



THE TEACHING JESUS

Give

*To give and ask for nothing back,
to share without return
despite our need, despite our lack
and all for which we yearn--
the very thought we scorn and mock
as once we scorned your son,
who gave himself to break the lock--
and losing all, he won.*

*How can we turn the other cheek
or serve beyond our mile,
forego the vengeance that we seek
and swallow down our bile?
You ask for this and for our cloak,
our tunic with good will,
and this you call a gentle yoke,
but Lord, we bear it ill.*

*Your son alone can teach us this,
for he it was gave all.
Though we betrayed him with a kiss,
he bore for us the fall.
As you have given us all things,
so let us give as well:
Our lives and selves to you we bring
where you among us dwell.*

~ Kate Bluett



*Sermon Series: The Teaching Jesus
Covenant Presbyterian Church of Chicago
23rd Sunday of Pentecost, October 29, 2023
Watercolor by Jamie Gray*

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.

Prelude

Choral: Covenant Choir, *On Jordan's Stormy Banks*, by Samuel Stennett, 1787; arr. by Iva Riggs

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.

Call to Worship

All: 

1. Who else com - mands all the hosts of__ hea - ven?
2. What oth - er beau - ty de - mands such__ prai - ses?
3. What oth - er glo - ry con - sumes like__ fi - re?



Who else could make__ ev - 'ry king bow__ down?
What oth - er splen - dor out - shines the__ sun?
What oth - er pow - er can raise the__ dead?



Who else can whis - per and dark - ness trem - bles? On - ly a Ho - ly God.
What oth - er maj - es - ty rules with jus - tice? On - ly a Ho - ly God.
What oth - er name re - mains un - de - feat - ed? On - ly a Ho - ly God.

Refrain



Come and be - hold Him, the One and the On - ly. Cry out, sing



Ho - ly, for - ev - er a Ho - ly__ God. Come and wor - ship the Ho - ly God.

Only A Holy God, by Michael Farren, Jonny Robinson, St. Pauls Anglican Church Castle Hill, New South Wales, Australia, 2016

Leader: You are the LORD, you alone.

All: You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host.

Leader: You have made earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them.

All: You preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you.

4. Who else could res - cue me from my___ fail - ing?
Who else would of - fer his on - ly___ Son?
Who else in-vites me to call Him Fa-ther? On-ly a Ho-ly God!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Leader: O God, our Father, you are the One and the Only. We thank you and adore you for your great goodness and mercy. We are humbled before your majesty and find quiet joy and peace in your presence.

All: Come Holy Spirit, and visit us with your presence today. Amen.

moment of silent meditation

Refrain
Come and be-hold Him, the One and the On - ly. Cry out, sing
Ho - ly, for - ev-er a Ho-ly___ God. Come and wor-ship the Ho-ly God.

Sacrament of Baptism

Sing to Prepare, Holy Baptism

All:

