

the Weight of Glory

October 24, 2021 | 22nd Sunday after Pentecost



Birds afloat in air's current,
sacred breath? No, not breath of God,
it seems, but God
the air enveloping the whole
globe of being.
It's we who breathe, in, out, in, in the sacred,
leaves astir, our wings
rising, ruffled -- but only the saints
take flight. We cower
in cliff-crevice or edge out gingerly
on branches close to the nest. The wind
marks the passage of holy ones riding
that ocean of air. Slowly their wake
reaches us, rocks us.
But storms or still,
numb or poised in attention,
we inhale, exhale, inhale,
encompassed, encompassed.

~ Denise Levertov

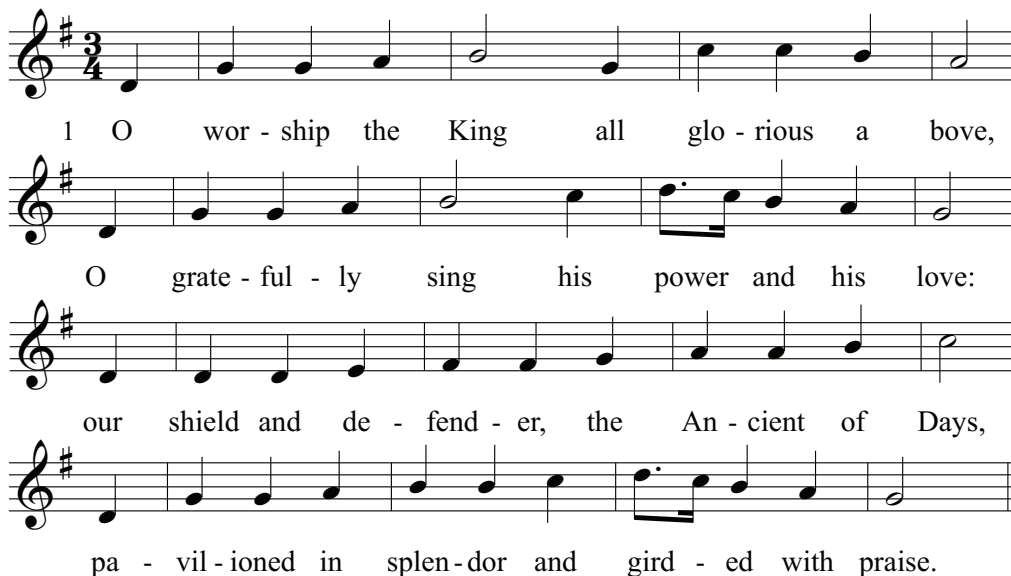
Children's programming is available during both services on the lower level, see page 14 for details.

Large Print orders of worship are available in the back of the sanctuary.

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.



I O wor - ship the King all glo - rious a bove,
O grate - ful - ly sing his power and his love:
our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.

O Worship the King, Words: Robert Grant, 1833, Music: Johann M. Haydn (1737-1806)

Call To Worship, *based on Psalm 105:1-2; Romans 5:5; Revelation 4:8*

Leader: The love of God has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us;

All: we dwell in him and he in us.

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name;

All: make known his deeds among the peoples.

Leader: Sing to him, sing praises to him,

All: and speak of all his marvelous works.

Leader: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,

All: who was and is and is to come!



2 O tell of his might and sing of his grace,
3 Your boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite?
4 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,
5 O mea - sure - less Might, un change - a - ble Love,
whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space.
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail.
whom an - gels de light to wor - ship a bove!
His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
it streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,
Your mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end,
Your ran - somed cre - a - tion, with glo - ry a - blaze,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.
and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend!
in true ad - o - ra - tion shall sing to your praise!

Invocation

Leader: Almighty God, you have shown us your power.
God of grace, you have given us minds to know you,
hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise.
Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory
and worship Christ in spirit and in truth.

