The Lord's Day in Worship

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"Just as Isaac and Rebekah acknowledged the revelation of God's plan through the difficulties, so too must believers today! We may not know what God will do with the troubling and the trivial things that come our way. But those who owe their existence to sovereign creation and divine election must be able to acknowledge the hand of God in the circumstances of life. If we know his will, we will look at circumstances differently, for everything has significance that must be retained in the memory of the people of God."

—Allen Ross, Creation and Blessing

What are the decrees of God?

The decrees of God are his eternal purposes, according to the counsel of his will, whereby, for his own glory, he hath foreordained whatsoever comes to pass.

-Westminster Shorter Catechism, Question 7

But 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, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.

—1 Corinthians 1:27-29

2 M CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 100

Leader: Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all the earth!

Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

All: Know that the LORD, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

All: For the LORD is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

 $and\ his\ faithfulness\ to\ all\ generations.$

M PRAYER OF ADORATION

MATHORITY HYMNS OF ADORATION

"All People that on Earth Do Dwell" to the tune of "Doxology"

All people that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice. Serve Him with joy, His praises tell, Come now before Him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed; He formed us all without our aid. We are the flock He comes to feed, The sheep who by His hand were made.

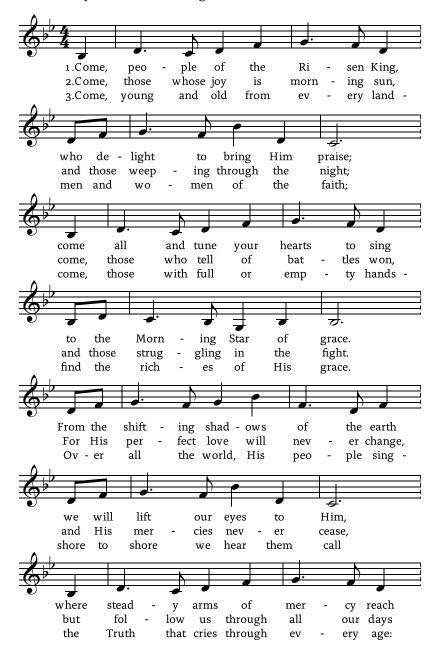
O enter then His gates with joy, Within His courts His praise proclaim. Let thankful songs your tongues employ, O bless and magnify His name.

Because the Lord, our God is good, His mercy is forever sure. His faithfulness at all times stood, And shall from age to age endure.

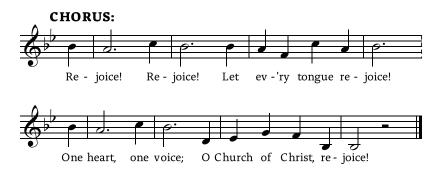
To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, The God whom heav'n and earth adore, From us and from the angel host, Be praise and glory evermore.

Be praise and glory evermore.

Words: William Kethe, 1561. Music: Louis Bourgeois, 1551 OLD HUNDREDTH.







Words and Music: Keith and Kristyn Getty. CCLI 5232617

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty and most merciful Father,

We have erred, and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed too much the devices and desires of our hearts.

We have rebelled against your holy laws.

We have left undone those things which we ought to have done;

And we have done those things which we ought not to have done;

Therefore we lack integrity.

Now, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

Spare those, O God, who confess their sins.

Restore those who are penitent;

According to your promises declared unto us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake;

That we may live godly, righteous, and sober lives in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Leader: Hear us now as we silently confess our sins.

MASSURANCE OF PARDON

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

—Colossians 2:13-15

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.

