

THE TEACHING JESUS

To Saint Peter Claver

Heal us; the overly content, the malcontent, the skilled and sere of heart, the secret weepers, the self-defeated, the defaulters, the proud of place drinking the empty wind of honor. Help the workhorses slow; speed the laggards, give back to routine and rote their lost soul.

Institution, constitution, order, law—O kiss the dead awake!

Your Holy Spirit, come!

~ Daniel Berrigan



Sermon Series: The Teaching Jesus Covenant Presbyterian Church of Chicago 24th Sunday of Pentecost, November 5, 2023 ?? 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.

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



1. I sing the migh-ty power of God that made the moun-tains rise,



that spread the_ flo-wing seas a-broad and built the lof - ty skies.



I___ sing the wis-dom that or - dained the_ sun to rule the day;



the moon shines full at his com-mand and all_ the stars o - bey.

I Sing the Mighty Power of God, Words: Isaac Watts, 1715. Music: Gesangbuch der H. W. K. Hofkapelle, 1784

from Psalm 104

Leader:

Bless the LORD, O my soul!

O LORD my God, you are very great!

You are clothed with splendor and majesty,

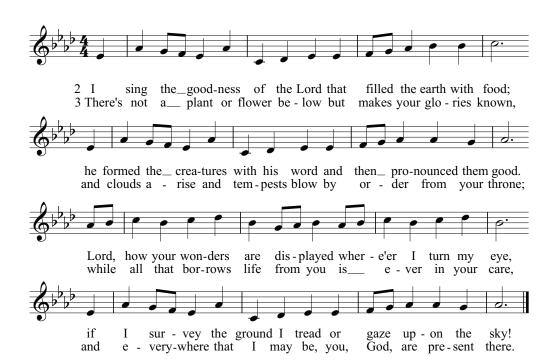
covering yourself with light as with a garment,

stretching out the heavens like a tent.

All: May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works.

I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;

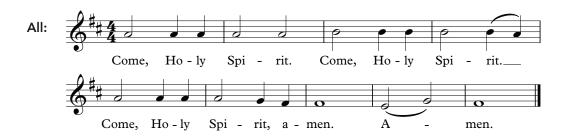
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.



Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

silent moment to meditate and adore

Holy Father, you are clothed with the splendor and majesty of your creation and we sing of your goodness and beauty. We thank you and adore and are humbled that you would be here with us and hear our meager praise and worship.

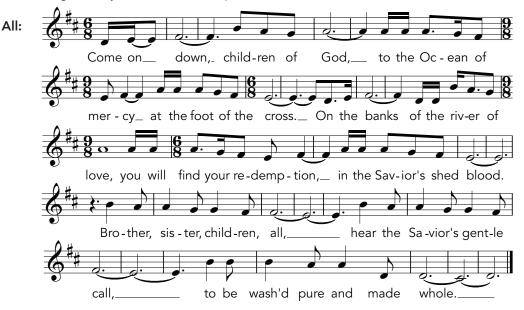


Leader: Come Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

All: open our eyes and hearts to your presence among us today. Amen.

Sacrament of Baptism

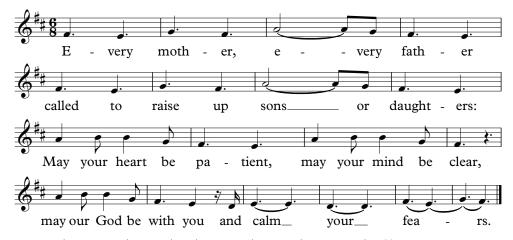
Sing to Prepare, Ocean of Mercy



Beck Joseph Szczecinski, son of Allie and Brad, brother of Davis

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 **Beck** 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.



Confession of Sin, from James 4

Leader:

What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your pleasures. Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God?

But God gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

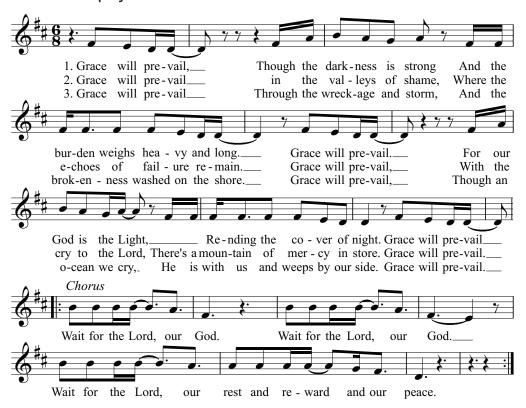
All: Father, forgive us for we consume everything and everyone around us and are never satisfied.

