

The Lord's Day in Worship

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Season of the Trinity
September 16, 2018

"On Christ's glory I would fix all my thoughts and desires, and the more I see of the glory of Christ, the more the painted beauties of this world will wither in my eyes and I will be more and more crucified to this world."

—John Owen

"Happy the soul that has been awed by a view of God's majesty."

—A.W. Pink

"It has been said by someone that the proper study of mankind is man. I will not oppose the idea, but I believe it is equally true that the proper study of God's elect is God; the proper study of the Christian is the Godhead. The highest science, the loftiest speculation, the mightiest philosophy, which can ever engage the attention of a child of God, is the name, the nature, the person, the work, the doings, and the existence of the great God whom he calls his Father."

—Charles H. Spurgeon

"What were we made for? To know God. What aim should we set ourselves in life? To know God. What is the 'eternal life' that Jesus gives? Knowledge of God....What is the best thing in life, bringing more joy, delight, and contentment, than anything else? Knowledge of God."

—J.I. Packer

CALL TO WORSHIP

Marty Crawford

☒ HYMN OF PRAISE

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small,
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish, but naught changeth Thee.

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908). Music: Welsh melody,
arr. by Gordon Young, 1993.

☒ *Congregation stand as able.*

☒ READING FROM THE PROPHETS

Kristi Gidley

Jeremiah 9:23-24

Thus says the Lord: “Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, ²⁴but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the Lord.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

☒ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

“Immortal Invisible, God Only Wise”

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render, O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

☒ PRAYER OF ADORATION

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

John 6:52-69

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. ⁵⁵For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. ⁵⁷As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate, and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever." ⁵⁹Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?" ⁶¹But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, "Do you take offense at this? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But there are some of you who do not believe." (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.) ⁶⁵And he said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father."

⁶⁶After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?" ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, ⁶⁹and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SONG OF CHRIST

"All I Have is Christ"



1. I once was lost in dark - est night, yet thought I knew the
2. But as I ran my hell bound race in - diff erent to the
3. Now, Lord I would be Yours a - lone, and live so all might

4



way. The sin that prom - ised joy and life had led me to the
cost, You looked up - on my help - less state and led me to the
see the strength to fol - low Your commands could nev - er come from

8



grave. I had no hope that You would own a re - bel to Your
cross. And I be - held God's love dis played; You suff - ered in my
me. Oh Fa - ther use my ran - somed life in an - y way You

12



will, and if You had not loved me first, I would re - fuse You still.
place. You bore the wrath re served for me, now all I know is grace.
choose, and let my song for - ev - er be, "My on - ly boast is You."

17 **CHORUS (after verses 2 & 3):**



Hal - le - lu - ia! All I have is Christ! Hal - le -

22



lu - ia! Je - sus is my life!

APOCALYPTIC READING

Revelation 5

Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll written within and on the back, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break its seals?" ³And no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll or to look into it, ⁴and I began to weep loudly because no one was found worthy to open the scroll or to look into it. ⁵And one of the elders said to me, "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals."

⁶And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷And he went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who was seated on the throne. ⁸And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹And they sang a new song, saying,

"Worthy are you to take the scroll
and to open its seals,
for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God
from every tribe and language and people and nation,
¹⁰and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God,
and they shall reign on the earth."

¹¹Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹²saying with a loud voice,

“Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might
and honor and glory and blessing!”

¹³And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the
earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying,

“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!”

¹⁴And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down
and worshiped.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GIVING OF FIRST FRUITS

"Is He Worthy?"

Chancel Choir

Do you feel the world is broken? *(We do)*

Do you feel the shadows deepen? *(We do)*

But do you know that all the dark won't stop the light from getting through?
(We do)

Do you wish that you could see it all made new? *(We do)*

Is all creation groaning? *(It is)*

Is a new creation coming? *(It is)*

Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? *(It is)*

Is it the good that we remind ourselves of this? *(It is)*

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?

Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?

The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave,

He is David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave.

Is He worthy? Is He worthy?

Of all blessing and honor and glory,

Is He worthy of this? *(He is)*

Does the Father truly love us? *(He does)*

Does the Spirit move among us? *(He does)*

And does Jesus, our Messiah hold forever those He loves? *(He does)*

Does our God intend to dwell again with us? *(He does)*

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?

Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?

He is David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave

From every people and tribe, Every nation and tongue;

He has made us a kingdom and priests to God

To reign with the Son.

Is He worthy? Is He worthy?

Of all blessing and honor and glory,

Is He worthy? Is He worthy?