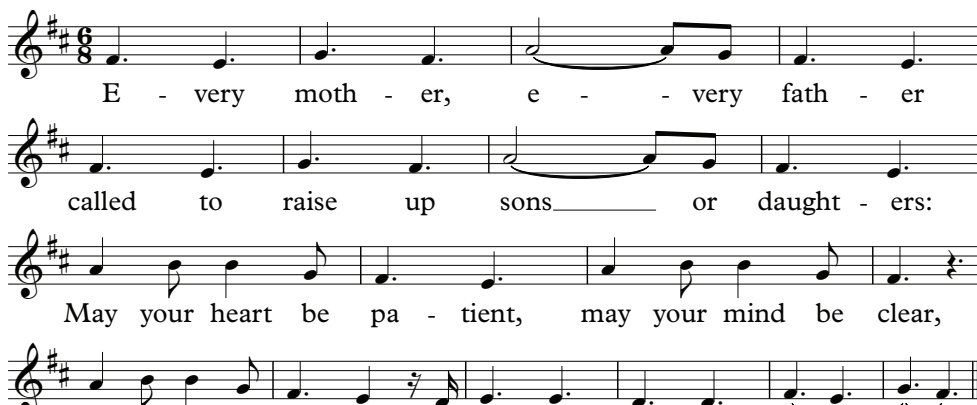


De - scend, O Spi-rit, purg-ing flame, brand us this day with Je-sus'
De - scend, O Spi-rit, as a dove, clothe us this day in Je-sus'
De - scend, O Spi-rit, be our guide, the voice of God, a mighty
name! Con - firm our faith, con - sume our doubt; Sign us as
love. Mark us as chil - dren of the King; Then send us
tide. Con - vict our sin, com - pel our lives; Spi - rit, keep
Christ's, with - in, with - out, Sign us as Christ's with - in with - out.
forth, in Je - sus' name, Then send us forth in Je - sus' name.
us and draw us nigh, Spi - rit, keep us and draw us nigh.

Hall Arthur Wales Blankenship, son of Brent and Alyssa and brother of Clarke and Trip

Prayer of Congregational Blessing:

All: Ever-living God, in your mercy you promised to be not only our God but also the God of our children. We thank you for receiving **Hall** by baptism. Keep him always in your love. Guide him as he grows in faith. Protect him in all the dangers and temptations of life. May he be a faithful disciple of your son Jesus Christ to his life's end. In Christ's name, Amen.



E - very moth - er, e - - very fath - er
called to raise up sons or daught - ers:
May your heart be pa - tient, may your mind be clear,
may our God be with you and calm your fea - rs.

Prayer of Lament, *from Psalm 13 and Psalm 123*

Leader: O Lord, we plead with you:

All: Hear this lament and prayer -

Leader: How long, O LORD? Will you forget us forever? How long will you hide your face from your suffering children? How long must we wrestle with our thoughts and every day have sorrow in our heart?

All: Have mercy on us and those who suffer, O God.

moment of silent prayer - pray for those who are suffering

Leader: To you, O Lord, we lift up our eyes and wait till you have mercy on us.

All: Have mercy on us, O Lord. We've had more than enough, have mercy on us.

To You, _____ we lift our eyes O Lord, _____
en - throned on high a - dored, to You we cry: _____
We've had more than e - nough of ha - tred and pain;
We've had more than e - nough of scorn and dis - dain;
We've had more than e - nough, have mer - cy on us, Oh, Lord, _____
_____ have mer - cy on us

Psalm 123, by Paul van der Bijl, 2023 - in memory of those slain at Covenant Presbyterian Nashville

moment of silent prayer

Confession of Sin, *from Psalm 79*

Leader: How long, O LORD? Will you be angry forever?
Will your jealousy burn like fire?
Do not remember our iniquities;
Help us, O God of our salvation,
deliver us, and atone for our sins,
for your name's sake!

Silent time to pray and confess

Assurance of Pardon, *adapted from Hebrews 10*

Leader: Christ sacrificed himself for our sins and the Holy Spirit bears witness to us.
He remembers our sins and our lawless deeds no more.



The musical score is written in 3/4 time and consists of seven staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "To You, we lift our eyes O Lord,". The second staff continues: "en - throned on high a - dored, to You we cry:". The third staff has a double bar line at the beginning, followed by: "You are more than e - nough We wait on Your love,". The fourth staff continues: "You are more than e - nough, Great Fath - er a - bove,". The fifth staff continues: "You are more than e - nough have mer - cy on us, Oh, Lord,". The sixth staff continues: "You're more than e - nough." The seventh staff is a single note on a whole rest.

To You, we lift our eyes O Lord,
en - throned on high a - dored, to You we cry:
You are more than e - nough We wait on Your love,
You are more than e - nough, Great Fath - er a - bove,
You are more than e - nough have mer - cy on us, Oh, Lord,
— You're more than e - nough.

Lessons from the Word

Caroline Hoit ①, Michael Bergstrom ②

Old Testament Lesson - Leviticus 19.1-2, p.97
New Testament Lesson - 1 Peter 2.21-25, p.1015

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

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a common time signature (C). It consists of three staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined to indicate phrasing. The first staff begins with a quarter rest followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes. The second staff features a mix of quarter and eighth notes, with a double bar line after the first measure. The third staff continues with quarter and eighth notes, ending with a double bar line.

