



The Lord's Day in Worship

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Eastertide
April 26, 2020

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Everyone knows that it is the physically and spiritually self-confident, the positive- and possibility-thinkers, and the dynamically assertive who really get things and who get things done on earth. The meek may inherit heaven—both the entrepreneur and the revolutionary will give the meek heaven—but not earth. Yet Jesus gives them the earth.
—Frederick Dale Bruner

Just as we mourn our sin, the realization that we are poor in spirit, spiritually destitute and wholly dependent upon God's grace humbles us. We become meek because we cannot lord our position over someone else when we owe everything we have and everything we are to the King of Heaven and He would not have us behave that way. So the Apostle Paul can say in Philippians 2:3, "in humility count others more significant than yourselves," and again, "I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned (Romans 12:3)."
—John Hendryx

CALL TO WORSHIP

David Driskill

HYMN OF THE KING

“Come People of the Risen King”

Come people of the Risen King,
 Who delight to bring Him praise;
 Come all and tune your hearts to sing
 To the Morning Star of grace.
 From the shifting shadows of the earth
 We will lift our eyes to Him,
 Where steady arms of mercy reach
 To gather children in.

Chorus:

Rejoice, rejoice! Let ev’ry tongue rejoice!
 One heart, one voice; O Church of Christ rejoice!

Come, those whose joy is morning sun,
 And those weeping through the night;
 Come, those who tell of battles won,
 And those struggling in the fight.
 For His perfect love will never change,
 And His mercies never cease,
 But follow us through all our days
 With the certain hope of peace.
 (Chorus)

Come, young and old from every land—
 Men and women of the faith;
 Come, those with full or empty hands—
 Find the riches of His grace.
 Over all the world, His people sing—
 Shore to shore we hear them call
 The Truth that cries through ever age:
 “Our God is all in all!”
 (Chorus, twice)

READING FROM THE PSALMS

Rev. Walt Davis, RUF Campus Minister Samford University

Psalm 37:7-27

Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him;
fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way,
over the man who carries out evil devices!

⁸Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath!
Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil.

⁹For the evildoers shall be cut off,
but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.

¹⁰In just a little while, the wicked will be no more;
though you look carefully at his place, he will not be there.

¹¹But the meek shall inherit the land
and delight themselves in abundant peace.

¹²The wicked plots against the righteous
and gnashes his teeth at him,

¹³but the Lord laughs at the wicked,
for he sees that his day is coming.

¹⁴The wicked draw the sword and bend their bows
to bring down the poor and needy,
to slay those whose way is upright;

¹⁵their sword shall enter their own heart,
and their bows shall be broken.

¹⁶Better is the little that the righteous has
than the abundance of many wicked.

¹⁷For the arms of the wicked shall be broken,
but the LORD upholds the righteous.

¹⁸The LORD knows the days of the blameless,
and their heritage will remain forever;

¹⁹they are not put to shame in evil times;
in the days of famine they have abundance.

²⁰But the wicked will perish;
the enemies of the LORD are like the glory of the pastures;
they vanish—like smoke they vanish away.

²¹The wicked borrows but does not pay back,
but the righteous is generous and gives;
²⁴for those blessed by the LORD shall inherit the land,
but those cursed by him shall be cut off.

²³The steps of a man are established by the LORD,
when he delights in his way;
²⁴though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong,
for the LORD upholds his hand.

²⁵I have been young, and now am old,
yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken
or his children begging for bread.

²⁶He is ever lending generously,
and his children become a blessing.

²⁷Turn away from evil and do good;
so shall you dwell forever.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF HUMILITY

“Jesus, Cast a Look On Me”

Jesus, cast a look on me,
Give me sweet simplicity;
Make me poor and keep me low,
Seeking only thee to know.

All that feeds my busy pride,
Cast it ever more aside;
Bid my will to Thine submit,
Lay me humbly at Thy feet.

Make me like a little child,
Of my strength and wisdom spoiled;
Seeing only in Thy light,
Walking only in Thy might.

Leaning on Thy loving breast,
Where a weary soul may rest;
Feeling well the peace of God
Flowing from His precious blood.

In this posture let me live,
And hosannas daily give;
In this temper let me die,
And hosannas ever cry!

Words: John Berridge. Music: Matthew Perryman Jones.