Is He worthy of all this?

He is!

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the LORD be with you.

And also with you.

Greet one another with words of peace and reconciliation.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitors and members, please take a moment to fill out the pew pad.
You may read all of our ministry announcements on page 20.

Kindergarteners - 2nd graders are dismissed at this time (see page 20 for details).

THE MORNING PRAYERS

Clay Wheeler

READING FROM THE EPISTLES

Ephesians 1:11-14

In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

☒ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne.
Hark! How the heavenly anthems drown All music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King Through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of life Who triumphed o'er the grave,
And rose victorious in the strife For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high,
Who died, eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of peace, Whose power a scepter sways;
From pole to pole, that wars may cease, And all be prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end, And round his pierced feet
Fair flow'rs of paradise extend, Their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown Him the Lord of love! Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above In beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For Thou hast died for me;
Thy praise and glory shall not fail Throughout eternity!

Thy praise and glory shall not fail Throughout eternity!

Words: Matthew Bridges, 1851, and Godfrey Thring, 1874 (Rev. 19:12).
Music: George J. Elvey, 1868.

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

Josh Johnson

*Almighty God,
Whose glory is infinite, eternal, and unchangeable,
Who has graciously made Yourself known to us in Jesus Christ,
and Who has called us to intimate fellowship with You,
we confess that we have at times sought pleasure and meaning apart from You,
leaving us empty and starving for real life.
Please forgive our foolish ways,
and renew our desire to know You, worship You, and serve You,
that we may forever glorify You by delighting in Your Majesty,
through Jesus Christ Your Son, our exalted Lord and King. Amen.*

Assurance of Pardon

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

—Hebrews 4:14-16

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.

☒ **Apostles' 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.*

☒ **Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

Words: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711. Music: Old 100th; *Genevan Psalter*, 1551 Edition;
attr. Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561.

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 it 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 and the Lord's Prayer

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.*

HYMNS FOR THE EUCHARIST

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

“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”

How deep the Father’s love for us,
How vast beyond all measure;
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch a treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss,
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life,
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything—
No gifts, no pow’r, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart—
His wounds have paid my ransom.

Words and Music: Stuart Townend, © 1995 Thankyou Music (Admin. by
EMI Christian Music Publishing).

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”



1. Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! His the scept-er, his the
2. Though the cloud from sight received him when the for - ty days were
3. Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, thee the Lord of lords we



throne. Al - le - lu - ia! His the tri - umph, his the
o'er shall our hearts for - get his pro - mise, "I am
own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth thy



vic - 'try, his a - lone. Hark! the songs of peace - ful
with you ev - er - more?" Al - le - lu - ia! bread of
foot - stool, heav'n thy throne. Thou with - in the veil hast



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood. Je - sus
heav - en, here on earth our food and stay! Al - le -
en - tered, robed in flesh, our great High Priest. Thou on



out of ev' - ry na - tion hath re - deemed us by his
lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to thee from day to
earth both Priest and Vic - tim in the Eu - cha - ris - tic



blood. Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans are we
day. In - ter - ces - sor, Friend of sin - ners, earth's Re -
Feast. Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! His the



left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! He is
deem - er, plead for me. Where the songs of all the
scept - er, his the throne. Al - le - lu - ia! His the



near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how.
sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
tri - umph, his the vic - 'try, his a - lone.

☒ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

☒ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Crown Him the Lord of years,
The Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres,
Ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For Thou has died for me;
Thy praise shall never, never fail
Throughout eternity.

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

☒ BENEDICTION

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT: September 16-21, 2018

SUNDAY, September 16

- 8:45 a.m. Coffee Fellowship (Commons)
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages and stages (see page 21)
- 10:30 a.m. Gathered Worship (Sanctuary)
Children's Worship | 3K through 2nd grade
- 12:00 p.m. Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)
- 5:00 p.m. Congregational Prayer Time (Fellowship Hall)
Jr. & Sr. High Small Groups

MONDAY, September 17

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

TUESDAY, September 18

- 10:00 a.m. Women's Study: Divine Design Discipleship (S104)
- 11:30 a.m. Women's Study: The Book of Joshua (E201)
- 11:30 a.m. Gospel Manhood (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:30 p.m. Grief Support Group (Parlor)