READING FROM THE EPISTLES

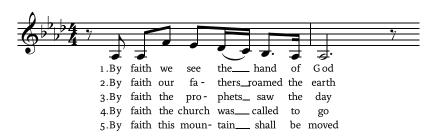
Romans 16:25-27

Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—²⁷to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

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

"By Faith"

Congregational Hymn





in the light of with the pow'r of when the longed - for in the pow'r of and the pow'r of

cre - a - tion's grand de - sign,
His pro mise in their hearts,
Mes - si - ah would ap - pear
the Spir - it to the lost
the gos - pel shall pre - vail,



in the lives of those who prove His faith - ful ness, God's own of a ho ly ci - ty built by hand, with the pow'r break the chains of sin death to and to de - liv cap-tives and to er preach good news for we know Christ all things are in pos - si - ble



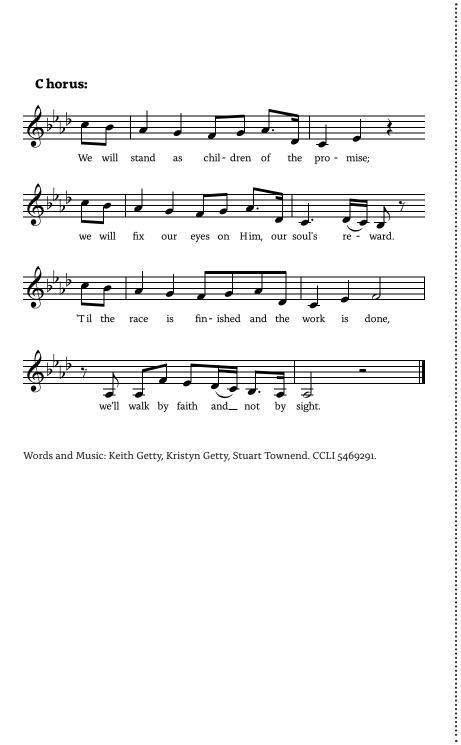
who walk by faith and__ not by sight.(v. 2)
a place where peace and__ jus - tice reign.(chorus)
and rise tri - um phant from the grave.(v. 4)
in ev - 'ry cor - ner__ of the earth.(chorus)
for all who call up - on His name.(chorus)

C horus:









Words and Music: Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend. CCLI 5469291.

10 PASSING OF THE PEACE

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead!

He is risen indeed!

The peace of the LORD be with you.

And also with you.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

See page 19 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 | 10:30 a.m. Children ages 3 years old (by 9/1/2020) through Kindergarten 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 Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall, prior to communion, 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

Genesis 25:19-34

These are the generations of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham fathered Isaac, ²⁰ and Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah, the daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, the sister of Laban the Aramean, to be his wife. ²¹ And Isaac prayed to the LORD for his wife, because she was barren. And the LORD granted his prayer, and Rebekah his wife conceived. ²² The children struggled together within her, and she said, "If it is thus, why is this happening to me?" So she went to inquire of the LORD. ²³ And the LORD said to her,

"Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the older shall serve the younger."

²⁴When her days to give birth were completed, behold, there were twins in her womb. ²⁵The first came out red, all his body like a hairy cloak, so they called his name Esau. ²⁶Afterward his brother came out with his hand holding Esau's heel, so his name was called Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

²⁷When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, dwelling in tents. ²⁸Isaac loved Esau because he ate of his game, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

²⁹Once when Jacob was cooking stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was exhausted. ³⁰And Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stew, for I am exhausted!" (Therefore his name was called Edom.) ³¹Jacob said, "Sell me your birthright now." ³²Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" ³³Jacob said, "Swear to me now." So he swore to him and sold his birthright to Jacob. ³⁴Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

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	
Dan Edwards	
	—

LITURGY OF THE TABLE

The congregation will read aloud the portions that are italicized.

Words of Institution

from Matthew 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Prayer of Humble Access

Leader: In Jesus, the Son of God, we have a sympathetic, great high priest who lives for us. He was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high. Let us, therefore, with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

All: We come to your Table, Lord Jesus,
not trusting in our own righteousness, but in your rich mercies.
We are not worthy, O Great King,
to gather up the crumbs under your Table,
yet you are the King of mercy.
Grant us therefore, gracious Lord,
in this breaking of bread, a rich participation in your body,
and in this cup, a stronger grasp of your grace,
that by your Spirit, we may commune with you
and you with 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.