We are overwhelmed by the passions at war within us.

Yet you give us even more grace.

Grant us the humility to draw near to you.

Silent time to pray and confess



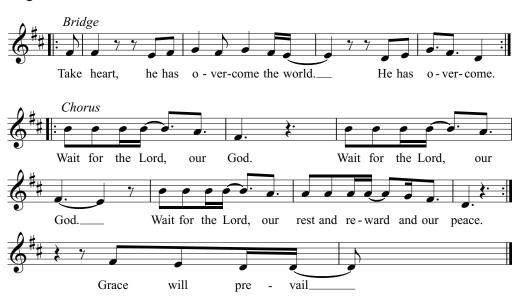
Grace Will Prevail, by Kirk Sauers and Paul Ranheim, First Presbyterian, Augusta, GA, 2022

Assurance of Pardon, from Ephesians 2:4-7

Leader:

But God, being rich in mercy, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

Sing to Assure



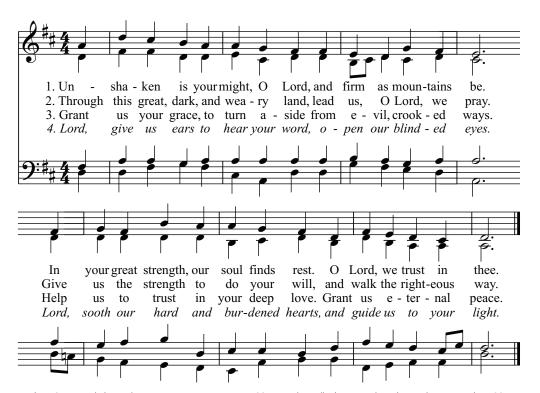
Lessons from the Word

Miranda De Young ①, James Gay ②

Old Testament Lesson - Psalm 68.4-6, p.481 New Testament Lesson - 2 Corinthians 8.1-7, p.967

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God



Psalm 125, Words based on Isaac Watts text, ca 1700s, vs 4 by vdbijl,; music by Alexander Reinagle, 1836

The Word

Pastor Aaron Baker Everything She Had, Mark 12:38–44 p.849

³⁸ And in his teaching he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes and like greetings in the marketplaces ³⁹ and have the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts, ⁴⁰ who devour widows' houses and for a pretense make long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

⁴¹ And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴² And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. ⁴³ And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. ⁴⁴ For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

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

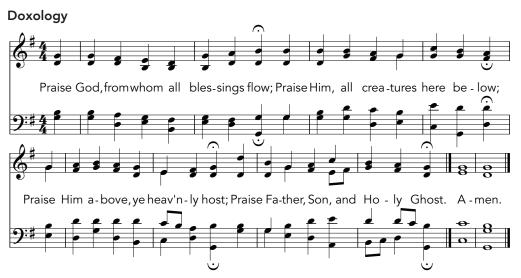
All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

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

Greet each other in the name of Christ

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.



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

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,

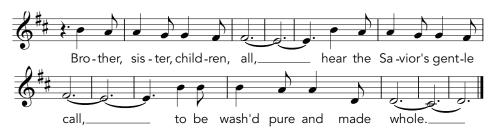
All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,

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.



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

You are welcome to join in song:



At The Lamb's High Feast, Words: Ad regias Agni dapes; Latin, 4th c, Music Paul van der Bijl, 2023

Respond to the Table

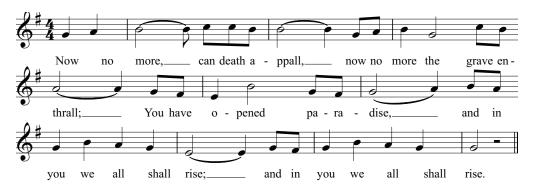
Leader:

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.



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.

in creed

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.



