Leader: All your works will give thanks to you, O LORD,
and all your saints will bless you!

**All: My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD.
Let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.**



1. All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing,
2. O rush-ing winds that are so strong, Ye clouds that sail in heav'n a-long,
3. O ev'-ry-one of ten-der heart, For-giv-ing oth-ers take your part,



Sun, moon and stars re-joice on high, Praise to the Lord of light di - vine,
O ris-ing moon, in praise re - joice, Ye lights of eve-ning find a voice!
All you who pain and sor - row bear, Praise God and lay on Him your care.



Sing al - le - lu - ia!_ Sing al - le - lu - ia!_ Praise the Fa - ther a - bove, sing



al - le - lu - ia, sing al - le - lu - ia, _ sing al - le - lu - ia, _ For His



in - fi - nite love, _ sing al - le - lu - ia!

All Creatures, Words: Francis of Assisi, 1225. Music: Steve Hindalong, 2002

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Leader: O Father, we can never reach the bottom of your abundant goodness and grace. Thank you for gathering us into your merciful outstretched arms.

silent moment of meditation

Sing al - le - lu - ia!__ Sing al - le - lu - ia!__ Praise the Fa-ther a - bove, sing
al - le-lu - ia, sing al - le - lu - ia,__ sing al - le - lu - ia,__ For His
in - fi - nite love, sing al - le - lu - ia!

The musical score consists of three staves of music in a single system. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in a simple, rhythmic style. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with some words split across lines. The second staff continues the melody and lyrics. The third staff concludes the phrase with a double bar line.

Leader: We will sing of your fame! Come Holy Spirit:

All: Open our eyes to your presence among us today.

Confession of Sin

from Psalm 28

Leader: To you, O LORD, I call;
my rock, be not deaf to me,
lest, if you be silent to me,
I become like those who go down to the pit.

All: **Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy,
when I cry to you for help,**

Sing to Confess

1. To you O Lord I call, My Rock, be not deaf to me. To you O
Lord, I call, O hear the voice of my plea. When I cry to you for
help, When I cry to you for help,

silent moment of confession

Assurance of Pardon

from Psalm 28 and Romans 8

Leader: Blessed be the LORD!
For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.

**All: The LORD is my strength and my shield;
in him my heart trusts, and I am helped;
my heart exults,
and with my song I give thanks to him.**

Leader: For the law of the Spirit of life has set us free in Christ Jesus
from the law of sin and death.

All: Sing to Assure

2. Bless'd be the Lord, for he has heard the voice of my plea.

— Bless'd be the Lord for he is my strength and my shield. — In

him my heart ex - ults, — In him my heart ex - ults. —

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the second line of the chorus. The second and third staves continue the melody for the following lines. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined to indicate phrasing. The music ends with a double bar line.

Psalm 28, Music by Paul van der Bijl, 2015

Lessons from the Word

read by Peggy Adamson

New Testament Lesson -
Gospel Lesson -

Romans 8.31-39, p.944
John 17.9-11, p.903

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

I to the hills will lift my eyes; from where shall
God will not let your foot be moved, your guard - ian
Your faith - ful keep - er is the Lord, your shel - ter

come my aid? My help is from the
nev - er sleeps; God's watch - ful and un -
and your shade; 'neath sun or moon by

Lord a - lone, who heav'n and earth has made.
slum - bering care pro - tects and safe - ly keeps.
day or night, you shall not be a - fraid.

Psalm 121, Words, Psalter, 1912; Music, attr. Stephen Jenks 1832, arr. vanderBijl, 2013

The Word

Pastor Aaron Baker
Your Keeper, Psalm 121 p.516

A Song of Ascents.

- ¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills.
From where does my help come?
- ² My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.
- ³ He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.
- ⁴ Behold, he who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
- ⁵ The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade on your right hand.
- ⁶ The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.
- ⁷ The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
- ⁸ The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and forevermore.



From e - vil God will_ keep you safe, pro - vide for
all you need; your go - ing out, your
com - ing in, God will for - ev - er lead.

Sacrament of Communion

2 Corinthians 13:11-14: Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

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.

Greet each other in the name of Christ

Giving back to God a portion of what he's already given us is an important part of the Christian life. The bread and wine we use in communion are a picture of the gifts that God has given us, offered back to him as an act of worship. You can offer your resources back to God in support of the work of the church by placing your offering in the boxes in the back on the way out. You can also give online at covenantchicago.org/give, use the QR code on page 15, or text a donation amount to 84321.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music. The first two staves are for the vocal line, with the lyrics written below them. The last two staves are for the piano accompaniment. The music is in 4/4 time and the key signature has one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. A-men." The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and bar lines.

