



Covenant

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A member of the Presbyterian Church in America | PCA
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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.

NOVEMBER READING PLAN

	EZEKIEL	1 PETER
25	□ 32-34	□ 1-2
26	□ 35-36	□ 3
27	□ 37-38	□ 4
28	□ 39-40	□ 5
		2 PETER
29	□ 41-42	□ 1
30	□ 43-44	□ 2

DECEMBER READING PLAN

1/2	□ 45-48	□ 3-1 John 1
	DANIEL	1 JOHN
3	□ 1-2	□ 2
4	□ 3-4	□ 3
5	□ 5-6	□ 4
6	□ 7-8	□ 5
7	□ 9-10	□ 2 John
8/9	□ 11-Hosea 4	□ 3 John-Jude
	HOSEA	REVELATION
10	□ 5-6	□ 1
11	□ 7-10	□ 2
12	□ 11-14	□ 3
13	□ Joel	□ 4
	AMOS	
14	□ 1-3	□ 5
15/16	□ 4-9	□ 6-7
17	□ Obadiah-Jonah 3	□ 8
18	□ Jonah 4-Micah 2	□ 9
	MICAH	
19	□ 3	□ 10
20	□ 4-5	□ 11
21	□ 6-7	□ 12
22/23	□ Nahum 1-Habakkuk 2	□ 13-14
24	□ Habakkuk 3-Zephaniah 2	□ 15
25	□ Zephaniah 3-Haggai 2	□ 16

The Lord's Day in Worship

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Jesus of Nazareth, without money and arms, conquered more millions than Alexander the Great, Caesar, Mohammed, and Napoleon; without science and learning, he shed more light on things human and divine than all philosophers and scholars combined; without the eloquence of school, he spoke such words of life as were never spoken before or since, and produced effects which lie beyond the reach of orator or poet; without writing a single line, he set more pens in motion, and furnished themes for more sermons, orations, discussions, learned volumes, works of art, and songs of praise than the whole army of great men of ancient and modern times.

—Philip Schaff

"...all the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever were built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as has that One Solitary Life."

—James C. Hefley

"Death may be the King of terrors...but Jesus is the King of kings!"

—Dwight L. Moody

{ **GATHERED WORSHIP:** The Triune God Renews His People }

CALL TO WORSHIP

David Driskill

☒ HYMN OF PRAISE

“O Worship the King”

O worship the King, all glorious above,
O gratefully sing His power and His love;
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail;
Thy mercies how tender! How firm to the end!
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

Words: based on Psalm 104; Robert Grant, 1833. Music: Johann Michael Haydn, 1737-1806; arr. in William Gardiner's *Sacred Melodies*, 1815.

☒ *Congregation stand as able.*

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

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RESPONSIVE READING FROM THE PSALMS

Kristi Gidley

Psalm 2

Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?
The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the LORD and against his Anointed, saying,
"Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us."

He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision.

Then he will speak to them in his wrath,
and terrify them in his fury, saying,
"As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill."

I will tell of the decree:

*The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.
Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,
and the ends of the earth your possession.
You shall break them with a rod of iron
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."*

Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.

Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,
for his wrath is quickly kindled.

Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

☒ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

O measureless Might, unchangeable Love,
Whom angels delight to worship above!
Your ransomed creation, with glory ablaze,
In true adoration shall sing to Your praise!

☒ PRAYER OF ADORATION

READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

2 Samuel 7:8-14a

Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. ⁹And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. ¹²When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ^{14a}I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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.*



"Gloria
in excelsis
Deo!"

CELEBRATE THE SEASON AT COVENANT

SUNDAY MORNINGS IN ADVENT

December 2, 9, 16, & 23

Gathered Worship ▪ 10:30 a.m.

SAMFORD UNIVERSITY'S ACAPPELLA CHOIR

December 2 ▪ 6:00 p.m.

A special performance by this award-winning choir.

LESSONS & CAROLS

December 9 ▪ 6:00 p.m.

An evening of worship presented by our Chancel and Children's Choirs.

CHRISTMAS EVE AT COVENANT

Family Candlelight Service ▪ 4:30 p.m.

Candlelight and Communion Service ▪ 6:00 p.m.

CHRISTMASTIDE SUNDAY

December 30

Gathered Worship ▪ 10:30 a.m.

☒ HYMN OF EXALTATION

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

Chorus:

Hail to the Lord's anointed, Great David's greater Son!

Hail in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun,

His reign on earth begun!

He comes to break oppression, To set the captive free;

To take away transgression, And rule in equity.

(Chorus)

He comes with comfort speedy To those who suffer wrong,

To help the poor and needy, And bid the weak be strong.

(Chorus)

To give them songs for sighing, Their darkness turned to light,

Whose souls, condemned and dying, Were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers Upon the fruitful earth.

Love, joy, and hope, like flowers Spring in His path to birth.

(Chorus)

The tide of time shall never His covenant remove.

His name shall stand forever; That name to us is Love.

(Chorus)

Words: James Montgomery (alt. Sandra McCracken). Music: Sandra McCracken.

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Matthew 2:1-12

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: ⁶"And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel." ⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." ⁹After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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)

Christmas in Fairfield. Please consider donating funds to the Christmas in Fairfield Toy Shop. Christmas in Fairfield provides clothing for children in need and parents the opportunity to shop for toys and gifts at highly reduced prices. In order to fill the shop, we need monetary donations. Donations may be given at one of our two information tables or dropped by the church office. Please make checks payable to Covenant, marked for Christmas in Fairfield. Thank you!

