

The Lord's Day in Worship

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Season of the Trinity
September 23, 2018

"Though the Bible was written over sixteen centuries by at least forty authors, it has one central theme—salvation through faith in Christ."

—Max Lucado

"Perhaps the most difficult task for us to perform is to rely on God's grace and God's grace alone for our salvation. It is difficult for our pride to rest on grace. Grace is for other people—for beggars. We don't want to live by a heavenly welfare system. We want to earn our own way and atone for our own sins. We like to think that we will go to heaven because we deserve to be there."

—R.C. Sproul

"When I was young, I was sure of many things; now there are only two things of which I am sure: one is that I am a miserable sinner; and the other, that Christ is an all-sufficient Savior."

—John Newton

Not for our duties or deserts,
But of His own abounding grace,
He works salvation in our hearts,
And forms a people for His praise.

—Isaac Watts

CALL TO WORSHIP

David Driskill

HYMN OF PRAISE

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer’s praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace.

Jesus! The name that charms our fears,
That bids our sorrows cease,
‘Tis music in the sinner’s ears,
‘Tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of canceled sin,
He sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean;
His blood availed for me.

My gracious Master and my God,
Assist me to proclaim,
To spread thro’ all the earth abroad,
The honors of Thy name.

He speaks and list’ning to his voice,
New life the dead receive;
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice;
The humble poor believe.

Words: Charles Wesley, 1739. Music: Carl G. Glazer, 1828; arr. Jeff Koonce, 2012.

 *Congregation stand as able.*

☒ READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Dawson Cooper

Mark 7:31-37

Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

☒ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Hear Him, ye deaf, His praise, ye dumb,
Your loosened tongues employ;
Ye blind, behold your Savior come,
And leap, Ye lame, for joy!

☒ PRAYER OF ADORATION

☒ RESPONSIVE READING FROM THE PSALMS

Psalm 67

May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
that your way may be known on earth,
your saving power among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!

The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, shall bless us.

God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear him!

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SONG OF REJOICING

"Psalm 67"



1. May God be gra-cious to us and bless us, and

2. O let the na-tions be glad and

3 3. The earth has yield-ed its in-crease; God, our



make His face to shine up - on us - that Your

sing for joy; for

6 God, shall bless us God shall bless us; let



way may be known on the earth, Your

You judge the peo - ples with e - qui - ty, and

8 all the ends of the earth fear



sav - ing pow'r a - mong all na - tions.

guide the na - tions up - on the earth.

Him, (chorus)

CHORUS:



13 Let the peo - ples praise You, O God, let the



16 peo - ples praise You, O God, let the peo - ples praise You, O



God; let all the peo - ples praise You!

☒ READING FROM THE EPISTLES

Ephesians 2:1-7

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ²in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—³among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. ⁴But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GIVING OF FIRST FRUITS

"And Can It Be"

Congregational Hymn

And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me, who caused His pain?
For me, who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou my God, shouldst die for me?

Refrain:

*Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou my God, shouldst die for me?*

He left His Father's throne above
So free, so infinite His grace!
Emptied Himself of all but love
And bled for Adam's helpless race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
For, O my God, it found out me!
(Refrain)

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray;
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free;
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.
(Refrain)

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine!
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach th'eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ, my own.
(Refrain)

Words: Charles Wesley, 1738. Music: Thomas Campbell (1777-1844).

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 17.

Kindergarteners - 2nd graders are dismissed at this time (see page 17 for details).

THE MORNING PRAYERS

Charles White

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

*Gracious and forgiving God,
Who loves sinners so much that You sent Your Son to die in our place,
we come to You humbly confessing our sin and rebellion
and our desperate need of Your salvation.
According to the riches of Your grace, blot out all our transgressions,
both the evil we have done, and also the good we have left undone.
We plead with You to change our hearts
that we may love You with undivided loyalty and affection,
that in every way we may bring glory to Your saving Name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Assurance of Pardon

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

—John 3:16

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.*

☒ **Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father,
And to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning,
Is now, and ever shall be,
World without end.
Amen, amen

Words: 2nd century. Music: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851.

