

The Lord's Day in Worship

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Ascension Sunday
May 13, 2018

See the Conqueror mounts in triumph;
see the King in royal state,
riding on the clouds, his chariot,
to his heavenly palace gate!
Hark! The choirs of angel voices
joyful alleluias sing,
and the portals high are lifted
to receive their heavenly King.

He who on the cross did suffer,
he who from the grave arose,
he has vanquished sin and Satan;
he by death has spoiled his foes.
While he lifts his hands in blessing,
he is parted from his friends;
while their eager eyes behold him,
he upon the clouds ascends.

Thou hast raised our human nature
on the clouds to God's right hand:
there we sit in heavenly places,
there with thee in glory stand,
Jesus reigns, adored by angels;
Man with God is on the throne;
mighty Lord, in thine ascension,
we by faith behold our own.

—Christopher Wordsworth, 1862

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dan Edwards

(Congregational responses are *italicized*.)

Luke 24:50-53

And he led them out as far as Bethany,
and lifting up his hands he blessed them.

While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven.

And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy,
and were continually in the temple blessing God.

Let us worship our eternal King,
Who has ascended to the right hand of God.

 *Congregation stand as able.*

☒ HYMN OF EXALTATION

“Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise”



1. Hail the day that sees Him__rise Al - le - lu - ia!
2. There for him high tri umph__waits;
3. See, he lifts his hands a - bove!
4. Lord, be-yond our mor - tal__sight,

5



to his throne a - bove the__skies; Al - le - lu - ia!
lift your heads, e - ter - nal__gates,
See, he shows the prints of__love!
raise our hearts to reach thy__height;

9



Christ, the Lamb for sin - ners_giv'n, Al - le - lu - ia!
he hath con - quered death and__sin,
Hark! his gra - cious lips__be - stow
there thy face un - cloud ed__see,

13



en - ters now the high - est_heav'n. Al - le - lu - ia!
take the king of glo - ry__in!
bless ings on his church be - low.
find our heav'n of heav'ns in__thee!

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Our Father in heaven,
Who graciously sent Your Son to redeem us by His death
and resurrection,
and Who gloriously raised Him to the highest place,
giving Him the Name above every name,
that He might rule over us and all the created order,
We worship and adore You
and offer ourselves as living sacrifices for Your honor and glory.
Receive our prayers and our praises,
for we come to You Upon the infinite merit
and in the perfect mediation of Your dear Son,
our exalted Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

READING FROM THE EPISTLES

Kim Killgore

Ephesians 1:15-23

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, ¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, ¹⁸having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might ²⁰that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²²And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GIVING OF FIRST FRUITS

“Forever King”

Chancel Choir

Who is God, that we should praise Him?
Who is He, that we should sing?
Who is this exalted Savior,
Crowned the everlasting King?
Why fall at His feet in worship,
Alleluias to Him bring?

Architect of every atom,
Author of each passing hour,
Chief of all the changing seasons,
Maker of each field and flower,
Speaking all into existence,
God of majesty and power!

Morning stars, all sing together,
Shout for joy, ye sons of God!
Rocks and stones, O be not silent,
Streams and rivers, give Him laud!
Clouds that frame the dome of heaven,
Sound your thunder and applaud!

Can creation fail to praise Him?
How can we refuse to sing?
Come fall at His feet in worship,
Alleluias to Him bring!
Reigning in eternal brightness,
Crown our Christ forever King!

Morning stars, all sing together,
Shout for joy, ye sons of God!
Rocks and stones, O be not silent,
Streams and rivers, give Him laud!
Clouds that frame the dome of heaven,
Sound your thunder and applaud!

Words: Johanna Anderson. Music: Dan Forrest, 2013 by Beckenhorst Press, Inc.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Katherine Holmes Lanier

DAUGHTER OF SARAH ANN AND JOSEPH LANIER

Elizabeth Lauryn (Libby) Taylor

DAUGHTER OF HOLLEIGH AND KEVIN TAYLOR

PARENTAL VOWS

Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?

Do you claim God's covenant promises in her behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for her salvation, as you do for your own?

Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before her a godly example, that you will pray with and for her, that you will teach her the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring her up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

CONGREGATIONAL VOW

Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE BAPTISM

THE PRAYER OF BLESSING

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Greet one another with words of peace and reconciliation.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Molly Stone

Visitors and members, please take a moment to fill out the pew pad.

You may read all of our ministry announcements on page 22.

Children are dismissed at this time.

