



the  
Psalms  
of Ascents



10th Sunday of Pentecost | July 30, 2023

Sin is

*Faith is: that the self...is grounded...in God.*

*Sin is faith's opposite...*

*Sin is... wanting to be one's own self,  
instead of a self whose specifications and identity  
are the outcome of one's relationship to God.*

~ Soren Kierkegaard

watercolor by Lenae van der Bijl

*Children's programming is available during both services on the lower level, see page 15 for details.*

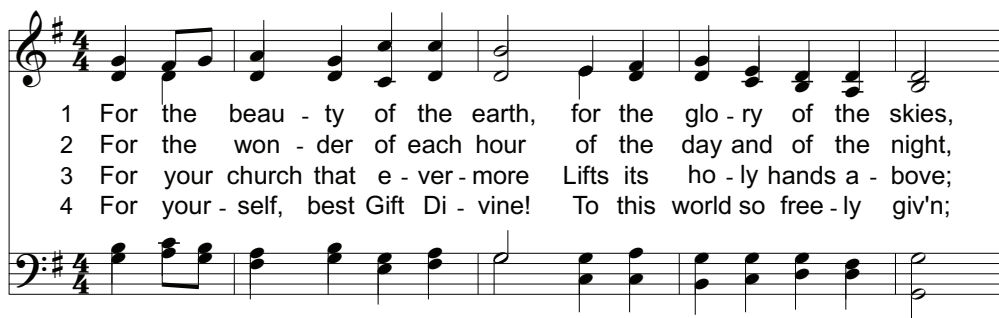
*Large Print orders of worship and devices to improve hearing are available in the back of the sanctuary.*

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

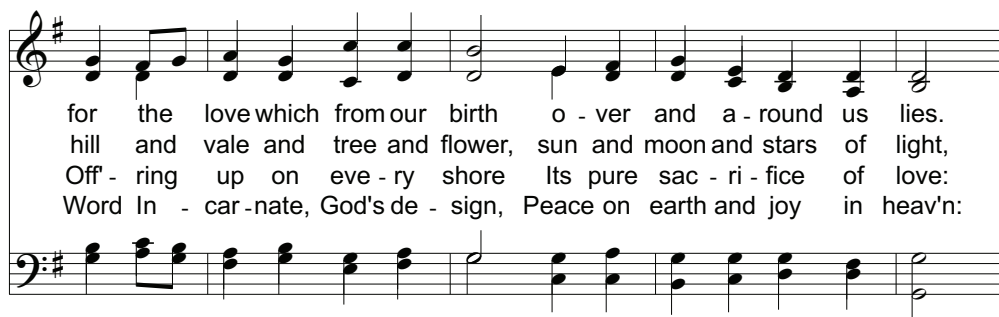
## Welcome

*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.*



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,  
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
3 For your church that e - ver - more Lifts its ho - ly hands a - bove;  
4 For your - self, best Gift Di - vine! To this world so free - ly giv'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies.  
hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light,  
Off - ring up on eve - ry shore Its pure sac - ri - fice of love:  
Word In - car - nate, God's de - sign, Peace on earth and joy in heav'n:

*Refrain*



Christ, our Lord, to you we raise this, our hymn of grate - ful praise.

*For the Beauty of the Earth, Words: Folliot S. Pierpont, 1864; Music: Conrad Kocher, 1838*

# Call to Worship

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*Psalm 148*

Leader: Who will praise the Lord from the heavens?

**All: All his angels and all his hosts!**

Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord!

**All: The sun and moon and shining stars!**

Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord!

**All: Who will praise the Lord from the earth?**

Leader: The great sea creatures and all deeps!

**All: Let them praise the name of the Lord!**

Leader: The fire and hail, snow and mist!

