

The Lord's Day in Worship

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



The sign of circumcision doesn't bring about the reality of God's love for Abraham, it confirms it. God is saying, "Look, Abraham, I love you, I love you so much. Listen to Me. I'm going to put a mark in your flesh so that you can't even look at yourself without seeing that I love you." Did it cause God's love? No. Was it the condition of God's love? No. Did it motivate God's love? No. It reminded Abraham that God already loved him.

—Ligon Duncan

God is not only the God of Abraham, but also the God of Isaac and Jacob. That is why Abraham was to circumcise his children: they needed to know they were not free to choose their own gods. They were to receive the sign of the covenant to show them that they were part of the covenant people. They belonged to the one true God, and they were to submit to him in a covenant relationship.

—Iain Duguid

☒ CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 105; 86

Leader: Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples!

ALL: *Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wondrous works!
Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek you rejoice!*

Leader: Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually!
We remember the wondrous works that you have done,
your miracles, and your judgments uttered,
especially through the seed of Abraham, your servant!

ALL: *Unite our hearts to fear your name.
We lift them up to you.
Let us rejoice in your presence.*

☒ PRAYER OF ADORATION

☒ *Congregation stand as able.*

☒ HYMNS OF ADORATION

"I Sing the Almighty Power of God"

I sing the Almighty pow'r of God That made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad And built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained The sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at His command And all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord That filled the earth with food;
He formed the creatures with his word, And then pronounced them good.
Lord, how Your wonders are displayed Where'er I turn my eye,
If I survey the ground I tread Or gaze upon the sky.

There's not a plant or flow'r below But makes your glories known;
And clouds arise and tempests blow By order from your throne;
While all that borrows life from You Is ever in Your care,
And everywhere than man can be You, God, are present there.

I sing the Almighty pow'r of God That made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad And built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained The sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at His command And all the stars obey.

I sing the wisdom that ordained The sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at His command And all the stars obey.

Words: Isaac Watts, 1715. Music: Traditional English melody; arr. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906.

☒ "All People That on Earth Do Dwell"
to the tune of "Doxology"

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Serve Him with joy, His praises tell,
Come now before Him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed;
He formed us all without our aid.
We are the flock He comes to feed,
The sheep who by His hand were made.

O enter then His gates with joy,
Within His courts His praise proclaim.
Let thankful songs your tongues employ,
O bless and magnify His name.

Because the Lord, our God, is good,
His mercy is forever sure.
His faithfulness at all times stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
The God whom heav'n and earth adore,
From us and from the angel host,
Be praise and glory evermore.
Be praise and glory evermore.

Words: William Kethe, 1561. Music: Louis Bourgeois, 1551 OLD HUNDREDTH.

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Matthew 5:7-9

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

⁸Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

⁹Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty and Merciful God,

We confess that we are slow to forgive;

We hold onto bitterness and are unwilling

to show the same mercy that has been shown to us.

We confess that we often praise you with our lips,

though our hearts and minds are impure and far from you.

And we confess our slow unwillingness to bring true peace

to our families, to our neighborhoods, to our work environments,

and to our church.

Forgive us for the sake of Jesus the King,

and may his Kingdom mercy, purity, and peace

reign in our lives for his glory and the good of his people, Amen.

☒ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

—1 Peter 2:10

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.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

2 Corinthians 5:17, 21

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come...²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

"2 Corinthians 5:17"



1. There - fore, if an - y - one is in Christ,



He is a new cre - a - tion.



The old__ has passed a - way;



be - hold__ the new has__ come.

Words: 2 Corinthians 5:17. Music: Adam Wright.