Sacred Studio 2019. Ladies, Sacred Studio is coming back February 23-24, 2019! Come and connect with God in a new and refreshing way. Registration opens November 28! You can also help by being a "host" at the event. Please email Ingram if you are interested in being a host (ilink@covpres.com).

Samford Acappella Choir. Join us on December 2 at 6:00 p.m. for a concert with Samford University's Acappella Choir. You do not want to miss worshipping with this internationally renowned choir as we move into the season of Advent!

Lessons & Carols. On December 9 our own Chancel Choir and Children's Choir will present "Jesus Is..." a lessons and carols service at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Please join us for the service and for a dessert fellowship immediately following in the Fellowship Hall.

Lovelady Dinner & Concert. Our annual Lovelady Dinner & Concert is Tuesday, December 11 from 5:30-9:00 p.m. with Act of Congress. This special evening is the most rocking night Covenant has all year! Visit one of our information tables or go to covpres.com/lovelady to volunteer.

Ordination Service. Josh Johnson, Director of Young Adult Ministries, will be ordained at Covenant on Sunday, December 16 at 6:00 p.m. Please make plans to attend this service as Josh is ordained into the PCA.

Nursery Bonus Fund. Each year the Covenant family provides a Christmas bonus for the women who care for our children in the Nursery. Please consider giving to this fund that blesses the women who are such a blessing to us. You may drop your gift in the offering plate, at the Nursery Welcome Desk, in the Church Office, or in the donation envelope in your Sunday School class. Please submit your gifts by December 9, and thank you in advance for your generosity!

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT: November 25 - December 1, 2018

SUNDAY, November 25

- 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

MONDAY, November 26

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

TUESDAY, November 27

- 10:00 a.m. Women's Study: Divine Design Discipleship (S104)
- 11:30 a.m. Women's Study: The Book of Joshua (E201)

WEDNESDAY, November 28

- 12:00 p.m. Children's Ministry Prayer Time (Children's Ministry Office)
- 6:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

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

GIVING OF FIRST FRUITS

"What Child is This?"

Congregational Hymn

What child is this who laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading;
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come peasant, king, to own him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
The babe the son of Mary.

Words: William C. Dix (1837-1898). Music: traditional English melody, 16th century.

☒ 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.

Kindergarteners - 2nd graders are dismissed at this time (see page 19 for details).

THE MORNING PRAYERS

Paul Loyless

☒ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

☒ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come peasant, king, to own him;
The King of kings salvation brings,
Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy for Christ is born,
The babe the son of Mary.

☒ BENEDICTION

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

All hail the pow’r of Jesus’ name,
 Let angels prostrate fall;
 Bring forth the royal diadem,
 And crown Him Lord of all;
 Bring forth the royal diadem,
 And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel’s race,
 Ye ransomed from the fall;
 Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
 And crown Him Lord of all;
 Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
 And crown Him Lord of all.

Let ev’ry kindred, ev’ry tribe,
 On this terrestrial ball.
 To Him all majesty ascribe,
 And crown Him Lord of all;
 To Him all majesty ascribe,
 And crown Him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng,
 We at His feet may fall;
 We’ll join the everlasting song,
 And crown Him Lord of all;
 We’ll join the everlasting song,
 And crown Him Lord of all.

We’ll join the everlasting song,
 And crown Him Lord of all.

Words: Edward Perronet, 1779; alt / John Rippon, 1787. Music: Oliver Holden, 1793.

☒ READING FROM THE EPISTLES

Ephesians 3:20, 21

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

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.

MESSAGE

"SDG"

Sandy Willson

Handwriting practice lines for the message section.

HYMNS FOR THE EUCHARIST

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

"From My Sins, O Hide Your Face"



1. From my sins, O hide Your face; my in - i - qui -
 2. Give sal - va - tion's joy a - gain, and a will - ing
 3. From blood-guilt - i - ness, O God, set me free, my
 4. Sac - ri - fice You will not take, or the off - 'ring



ties e - rase. O my God, re - new my heart,
 mind sus - tain. Then Your per - fect ways I'll show
 Sav - ior, God. Then my tongue will joy ex - press,
 I would make. Off - 'rings, burnt, bring no de - light,



and a spir - it right im - part. Cast me not from
 that trans-gress - ors may them know; sin - ners are con -
 sing - ing of Your right - eous - ness. Op - en now my
 but a bro - ken heart, con - trite, God's ac - cept - ed



You, I pray; nor Your Ho - ly Spir - it take.
 vert - ed then, turn - ing back to You a - gain.
 lips, O Lord; from my mouth will praise be poured.
 sac - ri - fice, You, O God, will not de - spise.

Words: Psalm 51. Music: Richard Redhead, 1853 (AJALON 77.77.77).

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.

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

*Almighty and Gracious God,
Who, as our King, abundantly provides more than all we ask of You,
and Who bids us trust You with body and soul,
we confess we have often taken matters into our own hands,
thus revealing our lack of confidence in Your provision.
We are deeply sorry and humbly repent of our pride and foolishness,
and we beg of You to revive our hearts
and to strengthen our faith in You alone
that we may bring You glory, now and evermore,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

☒ Assurance of Pardon

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

—Matthew 11:28-30

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

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
 Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
 Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
 God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

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.*