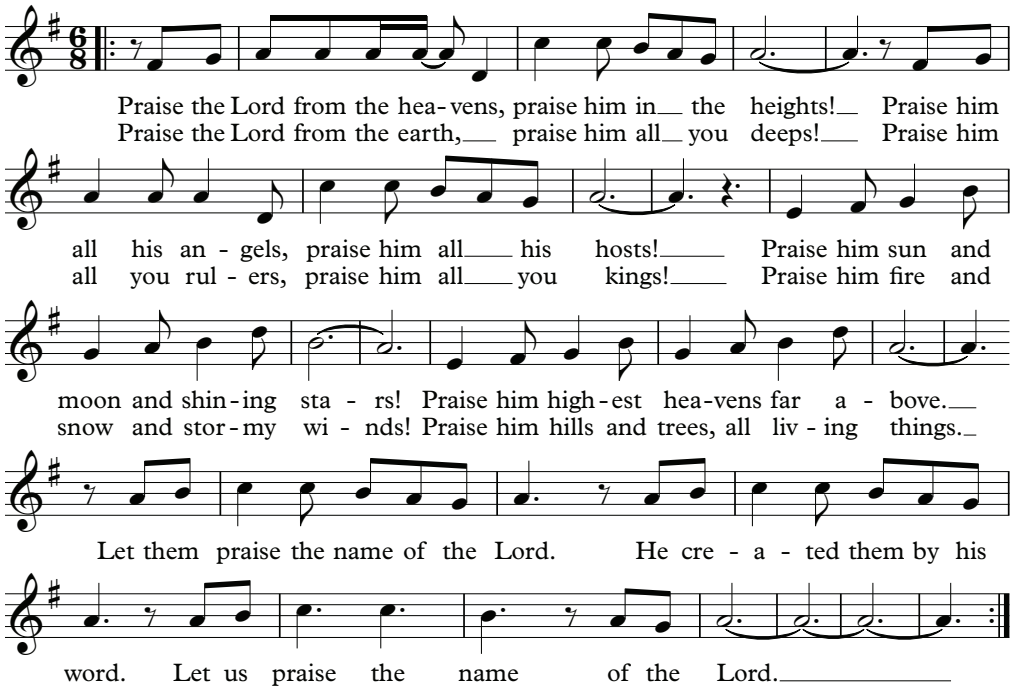
**All: Let them praise the name of the Lord!**

Leader: The mountains and hills and beasts and birds!

**All: Let them praise the name of the Lord!**

Leader: We will Praise the name of the Lord!

**All: Let us praise the name of the Lord together!**



Praise the Lord from the hea - vens, praise him in the heights! Praise him  
 Praise the Lord from the earth, praise him all you deeps! Praise him  
 all his an - gels, praise him all his hosts! Praise him sun and  
 all you rul - ers, praise him all you kings! Praise him fire and  
 moon and shin - ing sta - rs! Praise him high - est hea - vens far a - bove.  
 snow and stor - my wi - nds! Praise him hills and trees, all liv - ing things.  
 Let them praise the name of the Lord. He cre - a - ted them by his  
 word. Let us praise the name of the Lord.

*Psalm 148, Music by Paul van der Bijl, 2019; arr. by Liam and Adrian van der Bijl*

## Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

**Leader:** *Holy Father, we stand in awe at the wonder and beauty of all your work. We thank and adore you for making yourself known to us in your creation and for visiting us today in Word and Sacrament.*

**All:** Father, by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
**open our eyes and hearts to your presence with us today. Amen.**

*silent moment of meditation*



Christ, our Lord, to you we raise this, our hymn of grate - ful praise.

# Confession of Sin

from Isaiah 59.12

Leader: For our transgressions are multiplied before you, and our sins testify against us;  
All: **for our transgressions are with us, and we know our iniquities.**

The musical score is written in 6/8 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: 'Come eve - ry soul by sin op - press'd, There's mer - cy with the Lord; And For Je - sus shed His pre - cious blood, Rich bles - sings to be - stow; Plunge He will su - re - ly give you rest by trust - ing in His word. now in to the crim - son flood That wash - es white as snow. On - ly tru - st him, on - ly trust Him, On .ly trust Him now. He will sa - ve you, He will save you, He will save you now.' The score includes first and second endings for the final phrase.

*Come, Every Soul by Sin Oppressed, Words and Music by John Stockton, 1874, arr. by vdBijl*

*Silent time to pray and confess*

Prayer of silent confession

*God of all flesh, in Jesus Christ you have immersed divine splendor and wisdom into human life. You are not repelled by the shabbiness and shamefulfulness of my life but seek to redeem me. I confess my repulsion of those whose actions bewilder me, whose sorrow burdens me, or whose good fortune somehow detracts from my life. My compassion is limited to those like myself. My kindness is reserved for those kind to me. My passionate concern remains silent until my own little kingdom is threatened. O God, forgive me. Cleanse me of self-centeredness and open me to the whole breadth and length, height and depth of your love, manifest in all creation. Amen.*

# Assurance of Pardon

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from 2 Corinthians 5:21

Leader: *For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

## Song of Assurance

All:

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 8/8. The lyrics are: 'O Je - sus bles - sed Je - sus dear, I'm com - ing now to Thee, Since You have ma - de the way so clear, And full sal - va - tion free. On - ly tru - st him, on - ly trust Him, On - ly trust Him now. He will sa - ve you, He will save you, He will save you now.' The score includes first and second endings for the final line.