READING FROM THE EPISTLES

Romans 4:5-12

And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, ⁶just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

⁷“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,
and whose sins are covered;

⁸blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”

⁹Is this blessing then only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised? For we say that faith was counted to Abraham as righteousness. ¹⁰How then was it counted to him? Was it before or after he had been circumcised? It was not after, but before he was circumcised. ¹¹He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised. The purpose was to make him the father of all who believe without being circumcised, so that righteousness would be counted to them as well, ¹²and to make him the father of the circumcised who are not merely circumcised but who also walk in the footsteps of the faith that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

✻ GIVING OF FIRST FRUITS

"Oh, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus"

Congregational Hymn



1. Oh, the deep, deep love of Je - sus, vast, un -
 2. Oh, the deep, deep love fo Je - sus, spread His
 3. Oh, the deep, deep love of Je - sus, far sur -



meas - ured, bound less free; roll - ing as a might - y
 praise from shore to shore; how He came to pay our
 pass - ing all the rest; it's an o - cean full of



o - cean in its full - ness o - ver me;
 ran - som through the sav - ing cross He bore;
 bless - ing in the midst of ev - 'ry test;



Un - der - neath me, all a - round me is the
 How He watch - es o'er His loved ones, those He
 Oh, the deep, deep love of Je - sus, might - y



cur - rent of Your love; lead - ing on - ward, lead - ing
 died to make His own; how for them He's in - ter -
 Sav - ior, pre - cious Friend; You will bring us home to



home ward to Your glo - rious rest a - bove. _____
 ced - ing, plead ing now be - fore the throne. _____
 glo - ry, where Your love will nev - er end. _____



Oh the deep, deep love; all I need and trust



is the deep, deep love of Je - sus. _____

☒ PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the LORD be with you.

And also with you.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

See page 16 for all of our Ministry Announcements. Please fill out the attendance sheet provided with your worship guide and leave it in your pew or at your table.

Children's Worship. Children ages 3 years old (by 9/1/2020) through Kindergarten sitting in the Fellowship Hall are invited to Children's Worship during the Passing of the Peace. Children will walk with staff to C222, C223, or C224, and staff will then walk children back to the Fellowship Hall, prior to the benediction, to join their parents.

Enfold Disability Ministry. Our church seeks to embrace and enfold people affected by disability. Please let an usher know how we can support and accommodate your needs during worship.

THE MORNING PRAYERS

READING FROM THE PENTATEUCH

Genesis 17:1-27

When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be whole, ²that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly." ³Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, ⁴"Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. ⁷And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. ⁸And I will give to you and to your offspring after you the land of your sojournings, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and I will be their God."

⁹And God said to Abraham, "As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations. ¹⁰This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised. ¹¹You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you. ¹²He who is eight days old among you shall be circumcised. Every male throughout your generations, whether born in your house or bought with your money from any foreigner who is not of your offspring, ¹³both he who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money, shall surely be circumcised. So shall my covenant be in your flesh an everlasting covenant. ¹⁴Any uncircumcised male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin shall be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant."

All flesh is like grass,

And all its glory is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,

But the word of our God stands forever.

And God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her." ¹⁷Then Abraham fell on his face and laughed and said to himself, "Shall a child be born to a man who is a hundred years old? Shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?" ¹⁸And Abraham said to God, "Oh that Ishmael might live before you!" ¹⁹God said, "No, but Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his offspring after him. ²⁰As for Ishmael, I have heard you; behold, I have blessed him and will make him fruitful and multiply him greatly. He shall father twelve princes, and I will make him into a great nation. ²¹But I will establish my covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this time next year." ²²When he had finished talking with him, God went up from Abraham.

²³Then Abraham took Ishmael his son and all those born in his house or bought with his money, every male among the men of Abraham's house, and he circumcised the flesh of their foreskins that very day, as God had said to him. ²⁴Abraham was ninety-nine years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. ²⁵And Ishmael his son was thirteen years old when he was circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin. ²⁶That very day Abraham and his son Ishmael were circumcised. ²⁷And all the men of his house, those born in the house and those bought with money from a foreigner, were circumcised with him.

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

13

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.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,

for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.

