

The Lord's Day in Worship

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Season of the Trinity
August 26, 2018

The Lord Jesus, by his perfect obedience, and sacrifice of himself, which he, through the eternal Spirit, once offered up unto God, hath fully satisfied the justice of his Father; and purchased, not only reconciliation, but an everlasting inheritance in the kingdom of heaven, for all those whom the Father hath given unto him.

—Westminster Confession of Faith, VIII, v.

“The Christian community is a community of the cross, for it has been brought into being by the cross, and the focus of its worship is the Lamb once slain, now glorified.”

—John R.W. Stott

There is a green hill far away,
Without a city wall,
Where the dear Lord was crucified,
Who died to save us all.
Oh, Dearly, Dearly has He loved,
And died our sins to bear:
We trust in His redeeming blood,
And life eternal share.

—Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848

CALL TO WORSHIP

Marty Crawford

☒ HYMN OF PRAISE

“In Christ Alone” (verses 1-3)

In Christ alone my hope is found.
He is my light, my strength, my song.
This Cornerstone, this solid ground;
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My Comforter, my all in all;
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh;
Fullness of God in helpless Babe.
This gift of love, and righteousness;
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
'Til on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied.
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
For I am His, and He is mine;
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

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☒ *Congregation stand as able.*

☒ READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Dawson Cooper

John 10:27-30

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

☒ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

“In Christ Alone” (verse 4)

No guilt in life, no fear in death!
This is the pow'r of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand.
'Til He returns, or calls me home;
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

READING FROM THE PROPHETS

Isaiah 53:1-6

Who has believed what he has heard from us?

And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

²For he grew up before him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;

he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
and no beauty that we should desire him.

³He was despised and rejected by men,
a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

⁴Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.

⁵But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.

⁶All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

☒ SONG OF SALVATION

"Great High Priest"

Jesus, my great High Priest,
Offered His blood and died, Offered His blood and died;
My guilty conscience seeks
No sacrifice beside, No sacrifice beside.
(*Twice*)

His pow'rful blood did once atone,
And now it pleads before the throne.
His pow'rful blood did once atone,
And now it pleads before the throne.

To this dear Surety's hand
Will I commit my cause, Will I commit my cause;
He answers and fulfills
His Father's broken laws, His Father's broken laws.

Behold my soul at freedom set;
My Surety paid the dreadful debt.
Behold my soul at freedom set;
My Surety paid the dreadful debt.

My Advocate appears
For my defense on high, For my defense on high;
The Father bows His ears
And lays His thunder by, And lays His thunder by.
(*Twice*)

Not all that hell or sin can say
Shall turn His heart, His love, away.
Not all that hell or sin can say
Shall turn His heart, His love, away.
(*Twice*)

GIVING OF FIRST FRUITS

"Behold the Christ"

Casey O'Dell, soloist

See all creation pure and bright,
Abounding forth in radiant light.
Eternal God who made our home
And made a people called His own.

See the darkness enter in.
All of creation stained with sin.
Oh what could overcome the night?
From heaven's throne descends the light.
From heaven's throne descends the light.

Chorus:

*The hope of promises fulfilled,
From prophets long foretold,
The author of all life,
Behold the Christ.
Descended down to men,
Then lifted up to die,
Who crushed the grip of sin,
Behold the Christ.*

Oh see his Son lay down his life;
The innocent for those defiled.
Forgiveness we may now receive;
Oh sinner, won't you now believe?
Oh sinner, won't you now believe?
(Chorus)

Oh see Him coming for His bride,
Wearing spotless robes of white.
All of our sorrow is replaced
With joy as we behold His face,
With joy as we behold His face.

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 19.

Children are dismissed at this time.

THE MORNING PRAYERS

Warren Norville

READING FROM THE EPISTLES

Ephesians 1:7-10

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

☒ SONG OF ATONEMENT

"Nothing But the Blood"

What can wash away my sins?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Chorus:

*Oh precious is the flow
That makes me white as snow!
No other fount I know,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

Nothing can for sin atone.
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
Naught of good that I have done.
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
(Chorus)

This is all my hope and peace.
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
This is all my righteousness.
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
(Chorus, twice)

Word and Music: Robert Lowry, 1876.

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

John Fountain

*Lord Jesus Christ,
Who shed Your blood for our poor sakes
that we may be delivered from all our sins and receive eternal life,
we confess with great sorrow
that we have sinned against You and against one another,
both in what we have done
and also in what we have left undone.
Please forgive us,
and renew us
that we may live as those who are grateful for Your redeeming love.
This prayer we offer through the merits of Your blood
and in Your most precious Name.
Amen.*

☒ Assurance of Pardon

...you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

—1 Peter 1:18-19

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.*

☒ Congregational Response

“Come, Thou, Almighty King”

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: "To the great One in Three e - ter - nal", "prais - es be, hence ev - er - more.", "His sov' - reign maj - es - ty, may we in glo - ry see,", and "and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore." The score includes measure numbers 5, 9, and 13. The final measure of the fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

5
To the great One in Three e - ter - nal

9
prais - es be, hence ev - er - more.

13
His sov' - reign maj - es - ty, may we in glo - ry see,

and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

Words: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826. Music: John B. Dykes, 1861.

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 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.*

*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.

“Alas and did My Savior Bleed”

Alas, and did my Savior bleed?
And did my Sov'reign die?
Would He devote that sacred head
For sinners such as I?