READING FROM THE EPISTLES

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GIVING OF FIRST FRUITS

John Fountain

"I Boast No More"

Rachel Barlotta and Daniel Smith, duet

No more my God, I boast no more
Of all the duties I have done;
I quit the hopes I held before,
To trust the merits of Thy Son,

Chorus:

No more my God,
No more my God,
No more my God,
I boast no more.

Now for the loss I bear His name,
What was my gain I count my loss;
My former pride I call my shame,
And nail my glory to His cross,
(Chorus)

Yes, and I must and will esteem
All things but loss for Jesus' sake;
O may my soul be found in Him,
And of His righteousness partake!
(Chorus)

The best obedience of my hands
Dares not appear before Thy throne;
But faith can answer Thy demands,
By pleading what my Lord has done.
(Chorus)

Words: Isaac Watts. Music: Sandra McCracken. CCLI 3420775.

RECOGNITION OF RUF MINISTERS, STAFF, & INTERNS

Michael Alsup
Auburn University (RUF International)

Vinny Athey
University of Alabama at Huntsville

Austin Braasch
Arkansas State University

Tanner Crum
Auburn University

Walt Davis
Samford University

Erin Edwards
Samford University (Staff)

George Hamm
University of Louisville

Josh Harper
University of Alabama at Birmingham (Intern)

Daniel Hightower
Jacksonville State University

Emily Holman
University of Alabama at Birmingham (Intern)

Amy Hudson
University of Alabama at Birmingham (Staff)

Joe Johnson
Birmingham Southern College

Stewart Swain
University of Alabama

Matt Terrell
City Wide New York

Daniel Tortorici
RUF Staff

Adam Venable
University of Alabama at Birmingham

Jacob Zoller
University of South Alabama

Britton Wood
Area Coordinator
Western Kentucky, Tennessee, and Alabama

RUF STUDENT TESTIMONY

Madison Reynolds, Samford University

RECOGNITION OF HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

William Fields Ankenbrandt
Westminster School

John Harrington Nathan Jr.
Mountain Brook High School

Lillian Elizabeth Balogh
Mountain Brook High School

Cy Denton Powell
Vestavia Hills High School

Emily Margaret Butler
Mountain Brook High School

Raymond Dugan Prater Jr.
Mountain Brook High School

Anne Carlton Clegg
Mountain Brook High School

Lillian Kate Prather
Vestavia Hills High School

Sibley Kathryn Cotton
Mountain Brook High School

Charles Wilson Regan III
Mountain Brook High School

India Rae Crawford
Vestavia Hills High School

Eric Grayson Saar
Vestavia Hills High School

Jackson Faulkner Dyess
Vestavia Hills High School

Catherine Elizabeth Schaffeld
Vestavia Hills High School

Andrew Briggs Latta
Briarwood Christian School

Luke Harris Walker
Vestavia Hills High School

Ella Hastings McDonald
Mountain Brook High School

Anna Frances Wheeler
Vestavia Hills High School

Lawton Terrell Miller
Mountain Brook High School

Amanda Ruth Wilson
Vestavia Hills High School

Margaret Anne Nailen
Vestavia Hills High School

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Hallelujah!

Hallelujah!

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS**THE MORNING PRAYERS**

John Hamilton

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Matthew 5:1-15

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

²And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

¹³"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

¹⁴"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.

¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

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

“ACCEPTING MEEKNESS”

Rev. Britton Wood
RUF Area Coordinator

As an RUF Area Coordinator, Britton Wood provides pastoral care and guidance for RUF campus ministers in Western Kentucky, Tennessee, and Alabama. Britton Wood is from Birmingham, AL, and attended Vanderbilt University. After attending Covenant Seminary, Britton and wife Elizabeth served RUF at the University of South Carolina for four years before moving to Stanford where they served for seven years. They have two sets of identical twin girls: Mary Walton and Shelby; and Britton and Katherine.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against
our fellow men,
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in
newness of life;
to the glory of your name. Amen.*

—Book of Common Prayer

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

—Romans 5:1-2

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.

HYMN OF THE CHURCH

“Rock of Ages (When the Day Seems Long)”

Rock of Ages, when the day seems long,
From this labor and this heartache, I have come,
The skies will wear out, but you remain the same,
Rock of Ages, I praise your name.