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.

“Before the Throne of God Above”

Before the throne of God above,
I have a strong, a perfect plea;
A great High priest Whose name is “Love,”
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands.
My name is written on His heart.
I know that while in heav’n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart.
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair,
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there,
Who made an end to all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died,
My sinful soul is counted free;
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me.
To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there the Risen Lamb,
My perfect spotless Righteousness.
The great unchangeable I AM,
The King of glory and of grace.
One with Himself I cannot die.
My soul is purchased by His blood.
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ my Savior and my God,
With Christ my Savior and my God.

One with Himself I cannot die.
My soul is purchased by His blood.
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ my Savior and my God,
With Christ my Savior and my God.

Words: Charitie Lees Bancroft. Music: Vikki Cook, 1997 Sovereign Grace Worship
(admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing (IM)).

“Gracious Spirit, Dove Divine”



1. Gra - cious Spir - it, dove di - vine, ___ let Thy
 2. Speak Thy par - d'ning grace to me, ___ set the
 3. Guard me round on ev - 'ry side, ___ save me
 4. Thou my dross and tin con - sume, ___ let Thy

3



light with - in me shine; all my guilt - y fears re -
 bur - dened sin - ner free; lead me to the Lamb of
 from self - right - eous pride; me, with Je - sus' mind in -
 in - ward king - dom come; all my prayer and praise sug -

6



move, with a - ton - ing blood and ___ love.
 God, wash me in His pre - cious ___ blood.
 spire, melt me with cel - ess - tial ___ fire.
 gest, dwell and reign with - in my ___ breast



Life and peace to me im - part, seal sal -

12



va - tion on my ___ heart, breathe Thy - self in - to ___ my

15



breast, ear - nest of im - mor - tal ___ rest.

☒ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

☒ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

"And Can It Be"

'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
For, O my God, it found out me!
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou my God, shouldst die for me?

☒ BENEDICTION

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT: September 23-29, 2018

SUNDAY, September 23

- 8:45 a.m. Coffee Fellowship (Commons)
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages and stages (see page 18)
- 10:30 a.m. Gathered Worship (Sanctuary)
Children's Worship | 3K through 2nd grade
- 12:00 p.m. College Sunday School (Dining Room)
- 5:00 p.m. Jr. & Sr. High Small Groups

MONDAY, September 24

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

TUESDAY, September 25

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

WEDNESDAY, September 26

- 12:00-1:00 p.m. Children's Ministry Prayer Time (Children's Ministry Office)
- 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: spaghetti)
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 (David Driskill, September 24-30).

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 are underway! Join us for dinner at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall (menu: spaghetti). We have two adult study options and Chancel Choir rehearsal, plus children's and youth activities.

40 Days of Prayer. Today begins our fourth 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.

Women's Ministry: PCA ONE Conference. Our denominational women's conference is October 5-6 in Chattanooga, TN. Courtney Doctor, author of *From Garden to Glory* and our 2017 Spring Fling speaker, will be the keynote speaker. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather with other women across our denomination for worship, teaching, and fellowship. (pcacdm.org/one-conference-chattanooga)

Youth Parents: Rooted Conference. Rooted Ministry offers a unique conference in the world of youth ministry and has added a parent track to this year's conference. Parents of teenagers, this will give you a wealth of resources to engage in the daily calling of raising teenagers. The 2018 conference is October 4-6 in Nashville, TN, at Christ Presbyterian Church. (rootedministry.com/conference)

Covenant's 40th Anniversary. We pray that you are planning to be here Sunday, October 7, to celebrate Covenant's 40 years of ministry. We will have a special Sunday School hour featuring Dr. Bill and Cyndie Hay, and Rev. Britton Wood will be preaching during gathered worship. Please also plan to stay for a luncheon to fellowship with friends old and new!

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

EXECUTIVE STAFF

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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.

SEPTEMBER READING PLAN

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