Was it for crimes that I had done,
He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity! Grace unknown!
And love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide,
And shut its glories in,
When God, the mighty Maker, died
For His own creature's sin.

Thus might I hide my blushing face
While His dear cross appears;
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
And melt mine eyes to tears.

But drops of tears can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe.
Here, Lord, I give myself away;
'Tis all that I can do.

Words: Issac Watts, 1707. Music: Anonymous; arr. Ralph E. Hudson, 1885.

“Hallelujah, What a Savior”

“Man of Sorrows!” what a name
For the Son of God, who came
Ruined sinners to reclaim:
Hallelujah, what a Savior!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
In my place condemned He stood,
Sealed my pardon with His blood:
Hallelujah, what a Savior!

Guilty, vile, and helpless we;
Spotless Lamb of God was He;
Full atonement! Can it be?
Hallelujah, what a Savior!

Chorus:

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

Hallelujah, what a Savior!

(Twice)

Lifted up was He to die,
“It is finished!” was His cry;
Now in heav’n exalted high:
Hallelujah, what a Savior!

(Chorus)

When He comes, our glorious King,
All his ransomed home to bring,
Then anew this song we’ll sing:
Hallelujah, what a Savior!

(Chorus)

Words and Music: Philip P. Bliss, 1875, alt. Refrain: Shelly Moore, 2008.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

BENEDICTION

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT: August 26 - September 1, 2018

SUNDAY, August 26

- 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
- 5:00 p.m. Jr. and Sr. High Small Groups begin
- 6:00 p.m. Reconciliation Service

MONDAY, August 27

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

WEDNESDAY, August 29

- 6:00-7:15 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S103)

Should you need pastoral assistance after our regular office hours, please contact our pastor on call at 205-874-3559 (Marty Crawford, August 26-September 2).

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)

Reconciliation Service. Tonight at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary we will hold a worship service focused on reconciliation. All communing members of Covenant are encouraged to attend.

Wednesdays@Covenant. Our Wednesday night activities kick off September 5! Join us for dinner at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall (menu: taco salad). We have two options for adult study and Chancel Choir rehearsal, plus children's and youth activities. You can find all the details on page 20.

College Ministry Opportunities. Josh Johnson is reaching out to college students in Birmingham and inviting them to Covenant. We would like to include the Covenant family in this ministry as well. We are looking for families to "adopt" a student and take the initiative to reach out to them for a meal, a hang out, or just invite them over to do laundry. You can also volunteer to host larger events in your home, such as game nights and group dinners. Please contact Josh if you are interested (jjohnson@covpres.com).

Women's & Men's Ministries. Our women's Bible studies kick off in September. We have several opportunities, both morning and evening, and you can find all the details at covpres.com/upcoming-events. Gospel Manhood begins September 18 with guest speaker Randy Pope of Perimeter Church in Georgia.

Lighthouse Family Retreat 2019. Are you looking for a domestic mission trip for Spring Break or summer 2019? Lighthouse exists to strengthen families living through childhood cancer, and their retreats help families find respite and hope in God. As a retreat volunteer, you (and your family) would come alongside a family and serve them by making beds, doing laundry, and preparing/serving meals—basically being the hands and feet of Christ! Join other Birmingham churches at Covenant to hear about the Spring Break trip (March 24-30, 2019), and the Summer trip (July 2019) at an informational meeting on Thursday, September 6 at 7:00 p.m. in room E201. If you have any questions, please contact Clay or Kate Wheeler (claywheeler99@gmail.com; katewheeler24@gmail.com).

WEDNESDAYS@COVENANT

*Fall Session: September 5 - November 14**

Join your Covenant family each week for a time of food, fellowship, and study. Like any family, we need to spend time together, check in with each other, and break bread together. As we study God's word and pray with each other, this midweek time plays an important role in our growth as a church family. We have something for everyone!

SCHEDULE

5:15-5:45 p.m.	40 Days of Prayer for Covenant (September 5-October 3; Dining Room)
5:30-6:15 p.m.	Fellowship Dinner (Fellowship Hall) serving lines remain open until 6:00; \$6/adult, \$4/child with a \$25 family max
5:30-7:15 p.m.	Nursery Activities (infants through 2 year olds; Nursery Level) kidConnection** (3 year olds through 6th grade; 3rd Floor)
6:15-7:15 p.m.	Youth Activities (7th-12th grades; Youth Rooms) Chancel Choir (first rehearsal August 29, S103)*** Adult Bible Studies Believing & Living the Gospel: <i>Six Weeks to Sane Thinking, Julie Sparkman</i> <i>Ethical Living, Sandy Willson & David Driskill</i> Sharing the Gospel: <i>Evangelism & Apologetics, Josh Johnson</i>

*no activities October 31, 2018

**dinner included, please register at covpres.com

***rehearsal begins at 6:00 p.m.

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>40s, 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 newly married; 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

EXECUTIVE STAFF

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Ingram Link, Director of Women's Ministries	ilink@covpres.com
Sandy Willson, Interim Senior Pastor	swillson@covpres.com

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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.

AUGUST READING PLAN

	PSALMS	1 CORINTHIANS
26	□ 124-129	□ 7
27	□ 130-133	□ 8
28	□ 134-137	□ 9
29	□ 138-141	□ 10:1-22
30	□ 142-144	□ 10:23-11:1
31	□ 145-147	□ 11:2-16

SEPTEMBER READING PLAN

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