O Je - sus bles - sed Je - sus dear, I'm com - ing now to Thee, Since  
You have ma - de the way so clear, And full sal - va - tion free.  
On - ly tru - st him, on - ly trust Him, On - ly trust Him now.  
He will sa - ve you, He will save you, He will save you now.

# Lessons from the Word

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read by Ben Harvey ①, Sarah Marlow ②

New Testament Lesson -  
Gospel Lesson -

Ephesians 3:14-21, p.977  
Mathew 7:7-11, p.812

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

1.Out of the depths I cry to You, in dark-est plac-es I will call.  
2.Were You to count my sin-ful ways, how could I come be-fore Your throne.

In-cline Your ear to me a-new, and hear my cry for mer-cy, Lord.  
Yet full for-give-ness meets my gaze, I stand re-deemed by grace a lone.

*chorus*  
I will wait for You, I will wait for You, on Your word I will re-ly.

I will wait for You, my soul waits for You, for Your love is my de-light.

Psalm 130, words and music by Jordan Kauflin, Matt Merker, Keith Getty and Stuart Townend, 2018, Christ Covenant Church, Atlanta, GA.



# The Word

Pastor David Salsedo  
Steadfast Love and Plentiful Redemption, Psalm 130 p.518

A Song of Ascents.

<sup>1</sup> Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!

<sup>2</sup> O Lord, hear my voice!  
Let your ears be attentive  
to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

<sup>3</sup> If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,  
O Lord, who could stand?

<sup>4</sup> But with you there is forgiveness,  
that you may be feared.

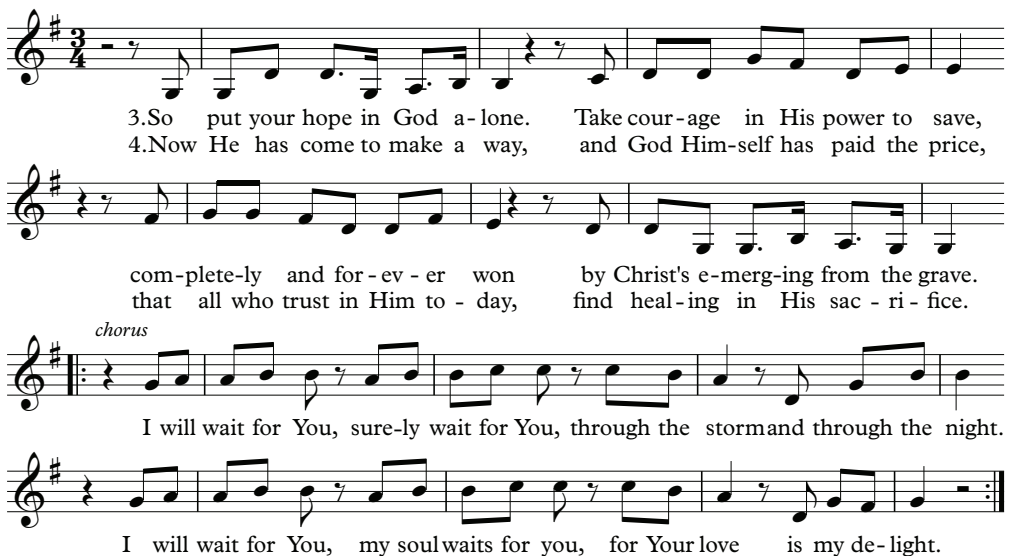
<sup>5</sup> I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,  
and in his word I hope;

<sup>6</sup> my soul waits for the Lord  
more than watchmen for the morning,  
more than watchmen for the morning.

<sup>7</sup> O Israel, hope in the LORD!  
For with the LORD there is steadfast love,  
and with him is plentiful redemption.

<sup>8</sup> And he will redeem Israel  
from all his iniquities.

All:



3. So put your hope in God a-lone. Take cour-age in His power to save,  
4. Now He has come to make a way, and God Him-self has paid the price,  
com-plete-ly and for - ev - er won by Christ's e-merg-ing from the grave.  
that all who trust in Him to - day, find heal-ing in His sac - ri - fice.

*chorus*  
I will wait for You, sure-ly wait for You, through the storm and through the night.  
I will wait for You, my soul waits for you, for Your love is my de-light.