WEDNESDAY, September 19

- 5:15-5:45 p.m. 40 Days of Prayer for Covenant (Dining Room)
- 5:30-7:15 p.m. Wednesdays@Covenant
 - 5:30-7:15 | Nursery Care (Nursery Floor)
kidConnection* (3rd floor; dinner included)
 - 5:30-6:15 | Fellowship Dinner (Fellowship Hall;
menu: jerk chicken, coconut rice, black beans)
 - 6:00-7:15 | Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
 - 6:15-7:15 | Youth Activities (Youth Rooms)
Study Option 1: Believing & Living the Gospel
"Six Weeks to Sane Thinking,"
with Julie Sparkman
(September 5-October 10; E201)
Study Option 2: Sharing the Gospel
"Evangelism & Apologetics,"
with Josh Johnson (Dining Room)

*register for kidConnection at covpres.com

Should you need pastoral assistance after our regular office hours, please contact our pastor on call at 205-874-3559 (Josh Johnson, September 17-23).

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

Kindergarten - C221 (dismissed during the Passing of the Peace)

1st - 2nd Grade - C316 (dismissed during the Passing of the Peace)

Wednesdays@Covenant. Our Wednesday night activities have begun! Join us for dinner at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall (menu: sliders). We have two options for adult study and Chancel Choir rehearsal, plus children's and youth activities.

Gospel Manhood. Gospel Manhood kicks off this Tuesday, September 18, at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Our guest speaker will be Randy Pope, Founding and Lead Teaching Pastor of Perimeter Church in Georgia, and he will be speaking on evangelism. You can find a full list of dates and speakers at covpres.com/mens-ministry.

40 Days of Prayer. Today begins our third full week of the 40 days of prayer for Covenant leading up to our 40th anniversary. If you do not have a hard copy of our 40 Days of Prayer Journal, you may follow along online at covpres.com/prayer.

Children's Worship Guide. Our Children's Ministry staff provides a weekly children's version of the worship guide. It is available as you walk into gathered worship and helps children follow along during the service with fill-in-the-blanks and areas to draw their own pictures of the elements of worship.

MySecureFamily Women's Event. MySecureFamily, an Undone Redone Ministries initiative and Covenant missions partner, is hosting "Open Your Purse" September 21 at 6:00 p.m. in the Grand Bohemian Ballroom. This is a ladies-only event featuring dinner and an auction of over 60 designer handbags to support the MySecureFamily initiative. Attendees will hear from a panel of digital safety experts including a local therapist, middle school principal, and local law enforcement. Tickets are available at mysecurefamily.com.

Lost & Found. We have a variety of items in our lost and found (located near the ice machine in the hallway leading to the commons). If you have lost a bag, a Bible, goggles, a serving dish, or an insulated cup, just to name a few things, please check the lost and found area. Any items left unclaimed by Friday, September 20 will be donated.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

9:15 a.m.

Maps and directional signs are located around the church.

COLLEGE DINING ROOM*	<i>College students</i>
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>50s and 60s</i>
OPEN DOORS S105	<i>70s and above</i>
UPPER ROOM S101	<i>60s and 70s</i>
THRESHOLD DINING ROOM	<i>Singles and young marrieds; 20s and 30s</i>
YOUTH YOUTH AREA	<i>Students grades 7-12</i>

**The college class meets at 12:00 p.m. and includes lunch.*

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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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

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.

SEPTEMBER READING PLAN

	PSALMS	1 CORINTHIANS
1/2	□ 148-Proverbs 1	□ 11:17-12:11
	PROVERBS	
3	□ 2-4	□ 12:12-31
4	□ 5-6	□ 13
5	□ 7-8	□ 14
6	□ 9-10	□ 15:1-34
7	□ 11-12	□ 15:35-58
8/9	□ 13-16	□ 16-2 Corinthians 1
		2 CORINTHIANS
10	□ 17-18	□ 2
11	□ 19-20	□ 3
12	□ 21-22	□ 4
13	□ 23-24	□ 5:1-6:13
14	□ 25-27	□ 6:14-7:1
15/16	□ 28-Ecclesiastes 2	□ 7:2-8:24
	ECCLESIASTES	
17	□ 3-4	□ 9
18	□ 5-6	□ 10
19	□ 7-9	□ 11:1-15
20	□ 10-12	□ 11:16-33
	SONG OF SOLOMON	
21	□ 1-3	□ 12
22/23	□ 4-Isaiah 1	□ 13-Galatians 1
	ISAIAH	GALATIANS
24	□ 2-3	□ 2
25	□ 4-6	□ 3
26	□ 7-9	□ 4
27	□ 10-12	□ 5
28	□ 13-15	□ 6
		EPHESIANS
29/30	□ 16-20	□ 1-2