All: **Come, Holy Spirit, Amen.**

Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit. Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit.____

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

Confession of Sin, *from Isaiah 64*

Leader: We have all become like one who is unclean,
All: **And all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment.**

Leader: We all fade like a leaf,
All: **And our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.**

Leader: For you have hidden your face from us,
All: **And have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities.**



1. I once was lost in dark - est night, yet thought I knew the way.

2. But as I ran my hell - bound race, in - dif - ferent to the cost,



The sin that prom - ised joy and life had led me to the grave.
you looked up - on my help - less state and led me to the cross.



I had no hope that you would own a reb - el to your will.
And I be - held God's love dis - played, You suf - fered in my place.



And if you had not loved me first, I would re - fuse you still.
You bore the wrath re - served for me, now all I know is grace.

chorus



Hal - le - lu jah! All I have is



Christ. Hal-le - lu - jah! Je - sus is my life.

All I Have is Christ, Words and Music, Jordan Kauflin, Redeemer Church, Arlington, VA, 2008

Silent time to pray and confess

Assurance of Pardon, *from Isaiah 64 and 2 Corinthians 4, 5*

Leader: But now, O Lord, you are our Father;

All: we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

Leader: And we have this treasure, *Christ*, in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.

All: God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

3. Now Lord I would be yours a - lone, and live so all might see,
the strength to fol - low your com-mands could nev-er come from me.
O Fa-ther, use my ran-somed life in an - y way you choose,
and let my song for - ev - er be my on - ly boast is you

chorus
Hal - le - lu jah! All I have is
Christ. Hal-le - lu - jah! Je-sus is my life.

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff in 3/4 time. It consists of several lines of music with lyrics underneath. The first line is a simple melody. The second line continues the melody. The third line has a longer note value. The fourth line ends with a double bar line. The fifth line is the start of the chorus, marked with 'chorus' and features a longer note value. The sixth line continues the chorus melody. The seventh line ends with a double bar line.

Lessons from the Word

read by Mark Hicks ①, Kelley Oldham ②

Old Testament Lesson -
Gospel Lesson -

Genesis 1.1-5
Matthew 5.14-16

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

Respond to the Word



O splen dor of the fa-ther's light, that makes our day light lu-cid bri-ght
True Sun, break out on earth and shine, in ra-diance with your light di-vine__



O light of light and sun of day, now shine on us your bright-est ray.
By daz-zling of your Spi-rit's might, o give our ja-ded sens-es light.

O Splendor of the Father's Light, Words: St. Ambrose (340-397). Music: mode 1, Antiphoner, 1400's

The Word

Pastor Aaron Baker

The Surpassing Power Belongs to God, 2 Corinthians 4:1-12

Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart. But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

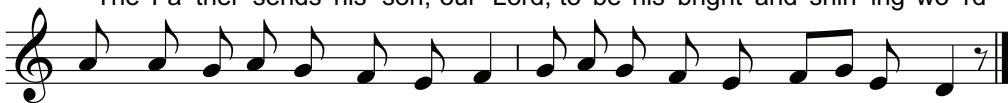
But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.

Notes:

Handwriting practice lines consisting of ten sets of five horizontal lines each, intended for musical notation.



The Fa-ther sends his son, our Lord, to be his bright and shin-ing wo-rd



Come, Lord, ride out your gleam-ing course and be our dawn our light's_ true source.

Passing the Peace and Preparing the Gifts

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 peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts
All: We lift them up to the Lord.

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.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here be low;

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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

The Great Thanksgiving

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.

With clear hearts and minds,
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

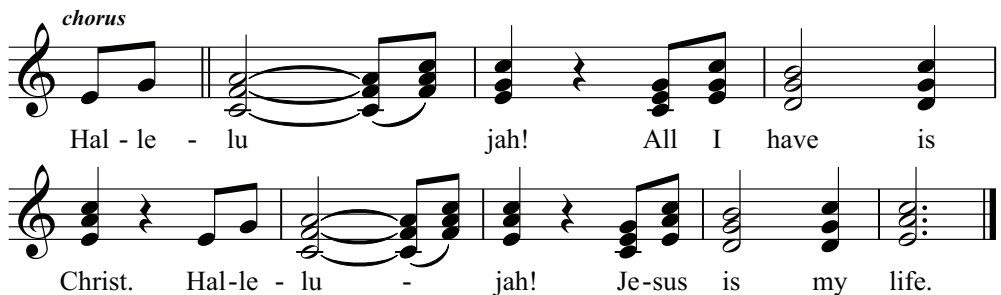
Leader: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe.

