

The Lord's Day in Worship

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



"The promise of God is unchangeable. As the seed of Abraham was to exist before God for ever, so Canaan was to be its everlasting possession...Through Christ the promise has been exalted from its temporal form to its true essence; through Him the whole earth becomes Canaan (vid., Gen. 17:8)."

—C. F. Keil and F. Delitzsch

"Abram removed to Beth-el. His altar was gone, so that he could not offer sacrifice; but he called on the name of the Lord. You may as soon find a living man without breath as one of God's people without prayer."

—Matthew Henry

 **CALL TO WORSHIP**

from Psalm 68

Leader: Sing to God, sing praises to his name;

*ALL: lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts;
his name is the Yahweh;
exult before him!*

Leader: Father of the fatherless and protector of widows
is God in his holy habitation.

*ALL: God settles the solitary in a home;
he leads out the prisoners to prosperity,
but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.*

 **PRAYER OF ADORATION**

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"



1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heav'n to
 2. Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
 3. Come, Al might - y to de - liv - er, let us all Thy
 4. Fin - ish then Thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot-less



earth come down. Fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell - ing,
 troub - led breast, let us all in Thee in - her - it,
 life re - ceive, sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er,
 let us be, let us see Thy great sal - va - tion,



all Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
 let us find the prom - ised rest.
 nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
 per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee;



Je - sus, Thou art all com - pass - ion, pure, un bound - ed
 Take a - way the love of sin - ning, Al - pha and O -
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve Thee as Thy
 changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heav'n we



love Thou art. Vis - it us with Thy sal - va - tion,
 me - ga be. End of faith as its be - gin - ning,
 hosts a - bove, pray and praise Thee with - out ceas - ing,
 take our place, till we cast our crowns be - fore Thee,



en - ter ev - ery tremb - ling heart.
 set our hearts at li - ber - ty.
 glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.
 lost in won - der, love and praise.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: John Zundel (1815-1882) Mason.

 "Hold to God's Unchanging Hand"


1. Time is filled with swift tran - si - tion
 2. Trust in Him Who will not leave you,
 3. Cov - et not this world's vain rich - es



naught of earth un - moved can stand
 what - so - ev - er years may bring,
 that so rap - id - ly de - cay.



Build your hopes on things e - ter - nal, ___
 if by earth - ly friends for - sak - en, ___
 Seek to gain the heav'n - ly treas - ures; ___



hold to God's un - chang - ing hand.
 still more close - ly to ___ Him cling.
 they will nev - er pass ___ a - way.

Refrain:



Hold to His hand, ___ God's un - chang - ing hand! ___



Hold to His hand, ___ God's un - chang - ing hand! ___



Build your hopes on things e - ter - nal, ___



hold to God's un - chang - ing hand.

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Matthew 5:43-48

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵so 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. ⁴⁶For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Heavenly Father,
You have loved us with an everlasting love,
but we have gone our own way,
and rejected your will for our lives.
We are sorry for our sins and turn away from them.
For the sake of your Son who died for us,
forgive us, cleanse us, and change us.
By your Holy Spirit, enable us to live for you,
and to please you in every way,
for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.*

— from the *Book of Common Prayer*

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

❏ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

You forgave the iniquity of your people;
you covered all their sin.

—Psalm 82:5

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.

 CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

"Galatians 2:20"



I have been cru - ci - fied with__ Christ.



It is no long - er I who__ live,



but Christ who lives in me,



but Christ who lives in__ me.__



And the life I now live in the flesh



I live by faith in the Son of God,__



Who loved me and gave Him - self for me.

Words: Galatians 2:20. Music: Adam Wright.

GIVING OF FIRST FRUITS

"O Come All You Unfaithful"

Liz Richardson and Becca Davis

O come all you unfaithful,
Come weak and unstable;
Come know you are not alone.

O come barren and waiting ones,
Weary of praying;
Come see what your God has done.

Chorus:
Christ is born, Christ is born,
Christ is born for you.

O come bitter and broken,
Come with fears unspoken;
Come taste of His perfect love.

O come guilty and hiding ones;
There is no need to run,
See what your God has done.

He's the Lamb who was given slain for our pardon,
His promise is peace for those who believe;
He's the Lamb who was given slain for our pardon,
His promise is peace for those who believe.

So come though you have nothing,
Come He is the offering,
Come see what your God has done.

Words and Music: CCLI Song # 7160115. Bob Kauflin, Lisa Clow. © 2020 Sovereign Grace Praise (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing (Integrity Music, David C Cook)). For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com. CCLI License # 147209.

READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 6:1-7

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. ²And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. ³Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. ⁴But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." ⁵And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

10:30 a.m.