PRAYER FOR OUR MOTHERS

THE MORNING PRAYERS

Will Brooke

READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, ²until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” ⁹And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF GLORY

“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”

A hymn of glory let us sing,
New hymns throughout the world shall ring;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ, by a road before untrod,
Ascends unto the throne of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The holy apostolic band
Upon the Mount of Olives stands;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
And with his faithful foll'wers see
Their Lord ascend in majesty.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

O Lord, our homeward pathway bend
That our unwearied hearts ascend;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Where, seated on your Father's throne,
You reign as King of kings alone.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
All praise to You let earth accord,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
You are, while endless ages run,
With Father and with Spirit One.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Words: Bede (673-735); tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*. Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, 1623.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

All who are united in Christ Jesus by faith and are baptized, communing members of His visible Church are invited to come to the Lord's Table. If you are not communing but would like to participate, come forward and fold your hands, and you will receive a prayer of blessing from the server.

The congregation will read aloud the portions that are *italicized*.

Prayer of Confession

Dear Father,

*You have enthroned Your Son as King of Kings and Lord of Lords
and have made us coheirs of all things with Him.*

*You have blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms,
yet we have often complained*

and have turned for comfort to gods that don't exist.

Please forgive our foolish ways;

restore us to heavenly-mindedness and joyful service,

knowing that the place You have prepared for us

is greater than the ones we create for ourselves,

to the end that our lives may exalt the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, 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.

—Ephesians 2:4-7

The almighty and merciful Lord grant you forgiveness of all your sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of His Holy Spirit.

Apostle's Creed

*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.*

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father,
And to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning,
Is now, and ever shall be,
World without end,
Amen, amen.

Words: 2nd century. Music: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851.

Words of Institution

from 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this your Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your Table, but you are the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy.

Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to commemorate in this breaking of bread the death of your dear son Jesus Christ, that we may feed on him in our hearts by faith, and that we may evermore dwell in Him, and He in us. Amen.

Prayer of Consecration

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast and united in ministry with your people in every place.

This we pray in the name of the One who taught us to pray, saying:

*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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.*

If you desire gluten free bread, please walk down the center aisle, either upstairs or down, and the server will provide it accordingly.

HYMNS FOR THE EUCHARIST

Congregation, please sing the Hymns for the Eucharist during Communion.

“Jesus Paid It All”

I hear the Savior say,
“Thy strength indeed is small!
Child of weakness, watch and pray,
Find in Me thine all in all.”

Refrain:

*Jesus paid it all,
All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.*

Lord, now indeed I find
Thy pow’r, and Thine alone,
Can change the leper’s spots
And melt the heart of stone.

(Refrain)

For nothing good have I
Whereby Thy grace to claim;
I’ll wash my garments white
In the blood of Calv’ry’s Lamb.

(Refrain)

And when before the throne,
I stand in Him complete,
“Jesus died my soul to save,”
My lips shall still repeat.

(Refrain)

Words: Elvina M. Hall (1820-1889). Music: John T. Grape (1835-1915).

“My Jesus Has Done All Things Well”

O for a heart prepared to sing,
To God, my Savior and my King;
While with his saints I join to tell,
My Jesus has done all things well.

How sovereign, wonderful, and free,
Is all his love to sinful me!
He plucked me as a brand from hell;
My Jesus has done all things well.

And since my soul has known his love,
What mercies has he made me prove;
Mercies which all my praise excel;
My Jesus has done all things well.

Soon shall I pass the veil of death,
And in his arms shall lose my breath;
Yet then my happy soul shall tell,
My Jesus has done all things well.

And when to that bright world I rise,
And join the anthems in the skies,
Among the rest this note shall swell,
My Jesus has done all things well.

Words: Samuel Medley, 1776. Music: Jeff Koonce, 2014.

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Father, for the innumerable gifts You have bestowed upon us,

We thank You, Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, our exalted Lord, for the great salvation
You have won for us,

We thank You, Lord.

Holy Spirit, for Your indwelling Presence and miraculous power,

We thank You, Lord.