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

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

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**



Distribute the Bread & Cup

Please note that we serve both red wine and white grape juice.
There is individually wrapped gluten free bread available.

Receiving Communion

Communion (also called The Lord's Supper or the Eucharist) is the family meal of baptized Christians. We invite all to partake of this sacrament who trust in Jesus Christ alone for salvation, and seek strength to live more faithfully for him.

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



1. Mar - ve - lous grace of our lo - ving Lord, grace that ex - ceeds our
2. Sin and des - pair, like the sea waves cold, threa - ten the soul with
3. Dark is the stain that we can - not hide. What can a - vail to
4. Mar - ve - lous, in - fi - nite, match - less grace, free - ly bes - towed on



sin and our guilt! Yon - der on Cal - va - ry's mount out - poured,
in - fi - nite loss; grace that is grea - ter, yes, grace un - told,
wash it a - way? Look! There is flo - wing a crim - son tide,
all who be - lieve! You that are long - ing to see his face,



there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.
points to the re - fuge, the migh - ty cross.
brigh - ter than snow you may be to - day.
will you this mo - ment his grace re - ceive?



Grace, grace, God's grace, grace that will par - don and cleanse with - in;



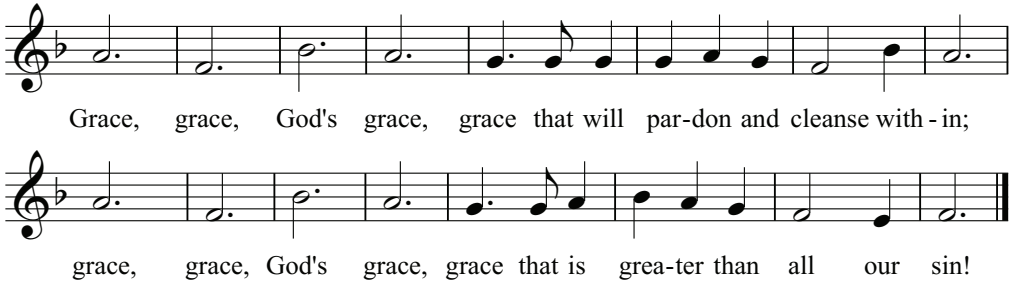
grace, grace, God's grace, grace that is grea - ter than all our sin!

Marvelous Grace, Julia Johnson, Daniel Towner, 1910

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.**



In Community

Announcements about Covenant events and opportunities during the coming weeks.

Go With Joy

Leader: Let us pray together the prayer that Jesus taught us to pray,

All: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy Kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever. Amen.



1. All the poor and pow - er - less, and all the lost and lone -
2. All the hearts who are con - tent, and all who feel un - worth



ly, All the thieves will come con - fess, and
y, All who hurt with noth - ing left will



know that you are ho - ly, and know that you are ho - ly.
know that you are ho - ly, will know that you are ho - ly.

chorus



And we will sing out: Hal - le - lu - jah. We will cry out: Hal - le - lu - jah.



We ex - alt You: Hal - le - lu - jah. We ex - alt You: Hal - le - lu - jah.

All the Poor and Powerless, Words and Music by David Leonard and Leslie Jordan, 2011

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.

Welcome to Covenant Presbyterian Church

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

- Nurseries, ages 0-4, lower level
- Sunday School: preK-8th Grade, lower level
- High School Sunday School: Education Building, Youth Room
- Covenant Life Class: Education Building, Library
- Liturgy - Practicing in the Presence of God, lower level, All Saints Room
- Coffee and snacks available in classrooms and the Fellowship Hall

ANNOUNCEMENTS IN OUR COMMUNITY

Large Print orders of worship are available in the back of the sanctuary.