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. An usher will prompt each pew when it is time to come forward to receive the bread and the cup, and then you will return to your seat. If you are not partaking of these elements but would like to come forward with your fellow worshipers, please cross your hands in front of your chest, and the one serving communion will pray a brief prayer for you or pronounce a blessing over you.

HYMNS FOR THE EUCHARIST

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

"God is My Strong Salvation (Psalm 27)"



Words: Melchior Vulpius. Music: James Montgomery.

"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! (Repeat)

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.

SUNDAY, May 2

8:00 a.m. Gathered Worship

9:15 a.m. Sunday School (see page 20)

10:30 a.m. Gathered Worship

MONDAY, May 3

8:15 a.m. Women's Prayer Time (Parlor)

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Women's Ministry. All ladies are invited to join one or more of our book studies this Spring/Summer! The list of books, leaders, dates, and times can be found at covpres.com/womens-bible-studies. Also, mark your calendars for Summer Salad Suppers each Wednesday in June at 6:00 p.m. at Covenant. We are so excited to be able to gather, enjoy a meal, and fellowship. For those of you who are new to Covenant, Summer Salad Suppers is a time when women of all ages in our church gather to hear someone from our congregation share their story of how God is working in their heart and life. Please note that we will follow the COVID guidelines that are in place at the time of gathering.

Men's Clay Shooting. All men are invited to Selwood Farms on May 14 for clay shooting (706 Selwood Road, Alpine, AL 35014). The event will begin at 1:30 p.m. and end by 4:00. You can bring your own gear (shotgun, 100 shells, eye protection, and ear plugs) or rent/purchase from Selwood. The cost is \$49 for the round and cart (there is an additional \$20 gun-rental fee and shell purchase is additional as well). Please contact Will Walker at will.m.walker@gmail.com to RSVP.

Lighthouse Family Retreat. Lighthouse Family Retreat is an opportunity for individuals and families with children age 4 and older to experience a week of quality time together while serving families living through childhood cancer. Volunteers are paired with a family to serve them through activities such as preparing and decorating condos, doing their laundry and dishes, playing games, and most of all, strengthening relationships that will last a lifetime. Retreats are scheduled from April through September at various beach locations, but the staff is seeking volunteers specifically for retreats 11 and 13. For all of the details, visit lighthousefamilyretreat.org. If you have any questions, please contact Kate or Clay Wheeler (katewheeler24@gmail.com; clay.wheeler99@gmail.com).

Scripture Memory. During this seven-week Season of Easter, since we are God's "chosen, holy, and beloved" people, we invite you to memorize Colossians 3:12-14:

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

SUNDAYS, 9:15-10:15 A.M. | APRIL 11 - JUNE 27, 2021

Nursery available; Children's and Youth Sunday School classes will meet together weekly during this time.

GROUP A

May 9, 23; June 6, 20

CROSSPOINTE	Young families; 30s
(FELLOWSHIP HALL)	
LIGHTHOUSE (E301)	30s and 40s
LIVING STONES (E201)	40s and 50s
OPEN DOORS &	60s, 70,s and above
UPPER ROOM (S100)	

GROUP B

May 2, 16, 30; June 13, 27

COMMUNITY (E201)	All ages and life stages
CORNERSTONE (S100)	30s and 40s
FOUNDATIONS (E304)	30s and 40s
KINGDOM BUILDERS	50s and 60s
(FELLOWSHIP HALL)	
THRESHOLD (E301)	Singles and young
	marrieds; 20s and 30s

Teaching Elders by Sunday School Community:

Community, Open Doors, Upper Room | Marty Crawford Cornerstone, Foundations, Lighthouse | David Driskill Living Stones, Kingdom Builders | Dan Edwards College, Crosspointe, Threshold | Josh Johnson

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Ingram Link, Director of Women's Ministries

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Robby Holt, Senior Pastor rholt@covpres.com

Marty Crawford, Assistant Pastor (Church Administrator, senior Adults, Missions)

David Driskill, Assistant Pastor (Shepherding, Middle Adults) ddriskill@covpres.com