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

The Great Thanksgiving, by Samuel Wells, vicar, St. Martin-in-the-fields, Church of England, 2016

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: It is our delight and our privilege to lift our hearts to you, our Lord and God.

Leader: In this Communion Feast you give us the pattern of our salvation.

**All: In the inadequacy of loaves and fishes
we see our paltry offerings from the gift of your creation;**

Leader: but just as in incarnation, cross, and resurrection you took, and blessed, and broke, and shared our human nature in Jesus,

**All: so he took, and blessed, and broke, and shared the loaves and fish
to be an overflowing banquet of glory for your hungry people.**

Leader: Through the abundance of twelve baskets left over, you invite us to share your feast, with angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven, and the saints on earth, 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.**

The image shows three staves of musical notation in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics: "I to the hills will lift my eyes; from where shall". The second staff contains: "come my aid? My help is from the". The third staff contains: "Lord a - lone, who heav'n and earth has made." The music consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests and a final double bar line.

Distribute the Bread & Cup

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, 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.

Prayer for those struggling with sin

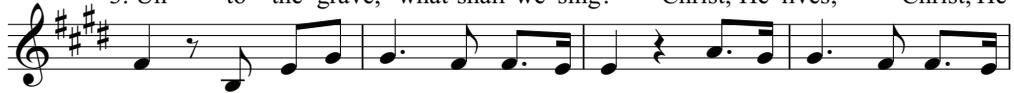
Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people, and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Grant also that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn 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.

Music for Communion

You are welcome to join in song:



1. What is our hope in life and death? Christ a-lone, Christ a-
2. What truth can calm the troubled soul? God is good, God is
3. Un - to the grave, what shall we sing? "Christ, He lives; Christ, He



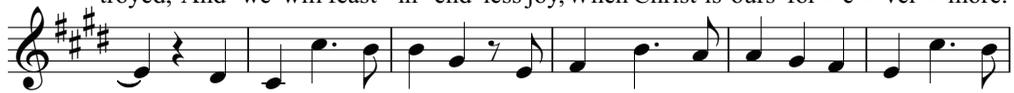
lone. What is our on - ly con - fi dence? That our souls to Him be
good. Where is His grace and good-ness known? In our great Re-dee-mer's
lives!" And what re - ward will hea - ven bring? E - ver - las - ting life with



long. Who holds our days with - in His hand? What comes, a - part from His com-
blood. Who holds our faith when fears a-rise? Who stands a - bove the stor-my
Him. There we will rise to meet the Lord, Then sin and death will be des-



mand? And what will keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand.
trial? Who sends the waves that bring us nigh Un - to the shore, the rock of Christ?
troyed, And we will feast in end-less joy, When Christ is ours for - e - ver - more.



— O sing hal - le - lu - jah! Our hope springs e - ter - nal; O sing hal - le



lu - jah! Now and e - ver we con - fess Christ our hope in life and death.

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death, Jordan Kauflin, Keith Getty, Christ Covenant Church, Atlanta, GA, 2020

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.**

O sing hal - le - lu - jah! Our hope springs e - ter - nal; O sing hal - le
lu - jah! Now and e - ver we con - fess Christ our hope in life and death.

The musical notation consists of two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff is in 4/4 time and contains the melody for the first line of the hymn. The second staff is in 2/4 time and contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

The Work of the People

Romans 12:4-6, For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them.

in community

Events and opportunities at Covenant during the coming weeks.

Go With Joy



The chur-ch's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ her_ Lord,
E - lect from eve - ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the_ earth;
Mid toil and tri - bu - la - tion, and tu - mult of her_ war,
Yet she on earth hath un - ion with God the Three in One,



She is His new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word.____
Her chart-ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth;____
She waits the con - su - ma - tion, of peace for - ev - er more.____
And my - stic sweet co - mun - ion with those whose rest is won.____



From heav'n He came and sought her to be His ho - ly bride;
One ho - ly Name she bless - es par - takes one ho - ly food,
Till with the vi - sion glo - rious, Her long - ing eyes are blest,
O hap - py ones and ho - ly, Lord give us grace that we



With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.
And to one hope she press - es, with eve - ry grace en - dued.
And the great church vic - to - rious, shall be the church at rest.
like them the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with Thee.