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God,

we thank and bless Your Name forevermore. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”

O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
All praise to You let earth accord,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
You are, while endless ages run,
With Father and with Spirit One.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

BENEDICTION

MINISTRIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Children's Worship Information. Following the Sunday morning worship service, parents will find their children attending Children's Worship in the following rooms:

3K - C224 (available for the entire worship hour)

4K - C221 (available for the entire worship hour)

Kindergarten - C221 (dismissed during Passing of the Peace)

1st through 3rd Grades - C316 (dismissed during Passing of the Peace)

College Ministry & Sunday School. Josh Johnson, Pastor to Young Adults, will be starting this summer! From May 13-August 5, Josh, along with Sandy Willson and Walt Davis, will be teaching College Sunday School on Galatians in room 300. We are also coordinating "Monday Dinners" for students to meet in homes and have different speakers address the highlights of "Sandy School," Sandy's message to our high school seniors. You can listen to "Sandy School" online, and a complete Monday Dinner schedule with details is coming soon!

Gospel Manhood. Men, our final Gospel Manhood lunch until fall is Tuesday, May 15 in the Fellowship Hall. Our topic will be "The Man and His Mission," and lunch will begin at 11:30 a.m. (\$10 suggested donation for the meal.)

Women's May Bible Study. Join us for our final two Wednesday night studies, (May 16 and 23) to discuss Abby Hutto's lessons from the book of John that she shared at our Winter Retreat. We will listen to the lessons on our own before we meet. We meet from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the Commons area, and the lessons can be found at covpres.com/may-study.

Church-wide Prayer Time. From the beginning, the early church "devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42). In the same way Covenant desires to establish a dedicated time of prayer open to all congregants. On May 20, you are invited to our first once-a-month, 30-minute guided time of prayer that will be held in the Fellowship Hall from 5:00-5:30 p.m. We will be praying once a month on the Sunday evening prior to the monthly officers' meeting. Adults, youth, and children...all are invited!

Men's Chorus. Men, plan now to join our men's chorus on Sunday, June 17! All men are invited to sing that morning (Father's Day!), and we will rehearse before gathered worship in the Sanctuary at 8:15 a.m. Men of God, lift up your voices! Please email Rick Barnes at rbarnes@covpres.com if you plan to sing.

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT: May 13 - 19, 2018

SUNDAY, May 13

- 8:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship (Commons)
- 9:00 a.m. Gathered Worship (Sanctuary)
Children's Worship | 3 years through 3rd grade
- 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages and stages
- 5:30 p.m. Senior and Junior High Small Groups

MONDAY, May 14

- 8:15 a.m. Women's Prayer Time (Ingram Link's office)

TUESDAY, May 15

- 11:30 a.m. Gospel Manhood (Fellowship Hall)

WEDNESDAY, May 16

- 7:30-8:30 p.m. Women's Study: The Book of John (Commons)

FRIDAY, May 18

- 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Final day of CDS/MDO

Should you need pastoral assistance after our regular office hours, please contact our pastor on call at 205-874-3559 (Marty Crawford, May 14-20).

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

10:30 a.m.

Maps and directional signs are located around the church.

COMMUNITY E305	<i>All ages and life stages</i>
CORNERSTONE S104	<i>30s and 40s</i>
CROSSPOINTE S100	<i>20s and 30s</i>
FOUNDATIONS E304	<i>30s and 40s</i>
LIGHTHOUSE E301	<i>30s and 40s</i>
LIVING STONES E303	<i>40s and 50s</i>
KINGDOM BUILDERS E201	<i>40s, 50s, and 60s</i>
OPEN DOORS S105	<i>70s and above</i>
UPPER ROOM S101	<i>50s, 60s, and 70s</i>
THRESHOLD DINING ROOM	<i>Singles and newly married; 20s and 30s</i>
YOUTH YOUTH AREA	<i>Students grades 7-12</i>

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Marty Crawford, Church Administrator	mcrawford@covpres.com
David Driskill, Assistant Pastor	ddriskill@covpres.com
Dan Edwards, Pastor to Children and Families	dedwards@covpres.com
Ingram Link, Director of Women's Ministries	ilink@covpres.com
Sandy Willson, Interim Senior Pastor	swillson@covpres.com

MINISTRY AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Rick Barnes, Director of Musical Arts	rbarnes@covpres.com
Jami Bennett, Director of MDO and Nursery Ministries	jbennett@covpres.com
Austin Braasch, Student Ministries Intern	jabraasch129@gmail.com
Katie Caldwell, Director of Design and Production	kcaldwell@covpres.com
Meg Cotney, Financial Secretary	mcotney@covpres.com
Tyler Cuidon, Technical Director	tyler.cuidon@gmail.com
Rachel Davis, Assistant Director of Girls Ministries	shields.rachel.c@gmail.com
Katie Flores, Director of Pre-School Ministries	kflores@covpres.com
Phyllis Hamm, Ministry Assistant	phamm@covpres.com
Bill Hay, Pastor Emeritus	bhay@covpres.com
Sara Litten, Director of Girls Ministries	slitten@covpres.com
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Traci Parker, Director of Food Services	tparker@covpres.com
Tyrone Perry, Facilities Manager	tperry@covpres.com
Brooke Stewart, Covenant Day School Director	bstewart@covpres.com
Karan Stuart, Receptionist	kstuart@covpres.com
Laura Tucker, Ministry Assistant, Children & Families	ltucker@covpres.com
Victoria Williams, Administrative Assistant	vwilliams@covpres.com