Rock of Ages, you have brought me near,
You have poured out your life-blood, your love, your tears,
To make this stone heart come alive again,
Rock of Ages, forgive my sin.

Chorus:

Rock of Ages, Rock of Ages,
Bind your children until the kingdom comes.
Rock of Ages, your will be done.

Rock of Ages, when in want or rest,
My desperate need for such a Savior, I confess,
Pull these idols out from my heart’s embrace,
Rock of Ages, I need your grace.

Rock of Ages, broken, scorned for me,
Who am I that you would die to make me free?
To give me glory, you took the death and pain,
Rock of Ages, my Offering.
(Chorus)

Rock of Ages, “It is done!” you cried.
The curtain’s torn and I see justice satisfied,
Now write your mercy, on my heart and hands,
Rock of Ages, in faith I stand.

Rock of Ages, my great hope secure,
Your promise holds just like an anchor to my soul,
Bind your children with cords of love and grace,
Rock of Ages, we give you praise.
(Chorus)

Words: Sandra McCracken. Music: Kevin Twit. CCLI 4903820. ©2005 Same Old Dress Music
(Admin. by Music Services) (ASCAP) and Kevin Twit (ASCAP).

BENEDICTION

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Marty Crawford, Assistant Pastor (Church Administrator, Senior Adults, Missions)	mcrawford@covpres.com
David Driskill, Assistant Pastor (Middle Adults, Shepherding)	ddriskill@covpres.com
Dan Edwards, Assistant Pastor (Children)	dedwards@covpres.com
Ingram Link, Director of Women's Ministries	ilink@covpres.com
Sandy Willson, Interim Senior Pastor	swillson@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
Katie Flores, Director of Pre-School Ministries	kflores@covpres.com
John Fountain, Assistant Pastor (Youth)	jfountain@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 Elementary 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	tyler.cuidon@gmail.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 Interim 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

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 2020.

APRIL READING PLAN

	2 SAMUEL	LUKE
25/26	<input type="checkbox"/> 10-14	<input type="checkbox"/> 19:28-20:26
27	<input type="checkbox"/> 15-16	<input type="checkbox"/> 20:27-47
28	<input type="checkbox"/> 17-18	<input type="checkbox"/> 21:1-19
29	<input type="checkbox"/> 19-20	<input type="checkbox"/> 21:20-38
30	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-22	<input type="checkbox"/> 22:1-30

MAY READING PLAN

	2 SAMUEL	LUKE
1	<input type="checkbox"/> 23-24	<input type="checkbox"/> 22:31-53
	1 KINGS	
2/3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-5	<input type="checkbox"/> 22:54-23:26
4	<input type="checkbox"/> 6-7	<input type="checkbox"/> 23:27-28
5	<input type="checkbox"/> 8-9	<input type="checkbox"/> 23:39-56
6	<input type="checkbox"/> 10-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 24:1-35
7	<input type="checkbox"/> 12-13	<input type="checkbox"/> 24:36-53
		JOHN
8	<input type="checkbox"/> 14-15	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:1-28
9/10	<input type="checkbox"/> 16-20	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:29-2:25
11	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-22	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:1-21
	2 KINGS	
12	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:22-36
13	<input type="checkbox"/> 4-5	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:1-30
14	<input type="checkbox"/> 6-8	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:31-54
15	<input type="checkbox"/> 9-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:1-23
16/17	<input type="checkbox"/> 12-17	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:24-6:21
18	<input type="checkbox"/> 18-19	<input type="checkbox"/> 6:22-44
19	<input type="checkbox"/> 20-22	<input type="checkbox"/> 6:45-71
20	<input type="checkbox"/> 23-25	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:1-31
	1 CHRONICLES	
21	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-2	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:32-52
22	<input type="checkbox"/> 3-5	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:53-8:30
23/24	<input type="checkbox"/> 6-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 8:31-9:41
25	<input type="checkbox"/> 12-14	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:1-21
26	<input type="checkbox"/> 15-17	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:22-42
27	<input type="checkbox"/> 18-20	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:1-27
28	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-23	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:28-44
29	<input type="checkbox"/> 24-26	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:45-57
30/31	<input type="checkbox"/> 27-2 Chronicles 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 12