Deacons

Tripp Alexander

Joseph Cascio*

Richard Cox*

Jay Evans

Bryan Flores

Gary Gorham

Jeff Hayes

John Shults

Joe Strickland*

Darrell Tucker

**These men will be both ordained and installed.*

QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES

from the *Book of Church Order*

QUESTION TO THE CONGREGATION

Do you, the members of this church, acknowledge and receive these brothers as Elders, and do you promise to yield them all that honor, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord to which the office, according to the Word of God and the Constitution of this church, entitles them?

PRAYER OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Elders

Will Brooke

Nathan Collums*

Jeff Dyess

Michael Latta

Charlie Logan

Bob Schaffeld

John Smith T

Steve Stigler

**These men will be both ordained and installed.*

QUESTIONS TO THE CANDIDATES

from the *Book of Church Order*

QUESTION TO THE CONGREGATION

Do you, the members of this church, acknowledge and receive these brothers as Elders, and do you promise to yield them all that honor, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord to which the office, according to the Word of God and the Constitution of this church, entitles them?

PRAYER OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION**CHARGE TO THE OFFICERS AND THE CONGREGATION**

☒ PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the LORD be with you.

And also with you.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

See page 20 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 13

So Abram went up from Egypt, he and his wife and all that he had, and Lot with him, into the Negeb. ²Now Abram was very rich in livestock, in silver, and in gold. ³And he journeyed on from the Negeb as far as Bethel to the place where his tent had been at the beginning, between Bethel and Ai, ⁴to the place where he had made an altar at the first. And there Abram called upon the name of the LORD. ⁵And Lot, who went with Abram, also had flocks and herds and tents, ⁶so that the land could not support both of them dwelling together; for their possessions were so great that they could not dwell together, ⁷and there was strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. At that time the Canaanites and the Perizzites were dwelling in the land.

⁸Then Abram said to Lot, "Let there be no strife between you and me, and between your herdsmen and my herdsmen, for we are kinsmen. ⁹Is not the whole land before you? Separate yourself from me. If you take the left hand, then I will go to the right, or if you take the right hand, then I will go to the left." ¹⁰And Lot lifted up his eyes and saw that the Jordan Valley was well watered everywhere like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt, in the direction of Zoar. (This was before the LORD destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) ¹¹So Lot chose for himself all the Jordan Valley, and Lot journeyed east. Thus they separated from each other. ¹²Abram settled in the land of Canaan, while Lot settled among the cities of the valley and moved his tent as far as Sodom. ¹³Now the men of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against the LORD.

¹⁴The LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, "Lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward, ¹⁵for all the land that you see I will give to you and to your offspring forever. ¹⁶I will make your offspring as the dust of the earth, so that if one can count the dust

of the earth, your offspring also can be counted. ¹⁷Arise, walk through the length and the breadth of the land, for I will give it to you.” ¹⁸So Abram moved his tent and came and settled by the oaks of Mamre, which are at Hebron, and there he built an altar to the LORD.

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.

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

17

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 | JANUARY 10, 2021 | 8:15 & 10:30 AM

 **HYMN OF GLORY**

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

O God our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.

Under the shadow of your throne,
Your saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone,
And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame;
From everlasting you are God,
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight
Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream
Bears all its sons away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream,
Dies at the op'ning day.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come;
O be our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home.

Words: from Psalm 90; Isaac Watts, 1719. Music: ST. ANNE C.M.; attr. to William Croft, 1678-1727.

 **BENEDICTION**

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT: January 10 - 16, 2021

19

SUNDAY, January 10

- 8:15 a.m. Gathered Worship
- 10:30 a.m. Gathered Worship
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Small Groups resume (via Zoom)

MONDAY, January 11

- 8:15 a.m. Women's Prayer Time
(Zoom; covpres.com/womens-prayer)
- 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. CFAP Registration for Covenant members
(createdforapurpose.org; password: Covenant)

SEASON AFTER EPIPHANY | JANUARY 10, 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 (David Driskill, January 11-17).

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School Plan. Beginning this week we will be sharing recorded Sunday School lessons from Matthew. Your Sunday School leaders will share the audio links with you. Also, you will be able to access these recordings through our iTunes podcast: Covenant Presbyterian Church, and at covpres.com/see-hear/ audio. The first podcast will feature David Driskill and Robby Holt discussing Matthew 3-4.

CFAP Summer 2021. Created for a Purpose summer registration opens Monday, January 11, at 9:00 a.m. for Covenant members! Please visit createdforapurpose.org for registration information (registration password: Covenant). Registration will close promptly at 4:00 p.m. so that we can open it to the community on January 12.

Praying for Health Care Professionals. We are compiling a list of the health care professionals in our congregation so that we may pray for you by name. We have started this list, but we do not want to miss anyone working in health care during the pandemic. If you are in this group, please send your name, profession, and where you work to Kim Oliver at koliver@covpres.com so that we can pray for you and your family!