Thou love - ly source of true___ de- light whom I un seen a - dore
Thy glo - ry o'er_ cre - a - tion shines but in Thy sa - cred Word
Je - sus, my Lord, my life,___ my light, oh come with bliss-ful ray___
___ Un - veil Thy beau - ties to___ my sight___ that
___ I read, in fair - er, bright - er lines___ my
___ Break ra - diant through the shades___ of night___ and
I might love_ Thee more,___ Oh that I might love_ Thee more.
bleed- ing, dy - ing Lord,___ See my bleed- ing dy - ing Lord.
chase my fears a - way,___ Won't you chase my fears a - way.

Thou Lovely Source of True Delight, Words: Anne Steele, 1760; Music, Kevin Twit, 1998

The Word

Pastor Aaron Baker

Do Not Resist, Matthew 5:38–48 p.810

³⁸ “You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ ³⁹ But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. ⁴⁰ And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. ⁴¹ And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. ⁴² Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

⁴³ “You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. ⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸ You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Notes:

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.



1. See how good it is. Ga - the - ring with friends,
2. Sad di - vi - sions cease. We are called as priests,
3. See the earth re - newed by the mor - ning dew.



wel - co - ming the stran - ger in, see how good it is.
spread - ing out God's joy - ful feast. See how good it is.
All cre - a - tion sings the truth: "See how good it is!"

refrain



When God's chil-dren live as one, by the Spi - rit we be - come the_



o - pen arms of God To a world in need of love.

See How Good It Is, from Psalm 133, by Wendell Kimbrough, Episcopal Church of The Incarnation, Dallas, TX; and Sandra McCracken, 2021

The Great Thanksgiving, *from The Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, 2013*

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.

Remind us of our baptism, for in the beginning, when the deep dark waters churned,

All: Your Spirit hovered over them.

Leader: When, in Noah's day,
the waters engulfed everything and destroyed the world,

All: You saved your faithful people, whom you loved.

Leader: When, in Egypt, Pharaoh's army hotly pursued Israel to the sea,

All: You parted the waters and led your people through to safety.

Leader: When, in the dead of night on Galilee's raging sea
The disciples feared for their lives,

All: You called, "It is I; do not fear."

Leader: Time and again, You saved our drowning ancestors,
and promised also to rescue us.

**All: For Christ, your son and our Savior,
went down into the depths of hell
and rose up victorious from them.
Therefore, we receive your baptismal promise,
trusting that you will rescue us from the dark depths of sin and death
and bring us to safe shore and firm ground.**

Leader: Therefore we raise our voices with all creation and sing,

**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.**

Refrain



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 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.

Music for Communion

Choral: Covenant Choir

Melt My Soul To Love by Joseph Swain, 1761; Music: Benj Pocta, Brian T. Murphy, 2006
choral arr. by Iva Riggs

*Hark! From the cross a gracious voice,
Salutes my ravished ears;
Rejoice, thou ransomed souls, rejoice!
And dry those falling tears!*

*Amazed, I turn, grown strangely bold;
This wondrous thing to see;
And there the dying Lord behold,
Stretched on the bloody tree.*

*'Sinner', he cried, 'behold the head,
This thorny wreath entwine;
Look on those wounded hands and read
Thy name in crimson lines.'*

*The power, the sweetness of that voice
My stony heart does move;
Makes me in Christ my Lord rejoice
And melts my soul to love.*

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.**

To You, we lift our eyes O Lord,
en - throned on high a - dored, to You we cry:
You are more than e - nough. We wait on Your love,
You are more than e - nough, Great Fath - er a - bove,
You are more than e - nough have mer - cy on us, Oh, Lord,
You're more than e - nough.