The Church's One Foundation, words: Samuel Stone, 1866; music: Brian Moss, 1996

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.

Welcome to Covenant Presbyterian Church

TODAY AT COVENANT

10.15 service

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

Volunteers in Service Today:

Communion Servers: Bill Heine, Cora Passis, Joshua Norton

Ushers: Chuck Michalek

Musicians today: Brent Stutzman, piano, vocals, (Boulevard Presbyterian Church); Matthew Siefert, bass; Erica Norman, vocals; Iva Riggs, vocals; Jeff Wakolbinger, sound tech.

ANNOUNCEMENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY

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.

One Service Sundays: We'll have one service at 10:15 am on August 27 and September 3. There will be no Common Ground on these days. Childcare will be available during service for children birth through 5th grade. Plan to join us for an all-church cookout after service on June 25 and August 27.

Summer Common Ground: Join us for coffee and snacks between the services in the courtyard. Classes and Sunday Schools for kids and adults will return on September 10.



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/>.

Home Court: Every summer, Breakthrough hosts a series of summer block parties & basketball tournaments in East Garfield Park. Covenant is partnering with Breakthrough on Friday, July 14 to host Home Court from 4:30 – 8:30 pm in St. Louis Park. Volunteers help prepare food for the free cookout and help with children's activities. This year, the block party will have a carnival theme, complete with a dunk tank that Covenant volunteers will help run. Join us for part or all of the event. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Pastor Dan (dadamson@covenantchicago.org).

Trunk Party: Breakthrough is hosting a Trunk Party on August 5th for 80 high school graduates in Garfield Park headed off to college. A trunk party is a celebration for someone who is getting ready to head off to college to fill up a "trunk" with essentials for college. You can find a list of supplies to purchase on our welcome table. Items should be returned to our Mercy Bin by July 23. Covenant will also help cook and serve food for the party from 9 am to noon on August 5. To learn more or sign up, please contact Margret Ann Natsis margretann.natsis@gmail.com.

Summer Dinners Together: Join others from Covenant for potluck gatherings throughout the city this summer. On July 29, Covenant is organizing backyard dinners for groups of 12-20 throughout the city. If you'd be interested in attending or hosting one of these get-togethers, please fill out the form on the Welcome Table, on our website (<https://covenantchicago.org/events/dinner-together/>) or email Larissa Bossemeyer (lbossemeyer@covenantchicago.org).

Elementary Family Ice Cream Social: Please join other families with elementary age children for an ice cream social on Wednesday, July 12 at 7pm at Covenant. Weather permitting, we will gather outside in the grassy lot west of the Education Building. Please RSVP if you plan to join: <https://covenantchicago.org/events/ice-cream-social/>.

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: July 15, 22 and 29. Questions? Contact Jenna Hammond (jenaomia@gmail.com).

Musicians Needed: If are interested in being a part of the worship team on Sunday mornings, please contact Paul van der Bijl at pvanderbijl@covenantchicago.org

Ushers Needed: Ushers are the first people to greet people as they come to Covenant. They pass out the orders of worship, help people find the bathrooms and classrooms, and help at the end of service to clean up the sanctuary. Most ushers serve once a month. If you'd like to join our usher team, please contact Margaret-Ann Natsis (margretann.natsis@gmail.com).



Gospel Justice Center: Please pray for Covenant's Gospel Justice Center, a legal-aid clinic created in partnership with Together Chicago and Administer Justice, and run entirely by Covenant volunteers. On the second Saturday of every month, we welcome our neighbors with legal questions from the Logan Square, Bucktown, Garfield Park and Humboldt Park neighborhoods. Please pray for us to care well for our guests, and pray for us to grow in our ability to become a more known presence in our neighborhood.

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 Ian Troll (ian@covenantchicago.org).

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.

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 David (dsalsedo@covenantchicago.org).

Giving QR Code



Pastoral Staff

Aaron Baker
Pastor, abaker@covenantchicago.org

David Salsedo
Associate Pastor, dsalsedo@covenantchicago.org

Dan Adamson
Associate Pastor, dadamson@covenantchicago.org

Support Staff

Larissa Bossemeyer
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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, Kevin Jones, Brad Lewis, Steve Lehmann, David Salsedo.

Please direct correspondence for the Session to session@covenantchicago.org.

Diaconate

Andrew Dykstra, Jonathan Ellison, Phil Koerner, Joel Miller, Margret-Ann Natsis, 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.

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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