Discover Covenant Class. Our next Discover Covenant class is Friday, January 22, through Sunday, January 24. The class is required for anyone desiring to become a member; however, you are not obligated to join after attending. If you would like to register, please visit covpres.com/new-members. Nursery childcare (ages 5 and under) is available for each session. Please contact Victoria Williams (205-871-7002, vwilliams@covpres.com) with questions.

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Robby Holt, Senior Pastor	rholt@covpres.com
Marty Crawford, Assistant Pastor (Church Administrator, Senior Adults, Missions)	mcrawford@covpres.com
David Driskill, Assistant Pastor (Shepherding, Middle Adults)	ddriskill@covpres.com
John Fountain, Assistant Pastor (Students and Families)	jfountain@covpres.com
Ingram Link, Director of Women's Ministries	ilink@covpres.com

MINISTRY STAFF

Rick Barnes, Director of Music	rbarnes@covpres.com
Jami Bennett, Director of MDO and Nursery Ministries	jbennett@covpres.com
Rachel Davis, Assistant Director of Girls' Ministries	shields.rachel.c@gmail.com
Dan Edwards, Assistant Pastor (Middle Adults)	dedwards@covpres.com
Katie Flores, Assistant Director of Children's Ministries, Director of Enfold Disability Ministry	kflores@covpres.com
Bill Hay, Pastor Emeritus	bhay@covpres.com
Josh Johnson, Assistant Pastor (Young Adults, Adult Discipleship)	jjohnson@covpres.com
Sara Litten, Director of Girls' Ministries	slitten@covpres.com
Daniel Sluis, Director of Guys' Ministries	dsluis@covpres.com
Brooke Stewart, Director of Covenant Day School	bstewart@covpres.com
Laura Tucker, Director of Children's Ministries	ltucker@covpres.com

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Katie Caldwell, Director of Design and Production	kcaldwell@covpres.com
Meg Cotney, Director of Finance	mcotney@covpres.com
Tyler Cuidon, Director of Technical Services	tcuidon@covpres.com
Phyllis Hamm, Ministry Assistant (Missions, Member Care)	phamm@covpres.com
Jeff Herbert, Director of Facilities	jherbert@covpres.com
Stacey Loyless, Director of Communications and Media	sloyless@covpres.com
Casey O'Dell, Ministry Assistant (Children's Choir, Worship)	caseys.odell@gmail.com
Kim Oliver, Assistant to the Senior Pastor	koliver@covpres.com
Traci Parker, Director of Food Services	tparker@covpres.com
Justin Richardson, Assistant to the Church Administrator	jrichardson@covpres.com
Karan Stuart, Receptionist	kstuart@covpres.com
Victoria Williams, Ministry Assistant (Women, Shepherding)	vwilliams@covpres.com

RULING ELDERS

2020

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

2021

Eric Getty
Russell Martin
Daniel Murray
Warren Norville
Sandy Stradtman
Clay Wheeler

2022

Ty Dedmon
John Hamilton
Mark Hogewood
John James
David O'Dell
Norman Pless
Kurt Senn

DEACONS

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

2021

Nick Baggett
Ward Bailey
Samuel Bragg
Trey Clegg
Will Graham
Jeff Hicks
Jim Jenkins
Alan Spooner
Patrick Strong

2022

Jim Bennett
William Edwards
Merrill Johnston
Randall Lancaster
Mark Midyette
Stephen Mince
Clyde Prather
John Shank
Matt Thomas
Greg Tomlinson

STEERING COMMITTEE

Michael Latta, Clerk of the Session
Stephen Mince, Chair of the Diaconate
Lee Sheppard, Personnel Committee Chair
John Shank, Finance Committee Chair

Will Brooke, Member At-large
Nathan Collums, Family Ministry Chair
Steve Stigler, Missions Ministry Chair
Ty Dedmon, Shepherding Ministry Chair

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.

JANUARY READING PLAN

	GENESIS	MATTHEW
1	□ 1-3	□ 1
2/3	□ 4-8	□ 2-3
4	□ 9-11	□ 4
5	□ 12-14	□ 5
6	□ 15-17	□ 6
7	□ 18-20	□ 7
8	□ 21-23	□ 8
9/10	□ 24-28	□ 9
11	□ 29-30	□ 10
12	□ 31-32	□ 11:1-19
13	□ 33-34	□ 11:20-30
14	□ 35-36	□ 12
15	□ 37-38	□ 13:1-23
16/17	□ 39-44	□ 13:24-58
18	□ 45-46	□ 14:1-21
19	□ 47	□ 14:22-36
20	□ 48-49	□ 15:1-28
21	□ 50-Exodus 1	□ 15:29-16:4
	EXODUS	
22	□ 2-4	□ 16:5-28
23/24	□ 5-8	□ 17
25	□ 9-10	□ 18:1-20
26	□ 11-12	□ 18:21-35
27	□ 13-16	□ 19:1-15
28	□ 17-19	□ 19:16-30
29	□ 20-22	□ 20:1-16
30/31	□ 23-26	□ 20:17-21:32