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

All:

O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der Con-sid-er
And when I think that God his son not spa-ring, Sent Him to
When Christ shall come with shouts of ac-cla-ma-tion And take me
all the works Thy hands have made, I see the stars
die, I scarce can take it in, That on the cross, home,
what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow
I hear the roll-ing thun-der Thy pow'r thro'-out the u-ni-verse dis-
my bur-dens glad-ly bear-ing, He bled and died to take a-way my
in hum-ble ad-o-ra-tion, And there pro-claim, my God, how great Thou
played. Then sings my soul, my Sav-ior God, to Thee; How great Thou
art. How great Thou art! Then sings my soul, my
Sav-ior God, to Thee; how great Thou art, how great Thou art!

How Great Thou Art, Words: John Adams (1767-1848). Music: Lowell Mason, 1824.

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

- Coffee and snacks available in the Fellowship Hall
- Nursery: Ages 0-4 (Lower Level)
- Sunday School: PreK-8th Grade (Lower Level)
- Sunday School: High School (Youth Room, Ed Building)
- Adult Education: Envisioning God's World (All Saints Room, Lower Level)
- Adult Education: How the Universe is Designed for Discovery (Fellowship Hall, Ed Building)
- Adult Education: Covenant Life Class (Conference Room, Ed Building)

Volunteers in Service Today:

Communion Servers: Barry Reece, Jenna Hammond, Kara Shroyer (9:00); Lamont and Tyler Black (11:15)

Ushers: Mark Scheerhorn, Ryan Von Drehle (9:00), Jon Skinner, Sam Brewbaker (11:15)

Musicians: Adriane Finke, piano; David Dillon, bass, vocals; Paul van der Bijl, guitar, vocals; Jeff Wakolbinger, drums; Devon Spencer, vocals; sound technician, Joel Miller

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

Covenant Life Class: This 6 week class 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. This class meets in the Conference Room of the Education Building at 10:15. This week, Larissa Bossemeyer will teach on the means of grace.

How the Universe is Designed for Discovery: The idea that the universe was designed for life is a central tenet of the Christian faith and a much debated point in philosophy. Less discussed, though no less evocative, is the idea that the universe might be designed not just for life but for discovery! In this series, we will examine some pivotal discoveries in physics which seem to suggest just this. David Hofman (Professor of Physics, University of Illinois Chicago) and Joshua Norton (Professor of Philosophy, Wheaton College) will co-teach this class in the Library of the Education Building. This week, they'll talk about quantum rainbows.

Envisioning God's World: We believe that all good things come from God and point towards him. In this class, we'll look at some concrete ways we see theology in works of art. Each week will center around a theological theme like transcendence, beauty or evil and talk through ways specific works of art expose this truth. Class will meet in the All Saints Room. This week Kara Shroyer will teach on beauty and the created order.

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: The group meets in the All Saints Room at Covenant from 9 to 11 am each Wednesday. You're welcome to join whether you're able to come weekly or occasionally. Childcare is available. Anna Troll (annelise.olson94@gmail.com) and Devon Spencer (devonspencer1112@gmail.com) will lead this group.

Fall Fest: Join us for Covenant's first Fall Fest tonight from 5-8 pm. We hope this will be a chance to connect with Covenant's community over dinner and fun fall activities. In the gym, we'll have carnival games, 9-square, a bounce house and an inflatable climbing wall. Looking for something a little quieter? We'll have board games and the Bears game in the Library, pumpkin painting in the conference room and a bonfire outside. At 5:30, we'll have a dinner buffet in the Fellowship Hall. We hope you'll join us!

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: November 4, 18 and 25. Questions? Contact Ian Cull (iancull74@gmail.com).

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Common Ground Volunteers: Covenant is looking for additional volunteers to help with coffee and snacks for Common Ground. Volunteers help with either setup (during the 9:00 am service) or clean up (during the 11:15 service), as well as helping during Common Ground to replenish coffee as needed. Most volunteers serve once a month. If you'd be interested, please contact Larissa Bossemeyer (lbossemeyer@covenantchicago.org).

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: 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.

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.

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 Dan (dadamson@covenantchicago.org).

Sermon Text Next Week: Luke 6:20-26

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, Josh 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:

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*

2012 W. Dickens
Chicago, IL 60647
773.486.9590

covenantchicago.org