# Sacrament of Communion

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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

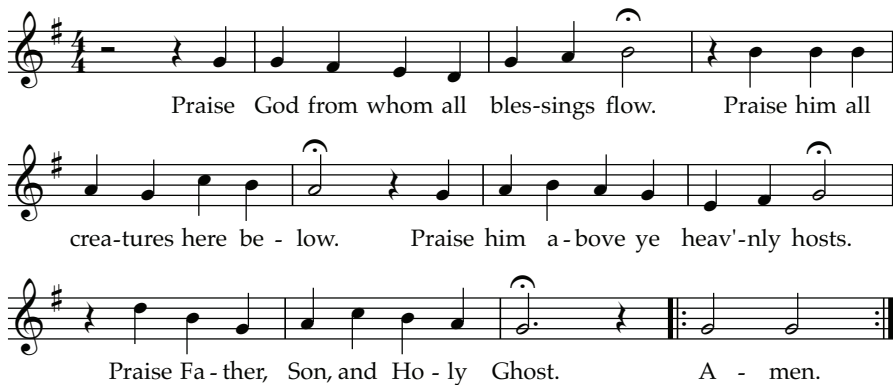
**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

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](http://covenantchicago.org/give), use the QR code on page 15, 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

# 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: Your Spirit brooded over the waters  
before the foundation of the world.**

Leader: Your pillar of fire led your people to freedom  
through the waters of the Red Sea.

**All: Your son Jesus came to his disciples  
across the stormy waves of Galilee.**

Leader: In his agonizing death we see how far we stray from you,  
and in his resurrection we see how you draw us close  
despite our betrayals and failures.

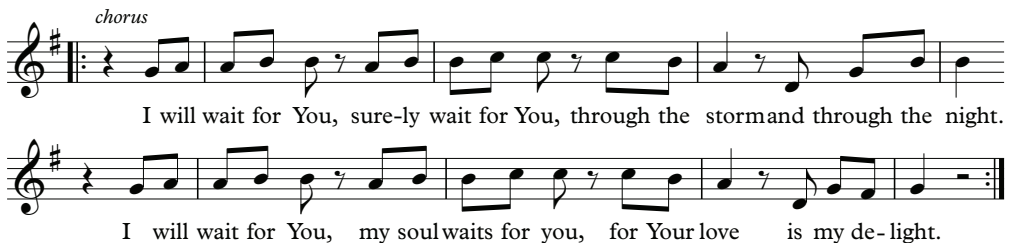
**All: We long for the day when all the saints adore you,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea,**

Leader: 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.**

*chorus*



I will wait for You, sure-ly wait for You, through the storm and through the night.

I will wait for You, my soul waits for you, for Your love is my de-light.

## Distribute the Bread & Cup

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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. Down at the cross where my Sav - ior died,
2. I am so won - drous - ly saved from sin,
3. Oh, pre - cious fount - ain that saves from sin,
4. Come to this fount - ain so rich and sweet,



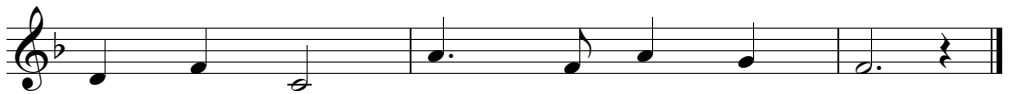
Down where for cleans-ing from sin I cried, There to my heart was the  
Je - sus my Sav - ior a - bides with - in; There at the cross where He  
I am so glad I have en - tered in; There Je - sus saves me and  
Cast thy poor soul at the Sav - ior's feet; Plunge in to - day, and be



blood ap - plied; Glo - ry to His name!  
took me in; Glo - ry to His name! Glo - ry to His name,  
keeps me clean; Glo - ry to His name!  
made com-plete; Glo - ry to His name!



glo - ry to His name: There to my heart was the



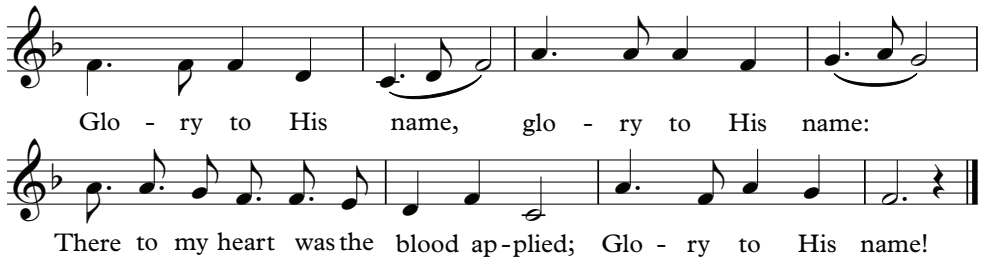
blood ap - plied; Glo - ry to His name!

*Down at the Cross, Words: Elisha Hoffman, 1878. Music: John Stockton (1813-1877).*

## 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.**



Glo - ry to His name, glo - ry to His name:  
There to my heart was the blood ap-plied; Glo - ry to His name!