I Know that My Redeemer Lives, Words: Samuel Medly, 1775, Music: American Folk melody

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

2nd service, 11:15am

• Nurseries, ages 0-4, lower level

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- Children's Worship: preK-5th Grade, 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 (Library, Ed Building)

Volunteers in Service Today:

Communion Servers: Larry and Maribeth Shover, Anna Harvey (9:00); Mark and Ranya Faase, Christie Kay (11:15)

Ushers: Christie Kay, Matt Ver Steeg (9:00), Andrew Dykstra (11:15)

Welcome Table: Phil Koerner (11:15)

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 will meet in the Library today to talk about relationships.

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 Fellowship Hall of the Education Building. This week, they'll talk about pigeon poop.

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, PD Young and Paul van der Bijl will talk about evil.

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.

Midnight Clear: Join us for a fun evening of music and carol singing on Sunday, December 10 from 6:00 to 7:15 pm in our sanctuary. There will be a dessert reception to follow in the gym of the Education Building. We're looking for volunteers to help with setup and clean up. If you'd be willing to help, contact office@ 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/) 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).

November Mercy Bin: This month, Covenant is collecting donations for Breakthrough Urban Ministries and New Moms who are hosting Christmas stores to help families celebrate the joy of the season through gift giving despite financial difficulties. Please consider purchasing items from one of the gift lists on our website (https://covenantchicago.org/mercy-bin/) or pick a gift tag off the Christmas tree at the back of the sanctuary beginning on November 12. Please return labeled gifts to Covenant's Mercy Bin located in the narthex by November 27 for New Moms or December 10 for Breakthrough. Gifts can also be sent directly to the organizations via their online wish lists.

Breakthrough Christmas Store: This year, Covenant is helping to set up for Breakthrough's Christmas Store on Friday, December 15 from 6:30 to 9:30 pm. If you'd be interested in helping, please contact Pastor Dan (dadamson@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.

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).



Welcome to Covenant Pastoral Staff Please fill out this form, tear it out, and put it in one of Aaron Baker the offering boxes at the back of the church. Pastor, abaker@covenantchicago.org Dan Adamson circle one: Associate Pastor, dadamson@covenantchicago.org New to Covenant | Regular Attender | Member Support Staff Name: Larissa Bossemeyer Director of Ministries: lbossemeyer@ covenantchicago.org Email: Gene Pierson Director of Finance & Property: gpierson@ Address: covenantchicago.org Ian Troll Director of Children and Youth Ministries: ian@ Phone: covenantchicago.org Paul van der Biil Director of Worship and Music: pvanderbijl@ covenantchicago.org \uparrow This is new or updated information \uparrow Session I am interested in: More information Aaron Baker (Moderator), Dan Adamson, David Dillon, Dave Hoover, Brad Lewis, Steve Lehmann, ☐ Small Groups Josh Norton Service Opportunities Please direct correspondence for the Session to session@covenantchicago.org. Membership Diaconate Receiving the Email Letter Andrew Dykstra, Jonathan Ellison, Phil Koerner, Children and Youth Ministry Joel Miller, Margret-Ann Natsis, Shane Rector, Jon Skinner, Deb Van Der Molen, Matt Ver Steeg, Other: Kylene Young Treasurer: Ben Harvey If you're in need or wish to speak with a deacon, you can Prayer Requests: email us at diaconate@covenantchicago.org.

Covenant Life

Worship Together:

We are made to worship the Triune God, and our worship is always ordered around Jesus Christ and the forgiveness and grace he secured for us by his cross, resurrection and ascension. Gathering around this good news together on Sundays strengthens our appetites, imaginations and abilities to live as followers of Jesus.

Grow and Learn Together:

Learning about our faith and growing together in it forms us into human beings who are fully swept up into the work God is doing to reconcile all things to himself in Jesus. Learning is more than simply knowing; it is the internalization of truth that leads to mature thinking and acting.

Serve Together:

The natural outcome of receiving and experiencing grace is to be propelled outward into mission and service. All of us have been given gifts to use for the good of our common life and for the good of the broken world around us, and we encourage everyone to regularly use their gifts in service.



a church, a city, and a world continually made new by the grace of Christ

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covenantchicago.org