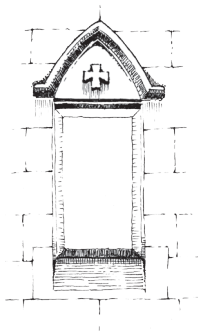
New Service Times: Covenant is excited to meet at new service times of 9:00 and 11:15 am. In between the services, we have Common Ground, which includes children's Sunday School, adult education, and a place to gather with each other. You can find additional details about this plan at the Welcome Table or on our website.

Current Mask Requirements: In accordance with the city's mask mandate, Covenant requires masks for everyone over 2 at both services and during Common Ground.

Administer Justice Breakfast: In July, Covenant founded our neighborhood legal aid clinic, the Gospel Justice Center, as a part of Administer Justice's national network. Please join Covenant folks and others for breakfast on November 18 at 7:30 am at Drury Lane Theatre to learn more about the ministry we've joined. Register at <https://www.administerjustice.org/openthegates/> and choose the Oakbrook breakfast to join. Questions? Contact Linda Gehrs (lmgehrs@gmail.com).

Women's Morning Bible Study: Join women from Covenant for a bible study on Monday mornings from 9:30 to 11:30 am at the church. The group is currently reading *How God Became King* by N.T. Wright. Women are welcome to join at any time and childcare is provided. Questions? Contact Kelley Oldham (kelley.hoover@gmail.com).

Communicants Class: The staff will teach a two-week communicants class for children. The class will address the sacraments, repentance, faith, and how we are to take the Lord's supper. The class is intended to prepare children who may be ready to take communion to talk with one of the pastors about being admitted to the table. We ask that each child in the class have a parent in attendance with him or her. The class will meet during Common Ground at 10:15 in the All Saints Room on November 14 and 21. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Ian Troll (ian@covenantchicago.org).



Liturgy: Practicing in the Presence of God. How does participating in liturgy form us into the people of Christ? Join Paul van der Bijl and Larissa Bossemeyer for a weekly discussion to explore our liturgy, what it teaches us, and how God meets us in it. We'll meet at 10:15 in the All Saints Room on the lower level of the sanctuary. An optional podcast is available on our website: covenantchicago.org/events/liturgy/. This week, we'll look at the sacraments. Next week, we'll discuss the time of confession and assurance. Questions? Contact Larissa Bossemeyer (lbossemeyer@covenantchicago.org)

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

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

Ushers Needed: Covenant is looking for additional volunteers to serve as ushers on Sunday morning. Ushers greet people as they arrive to church and help clean up the sanctuary after the service. If you'd like to volunteer, contact Jonathan Ellison (jellisonimages@gmail.com).

Coaches needed at Pulaski School: Pulaski School is the CPS elementary school in Covenant's neighborhood, and they're looking for volunteers to coach 5th-8th graders this year. They need coaches for track and field, girls soccer, and flag football in the Spring. Volunteering would be a great way to serve our neighborhood and help us deepen our relationship with the school! You can apply online: <https://chicagopublicschools.civcore.com/index.php?action=userLogin>. If you'd like to learn more, you can email their Parent Resource Coordinator, Michele Sherman (msherman2@cps.edu).

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.

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).

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 <https://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.

The Redemption Church at Covenant: Covenant is happy to be sharing our space with one of our sister churches, The Redemption Church. Their worship service begins in our Sanctuary at 1:30pm.

Sermon Text Next Week: 2 Corinthians 3:13-18

Giving QR Code:



Pastoral Staff

Aaron Baker
Pastor, abaker@covenantchicago.org

David Salsedo
Associate Pastor, dsalsedo@covenantchicago.org

Dan Adamson
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Jeff Schneider
Church Planting Pastor, jeff@blvdpres.org

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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, 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, Joel Miller, Shane Rector, Deb Van Der Molen, Matt Ver Steeg

Treasurer: Ben Harvey

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

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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