

# The Lord's Day in Worship

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



“Abiding is an art...it has to be practiced, long and hard, with the eventual reward that it becomes second nature. Abiding, as with any art, requires practice and discipline to reach a point of freedom and enjoyment. And like any artist, you’ll need to keep on practicing—repeatedly and habitually—or you’ll get rusty.”

—Rankin Wilbourne

“God has given us the disciplines of the spiritual life as a means of receiving his grace. The disciplines allow us to place ourselves before God so that he can transform us.”

—Richard Foster

The year of Grace 1654. Monday, 23 November  
From about half past ten in the evening until about  
half past midnight.

FIRE! “God of Abraham, God of Isaac, God of Jacob,”  
not of philosophers and scholars.

Certainty, certainty, heartfelt, joy, peace.

God of Jesus Christ...

My God and your God...

The world forgotten, and everything except God...

Joy, joy, joy, tears of joy...the fountain of living  
waters...

Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ.

Let me never be cut off from him!

—Blaise Pascal

## ☒ CALL TO WORSHIP

*John Fountain*

## ☒ HYMN OF INVOCATION

"We Come O Christ to You"  
*to the tune of "Rejoice Lord is King"*

We come, O Christ, to you, true Son of God and man,  
 By whom all things consist, in whom all life began.  
 In you alone we live and move and have our being in your love.

You are the way to God, your blood our ransom paid;  
 In you we face our Judge and Maker unafraid.  
 Before the throne absolved we stand; your love has met your law's demand.

You are the living truth; all wisdom dwells in you,  
 The source of every skill, the one eternal True!  
 O great I AM! in you we rest, sure answer to our every quest.

You only are true life To know you is to live  
 The more abundant life that earth can never give.  
 O risen Lord! we live in you: in us each day your life renew!

We worship you, Lord Christ, our Savior and our King;  
 To you our youth and strength adoringly we bring:  
 So fill our hearts that all may view your life in us and turn to you!

Words: Edith Margaret Clarkson. Music: DARWALL.

☒ *Congregation stand as able.*

## PRAYER OF ADORATION

### READING FROM THE PENTATEUCH

*Laura Tucker*

Deuteronomy 10:12-22

And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, <sup>13</sup>and to keep the commandments and statutes of the LORD, which I am commanding you today for your good? <sup>14</sup>Behold, to the LORD your God belong heaven and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all that is in it. <sup>15</sup>Yet the LORD set his heart in love on your fathers and chose their offspring after them, you above all peoples, as you are this day. <sup>16</sup>Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no longer stubborn. <sup>17</sup>For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who is not partial and takes no bribe. <sup>18</sup>He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing. <sup>19</sup>Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt. <sup>20</sup>You shall fear the LORD your God. You shall serve him and hold fast to him, and by his name you shall swear. <sup>21</sup>He is your praise. He is your God, who has done for you these great and terrifying things that your eyes have seen. <sup>22</sup>Your fathers went down to Egypt seventy persons, and now the LORD your God has made you as numerous as the stars of heaven.

This is the Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

 **HYMN OF JOY**

"All People That on Earth Do Dwell"  
*to tune of the "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.

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

## READING FROM THE EPISTLES

Galatians 5:16-24

But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup>For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. <sup>18</sup>But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. <sup>19</sup>Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, <sup>20</sup>idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, <sup>21</sup>envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>22</sup>But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. <sup>24</sup>And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

This is the Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against thee  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we earnestly repent.  
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in thy will,  
and walk in thy ways,  
to the glory of thy Name. Amen.*

—Book of Common Prayer

**INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

## PRAYER FOR MERCY

“Trisagion”

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
Have Mercy, have mercy on us.

Words: Book of Common Prayer. Music: Fernando Ortega. CCLI 6485614.

## ☒ ASSURANCE OF PARDON

I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.

— John 10:28

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 ASSURANCE**

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

A mighty fortress is our God, A bulwark never failing;  
Our helper He, amid the flood Of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe Doth seek to work us woe;  
His craft and power are great And armed with cruel hate,  
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, Our striving would be losing;  
Were not the right Man on our side, The Man of God's own choosing.  
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He,  
Lord Sabaoth His name, From age to age the same,  
And He must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, Should threaten to undo us,  
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us.  
The prince of darkness grim, We tremble not for him;  
His rage we can endure, For lo! His doom is sure;  
One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly pow'rs, No thanks to them abideth;  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours Through Him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go, This mortal life also,  
The body they may kill, God's truth abideth still;  
His Kingdom is forever.

Words: Martin Luther, 1529; tr. by Frederick H. Hedge, 1853; based on Psalm 46.

Music: Martin Luther, 1529.



## GIVING OF FIRST FRUITS

*Josh Johnson*

"Abide With Me"

*Rick Barnes, Emilie Alonso, and Daniel Smith*

Abide with me: Fast falls the eventide;  
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide:  
When other helpers fail, And comforts flee.  
Help of the helpless, Abide with me.