SEASON AFTER EPIPHANY | FEBRUARY 7, 2021 | 8:15 & 10:30 AM

HYMN OF GRACE

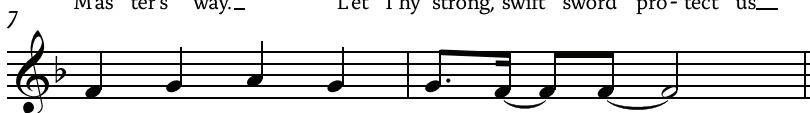
"God the Spirit"



1. Ho - ly fount of in - spir - a - tion, by whose gift the
 2. Au - thor of the new cre - a - tion, giv - er of the
 3. When we wan - der, Lord di - rect us, keep us in the



4
 great of__ old__ spoke the word of re - ve - la tion,
 sec - ond_ birth; may Thy cease - less ren - o - va - tion
 Mas ter's way._ Let Thy strong, swift sword pro - tect us__



7
 mar - ve - lous and man - i - fold__
 cleanse our souls from stains of__ earth__
 war - ring in the ev - il__ day... (to bridge)

9 Refrain:



God the Spir - it, we a dore_ Thee, in the Tri - une God - head One;



one in love and pow'r and glo ry with the Fa ther_ and the_Son.

Bridge (after verse 3):



Shall the church now faint or fear when the Com fort - er is near?_

Words: Samuel J. Stone. Music: Matt Boswell, 2010.

BENEDICTION

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT: February 7 - 13, 2021

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SUNDAY, February 7

8:15 a.m. Gathered Worship
10:30 a.m. Gathered Worship
5:00-6:30 p.m. 9th-12th Grade Small Groups

MONDAY, February 8

8:15 a.m. Women's Prayer Time
(Zoom; covpres.com/womens-ministry)

TUESDAY, February 9

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Women's Study: Divine Design Discipleship
(Fellowship Hall)
10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Women's Study: Esther, The Hidden Hand of God
(Sanctuary)

WEDNESDAY, February 10

5:00-6:00 p.m. 6th Grade Small Groups
6:00-7:30 p.m. 7th-8th Grade Small Groups

THURSDAY, February 11

7:00 p.m. Women's Event: "Finding Hope in Uncertain Times"
with Susan Yates (Sanctuary)

SEASON AFTER EPIPHANY | FEBRUARY 7, 2021 | 8:15 & 10:30 AM

Should you need pastoral assistance after our regular office hours, please contact our pastor on call at 205-874-3559 (John Fountain, February 8-14).

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scripture Memory. Our pastors are asking each person in our congregation to memorize Psalm 68:4-6 during this season after Epiphany. We will use these verses in our worship services over the next few months, and we ask that you spend time learning these words and "laying them up in your heart and in your soul" (Deuteronomy 11:18).

Sunday School Podcast. Our weekly Sunday School podcasts from the Gospel of Matthew can be accessed through iTunes (search for "Covenant Presbyterian Church") and at covpres.com/see-hear/audio. This week's lesson features David Driskill discussing Matthew 8 with Kate Graham and Tricia Prather, members of our Women's Shepherding Team.

Women's Ministry Event. Co-sponsored by Covenant's Women's Ministry and Samford's Legacy League, Susan Yates, best-selling author and international speaker, will be speaking at Covenant this Thursday, February 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Susan will be speaking on "Finding Hope in Uncertain Times." In order to follow our COVID protocols, seating is limited for this event, and you must purchase a ticket (\$15). Visit samford.edu/legacyleague for more information and to purchase tickets.

Lenten Journals & Ash Wednesday Service. Our pastors and ministry staff have created a Lenten Journal to help us spend time in God's Word during the upcoming season of Lent. The journals will begin with Ash Wednesday and will be available on Sunday, February 14. And please join us Wednesday, February 17, for our Ash Wednesday Service. The service will be at 12:00 noon in the Sanctuary. It also will be livestreamed on our YouTube channel.

Missions Festival. Our Annual Missions Festival is scheduled for February 19-22! It will be different this year, but we encourage you to participate as you are able. Sandy Willson will be our guest speaker in three services: Sunday morning, Sunday evening, and Monday evening. We also encourage you to participate in MTW's 2021 Virtual Missions Conference, "His Story Continues," at mtw.org. There are several speakers and breakout sessions Friday night and Saturday morning, including Lloyd Kim, MTW Coordinator and our 2020 Missions Festival speaker, speaking Friday at 8:00 p.m. We also will have our 24-Hours of Prayer for Missions from 6:00 p.m. on February 18 through 6:00 p.m. on February 19. Prayer sign up coming soon.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