The image shows two staves of musical notation in a single system. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some notes beamed together. The lyrics 'Glo - ry to His name, glo - ry to His name:' are written below the staff. The second staff continues the melody with similar note values and rests, ending with a double bar line. The lyrics 'There to my heart was the blood ap-plied; Glo - ry to His name!' are written below this staff.

# The Work of the People

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*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.

## ***in Statement of Faith***

*Apostle's Creed*

**All:** I believe in God the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
and in Jesus Christ  
his only Son our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried:  
He descended into hell;  
The third day he rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;  
the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body;  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

## Go With Joy

All:



1. Be - fore the throne of God a - bove I have a strong and per - fect  
2. When Sa - tan tempts me to des - pair, And tells me of the guilt with -  
3. Be - hold Him there, the ri - sen Lamb! My per - fect, spot - less Right - eous

plea, a great High Priest whose name is Love, who e - ver  
in, up - ward I look and see Him there Who made an  
ness; the great un - chan - gea - ble I AM, The King of

lives and pleads for me. My name is gra - ven on His  
end to all my sin. Be - cause the sin - less Sa - vior  
glo - ry and of grace! One with Him - self, I can - not

hands; My name is writ - ten on His  
died, my sin - ful soul is coun - ted  
die; my soul is pur - chased by His

heart; I know that while in heav'n He stands, no tongue can  
free; for God the Just is sa - tis - fied to look on  
blood; my life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my

bid me thence de - part; no tongue can bid me thence de - part.  
Him and par - don me; To look on Him and par - don me.  
Sa - vior and my God; with Christ my Sa - vior and my God!

*Before the Throne of God, words: Charitie Lees Bancroft, ca. 1860s; music, Vikki Cook, 1997, Sovereign Grace Church, Louisville, KY.*

## Benediction

Leader: *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

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## TODAY AT COVENANT

### 1st Service, 9am

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

### 2nd service, 11:15am

- Nurseries, ages 0-4, lower level

### Common Ground, 10:15am

- Coffee and snacks available in the courtyard
- Delighting in the Mystery of the Trinity (All Saints Room, Lower Level)

## Volunteers in Service Today:

Communion Servers: Mark Lester, Amy and Brad Lewis (9:00); Matthew Siefert, Mark and Ranya Faasse (11:15)

Ushers: Jonathan Clarke, Phil Koerner (9:00); Andrew Dykstra, Rich van der Molen (11:15)

Musicians: David Dillon, bass, vocals; Adèle-Marie Buis, oboe; James Gay, keys; Erica Norman, vocals; Cassidy Miller, vocals; Jim Wilkes, guitar, mandolin; Paul van der Bijl, guitar, vocals; Jon Skinner, sound technician.

## 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 August 27.



**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](mailto:breakthrough@covenantchicago.org) for more information or sign up for upcoming dates on our website: <https://covenantchicago.org/events/breakfast-at-breakthrough/>.

**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. Covenant will 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](mailto:margretann.natsis@gmail.com).

**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.

**Delighting in the Mystery of the Trinity.** Join us for this one-week class that will explore the beauty and practicality of the doctrine of the Trinity. What does it mean that there is one God in three persons? And how does this belief impact our faith and practice? Isak Siemens, a summer intern and member at Covenant, will teach this class during Common Ground at 10:15 today in the All Saints Room.

**August 27 Cookout:** Covenant will host an all-church cookout on August 27 at 11:30, following one service at 10:15. In order to make our cookout a success, we need many volunteers to help with setting up the grassy lot, assisting with food prep, and cleaning up afterwards. If you'd be willing to help either before, after or during the cookout, please contact Larissa Bossemeyer ([lbossemeyer@covenantchicago.org](mailto:lbossemeyer@covenantchicago.org)).

**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/](http://covenantchicago.org/pickleball/)) for upcoming dates: August 5, 19 and 26. Questions? Contact Jenna Hammond ([jenaomia@gmail.com](mailto:jenaomia@gmail.com)).

**Save the Date: Women's Retreat.** Mark your calendars for our annual women's retreat on October 20-22. This year, we'll return to the Dekoven Center in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Look for additional details and registration in September. Interested in helping to plan the Fall Retreat or other women's events throughout the year? Contact [women@covenantchicago.org](mailto:women@covenantchicago.org) to volunteer.

**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](mailto: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.

**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](mailto: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/](http://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](mailto:meals@covenantchicago.org).

**Pastor Dan is on sabbatical until August 16.**

**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](mailto:dsalsedo@covenantchicago.org)).



Giving QR Code

## Pastoral Staff

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

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

## Support Staff

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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

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](mailto: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](mailto: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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