Thou on my head In early youth didst smile;  
And, though rebellious And perverse meanwhile,  
Thou hast not left me, Though I oft left Thee;  
On to the close, Lord Abide with me.

I need Thy presence Every passing hour;  
What but Thy grace Can foil the tempter's power?  
Who, like Thyself My guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine Abide with me.

I fear no foe, With Thee at hand to bless;  
Ills have no weight, Tears lose their bitterness.  
Where is thy sting, death? Where grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, Abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross, Before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the night, And point me to the skies.  
Heav'n's morning breaks, and Earth's vain shadows flee;  
In life and death, Lord, Abide with me.

Words: Henry Lyte; alt. by Justin Smith. Music: Justin Smith, 2007 .

☒ **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the LORD be with you.

*And also with you.*

**MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

See page 16 for our Ministry Announcements this week.

**THE MORNING PRAYERS**

*Daniel Murray*

## ☒ READING FROM THE GOSPELS

John 15:1-17

I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup>Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples. <sup>9</sup>As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

<sup>12</sup>"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. <sup>17</sup>These things I command you, so that you will love one another.

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.*



## PRAYER OF COMMITMENT AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.*

*And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,*

*for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.*

 **HYMN OF TRUST**

“Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me”

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer!  
There is no more for heaven now to give;  
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom;  
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace.

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus,  
For my life is wholly bound to His;  
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing all is mine,  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

The night is dark but I am not forsaken,  
For by my side the Saviour He will stay;  
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing,  
For in my need His power is displayed.

To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me  
Through the deepest valley He will lead;  
Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome,  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven;  
The future sure, the price it has been paid;  
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon,  
And he was raised to overthrow the grave.

To this I hold, my sin has been defeated;  
Jesus now and ever is my plea;  
Oh the chains are released I can sing I am free,  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

With every breath I long to follow Jesus,  
For He has said that He will bring me home;  
And day by day I know He will renew me,  
Until I stand with joy before the throne.

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus,  
All the glory evermore to Him;  
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus,  
All the glory evermore to Him;  
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.  
Yet not I, but through Christ in me.

Words and Music: Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren, Rich Thompson. CCLI: 7121852.

## **BENEDICTION**

## MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**“The Christian’s Response to the Racial Crisis” Part 2.** Join us tonight, in person or via livestream, for Part 2 of “The Christian’s Response to the Racial Crisis” at 6:00 p.m. Alton Hardy, pastor and founder of Urban Hope Community Church in Fairfield, AL, will join Sandy Willson for this discussion. You can find the livestream link at [covpres.com/listen-learn-pray](http://covpres.com/listen-learn-pray).

**Fall Sunday School and Ministries.** Thank you to everyone who completed our survey regarding plans for fall Sunday School and other ministries on campus. Your input is very much appreciated! We will be sharing plans for the fall later this week. Please check Chronicles and [covpres.com](http://covpres.com) for details.

**College Summer Fellowship.** This summer, all current Covenant college students (including rising freshmen) are invited to participate in the Summer College Fellowship nights. We will meet every Tuesday evening from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Johnsons’ home (1437 Linda Vista Lane, 35226), and we are going to discuss “Maintaining Healthy Relationships.” We are meeting every Tuesday through August 4.

**Staying Informed.** If you do not receive Chronicles, our weekly email newsletter, please send your email address to [chronicles@covpres.com](mailto:chronicles@covpres.com). For daily updates and information, please follow us on Instagram (@covpresbham, @covpreswomen, @covpreskids, and @covpresyouth) and on Facebook (Covenant Presbyterian Church).



## STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

### EXECUTIVE STAFF

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## 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.

### JUNE READING PLAN

	<b>JOB</b>	<b>ACTS</b>
27/28	□ 10-14	□ 10-9-
29	□ 15-17	□ 9:10-31
30	□ 18-20	□ 9:32-10:8

### JULY READING PLAN

1	□ 21-23	□ 10:9-48
2	□ 24-25	□ 11
3	□ 26-27	□ 12
4/5	□ 28-33	□ 13
6	□ 34-36	□ 14
7	□ 37-38	□ 15
8	□ 39-40	□ 16:1-15
9	□ 41-Psalm 1	□ 16:16-40
	<b>PSALMS</b>	
10	□ 2-3	□ 17:1-15
11/12	□ 4-9	□ 17:16-34
13	□ 10-12	□ 18
14	□ 13-15	□ 19
15	□ 16-18	□ 20:1-16
16	□ 19-22	□ 20:17-38
17	□ 23-24	□ 21:1-16
18/19	□ 25-29	□ 21:17-22:21
20	□ 30-32	□ 22:22-23:11
21	□ 33-35	□ 23:12-35
22	□ 36-38	□ 24
23	□ 39-41	□ 25
24	□ 42-43	□ 26
25/26	□ 44-49	□ 27:1-32
27	□ 50-52	□ 27:33-28:10
28	□ 53-55	□ 28:11-31
		<b>ROMANS</b>
29	□ 56-58	□ 1
30	□ 59-61	□ 2
31	□ 62-64	□ 3