RULING ELDERS

2018

AC Frese
Eric Getty
John Hamilton
Daniel Murray
Warren Norville
Jason Peevy
Ben Walker
Clay Wheeler
Charles White

2019

Ty Dedmon
Jeff Dyess
Rick Flynn
Heath Henderson
Tom McKnight
John Smith T
Richard Thompson

2020

Bill Bennett
Will Brooke
Michael Latta
Charlie Logan
Paul Loyless
Bob Schaffeld
Lee Sheppard
Steve Stigler
Mark Taylor
John Wood

DEACONS

2018

Brandon Bishop
Nathan Collums
John Harrelson
Randall Lancaster
Matt Searson
Patrick Strong
Darrell Tucker

2019

Jim Bennett
Gary Gorham
Keith Harrelson
Jeff Hayes
Steve Killgore
Steve Pfitzer
Brent Powell
John Shank
Todd Sitton
William Slappey
Billy Tapscott

2020

Tripp Alexander
Paul Darden
Jay Evans
Bryan Flores
John Gant
John David Gray
Marty Martin
Bud Miller
Tyler O'Connor
John Shults
Danny Smith
Robert Stephens
Clark Worrell

NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Paul Darden

Jeff Dyess

Dave Driskill (*Pastoral Liaison*)

Will Gurner

John Hamilton

Keith Harrelson

Randall Lancaster

Michael Latta

Kate McKnight

Mary T Miller

Nancy Pless

Clyde Prather

Joe Strickland

Barbara Thompson

BIBLE READING PLAN

These readings are provided as a personal, family, or group worship resource. Use them along with your worship guide as resources for readings, prayers, and hymns. The scripture readings are from Ligonier Ministries and are designed around a one-year cycle that will allow you to read through the New Testament or the entire Bible in 2018.

MAY READING PLAN

	1 KINGS	LUKE
1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2-3	<input type="checkbox"/> 22:39-71
2	<input type="checkbox"/> 4-5	<input type="checkbox"/> 23:1-25
3	<input type="checkbox"/> 6-7	<input type="checkbox"/> 23:26-43
4	<input type="checkbox"/> 8-9	<input type="checkbox"/> 23:44-56
5/6	<input type="checkbox"/> 10-14	<input type="checkbox"/> 24:1-35
7	<input type="checkbox"/> 15-16	<input type="checkbox"/> 24:36-53
		JOHN
8	<input type="checkbox"/> 17-18	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
9	<input type="checkbox"/> 19-20	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
10	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-22	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:1-21
	2 KINGS	
11	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:22-36
12/13	<input type="checkbox"/> 4-9	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
14	<input type="checkbox"/> 10-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:1-29
15	<input type="checkbox"/> 12-14	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:30-47
16	<input type="checkbox"/> 15-17	<input type="checkbox"/> 6:1-21
17	<input type="checkbox"/> 18-19	<input type="checkbox"/> 6:22-59
18	<input type="checkbox"/> 20-22	<input type="checkbox"/> 6:60-71
19/20	<input type="checkbox"/> 23-1 Chronicles 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:1-52
	1 CHRONICLES	
21	<input type="checkbox"/> 3-5	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:53-8:11
22	<input type="checkbox"/> 6-7	<input type="checkbox"/> 8:12-38
23	<input type="checkbox"/> 8-10	<input type="checkbox"/> 8:39-59
24	<input type="checkbox"/> 11-13	<input type="checkbox"/> 9:1-23
25	<input type="checkbox"/> 14-16	<input type="checkbox"/> 9:24-41
26/27	<input type="checkbox"/> 17-20	<input type="checkbox"/> 10
28	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-23	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:1-27
29	<input type="checkbox"/> 24-26	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:28-44
30	<input type="checkbox"/> 27-29	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:45-57
	2 CHRONICLES	
31	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-3	<input type="checkbox"/> 12:1-19