John Fountain, Assistant Pastor (Students and Families) jfountain@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 ijohnson@covpres.com (Young Adults, Adult Discipleship) Sara Litten. Director of Girls' Ministries slitten@covpres.com Andrew Luchenbill, Assistant Director of Guys' Ministries aluchenbill@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 Itucker@covpres.com

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Katie Caldwell, Director of Design and Production
Meg Cotney, Director of Finance
Tyler Cuidon, Director of Technical Services
Phyllis Hamm, Ministry Assistant (Missions, Member Care)
Jeff Herbert, Director of Facilities
Stacey Loyless, Director of Communications and Media
Jocelyn Martin, Ministry Assistant (Children's)
Casey O'Dell, Ministry Assistant (Children's Choir, Worship)
Kim Oliver, Assistant to the Senior Pastor
Traci Parker, Director of Food Services
Justin Richardson, Assistant to the Church Administrator
Karan Stuart, Receptionist
Victoria Williams, Ministry Assistant (Women, Shepherding)

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ilink@covpres.com

22 RULING ELDERS

2021 2022 2023

Eric Getty Ty Dedmon Will Brooke
Daniel Murray John Hamilton Nathan Collums

Warren Norville Mark Hogewood Jeff Dyess
Sandy Stradtman John James Michael Latta
Clay Wheeler David O'Dell Charlie Logan

Norman Pless Bob Schaffeld Kurt Senn John Smith T

Steve Stigler

DEACONS

2021 2022 2023

Jim Bennett Nick Baggett Tripp Alexander William Edwards Ward Bailey Joseph Cascio Richard Cox Samuel Bragg Merrill Johnston Randall Lancaster Trey Clegg Jav Evans Will Graham Mark Midvette Bryan Flores Jeff Hicks Stephen Mince Gary Gorham Jim Jenkins Clyde Prather Jeff Haves John Shank John Shults Alan Spooner Joe Strickland Matt Thomas Patrick Strong

Greg Tomlinson

STEERING COMMITTEE

Will Brooke, Member At-large
Nathan Collums, Family Ministry Chair
Marty Crawford, Pastoral Liaison (Missions)
Ty Dedmon, Shepherding Ministry Chair
David Driskill, Pastoral Liaison (Shepherding)
Robby Holt, Moderator of the Session
John Fountain, Pastoral Liaison (Family)

Michael Latta, Clerk of the Session
Ingram Link, Ministry Liaison (Women)
Stephen Mince, Chair of the Diaconate
Bob Schaffeld, Missions Ministry Chair
John Shank, Finance Committee Chair
Lee Sheppard, Personnel Committee Chair
John Smith T, Assistant Clerk of the Session

Darrell Tucker

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.

MAY READING PLAN

	1 KINGS	LUKE
1-2	□ 4-8	□ 23:26-56
3	□ 9-10	□ 24:1-12
4	□ 11-12	□ 24:13-35
5	□ 13-14	□ 24:36-53
		JOHN
6	□ 15-16	□1
7	□ 17-18	□ 2
8/9	□ 19-2 Kings 2	□ 3
	2 KINGS	
10	□ 3-4	□ 4:1-42
11	□ 5-6	□ 4:43-54
12	□ 7-9	□ 5:1-29
13	□ 10-11	□ 5:30-47
14	□ 12-14	□ 6:1-21
15/16	□ 15-19	□ 6:22-71
17	□ 20-22	□ 7:1-36
18	□ 23-24	□ 7:37-52
19	□ 25-1 Chronicles 2	□ 7:53-8:11
	1 CHRONICLES	
20	□ 3-5	□ 8:12-38
21	□ 6-7	□ 8:39-59
22/23	□ 8-11	□9
24	□ 12-14	□ 10:1-21
25	□ 15-17	□ 10:22-42
26	□ 18-20	□ 11:1-27
27	□ 21-23	□ 11:28-44
28	□ 24-26	□ 11:45-57
29/30	□ 27-2 Chronicles 3	□ 12
	2 CHRONICLES	
31	□ 4-6	□ 13:1-20