COLLEGE COMMONS	<i>College students</i>
CROSSPOINTE S100	<i>Young families; 30s</i>
THRESHOLD E304	<i>Singles and young marrieds; 20s and 30s</i> (Pastor: Josh Johnson)
COMMUNITY E305	<i>All ages and life stages</i>
OPEN DOORS S105	<i>70s and above</i>
UPPER ROOM S101	<i>60s and 70s</i> (Pastor: Marty Crawford)
CORNERSTONE S104	<i>30s and 40s</i>
FOUNDATIONS DINING ROOM	<i>30s and 40s</i>
LIGHTHOUSE E301	<i>30s and 40s</i> (Pastor: David Driskill)
LIVING STONES E303	<i>40s and 50s</i>
KINGDOM BUILDERS E201	<i>50s and 60s</i> (Pastor: Dan Edwards)
YOUTH YOUTH AREA	<i>Students grades 7-12</i> (Pastor: John Fountain)

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Robby Holt, Senior Pastor	rholt@covpres.com
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RULING ELDERS

2021	2022	2023
Eric Getty	Ty Dedmon	Will Brooke
Daniel Murray	John Hamilton	Nathan Collums
Warren Norville	Mark Hogewood	Jeff Dyess
Sandy Stradtman	John James	Michael Latta
Clay Wheeler	David O'Dell	Charlie Logan
	Norman Pless	Bob Schaffeld
	Kurt Senn	John Smith T
		Steve Stigler

DEACONS

2021	2022	2023
Nick Baggett	Jim Bennett	Tripp Alexander
Ward Bailey	William Edwards	Joseph Cascio
Samuel Bragg	Merrill Johnston	Richard Cox
Trey Clegg	Randall Lancaster	Jay Evans
Will Graham	Mark Midyette	Bryan Flores
Jeff Hicks	Stephen Mince	Gary Gorham
Jim Jenkins	Clyde Prather	Jeff Hayes
Alan Spooner	John Shank	John Shults
Patrick Strong	Matt Thomas	Joe Strickland
	Greg Tomlinson	Darrell Tucker

STEERING COMMITTEE

Will Brooke, Member At-large	Ingram Link, Ministry Liaison (Women)
Nathan Collums, Family Ministry Chair	Stephen Mince, Chair of the Diaconate
Marty Crawford, Pastoral Liaison (Missions)	John Shank, Finance Committee Chair
Ty Dedmon, Shepherding Ministry Chair	Lee Sheppard, Personnel Committee Chair
David Driskill, Pastoral Liaison (Shepherding)	John Smith T, Assistant Clerk of the Session
John Fountain, Pastoral Liaison (Family)	Steve Stigler, Missions Ministry Chair
Michael Latta, Clerk of the Session	

BIBLE READING PLAN

These readings are provided as a personal, family, or group worship resource. You can use them along with the readings, prayers, and hymns from your worship guide each week. 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 2021.

FEBRUARY READING PLAN

	EXODUS	MATTHEW
1	□ 27-28	□ 21:33-46
2	□ 29-30	□ 22:1-22
3	□ 31-32	□ 22:23-46
4	□ 33-34	□ 23:1-22
5	□ 35-36	□ 23:23-29
6/7	□ 37-39	□ 24
8	□ 40-Leviticus 1	□ 25:1-10
	LEVITICUS	
9	□ 2-3	□ 25:31-26
10	□ 4-6	□ 26:1-35
11	□ 7-9	□ 26:36-56
12	□ 10-12	□ 26:57-65
13/14	□ 13-15	□ 27
15	□ 16-18	□ 28
		MARK
16	□ 19-20	□ 1
17	□ 21-23	□ 2
18	□ 24-26	□ 3
19	□ 27-Numbers 1	□ 4
	NUMBERS	
20/21	□ 2-7	□ 5:1-20
22	□ 8-9	□ 5:21-43
23	□ 10-12	□ 6:1-29
24	□ 13-15	□ 6:30-56
25	□ 16-18	□ 7:1-13
26	□ 19-21	□ 7:14-37
27/28	□ 22-25	□ 8:1-9:29