The Lord's Day in Worship

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Season of Epiphany February 9, 2020

"The apex of [the] abundant life is the worship of Jesus Christ."
—John Piper

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

—Psalm 23

EXECUTE CALL TO WORSHIP

Josh Johnson

MATHORITY HYMN OF PRAISE

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.

Under the shadow of your throne, Your saints have dwelt secure; Sufficient is your arm alone, And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, Or earth received her frame; From everlasting you are God, To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight Are like an evening gone; Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Bears all its sons away; They fly forgotten, as a dream, Dies at the op'ning day.

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come; O be our guard while troubles last, And our eternal home.

Words: from Psalm 90; Isaac Watts, 1719. Music: ST. ANNE C.M.; attr. to William Croft, 1678-1727.

READING FROM THE PROPHETS

Taylor Brown

Joel 2:21-26

"Fear not, O land;
be glad and rejoice,
for the LORD has done great things!

22 Fear not, you beasts of the field,
for the pastures of the wilderness are green;
the tree bears its fruit;
the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

²³"Be glad, O children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God, for he has given the early rain for your vindication; he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the latter rain, as before.

24"The threshing floors shall be full of grain; the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.
 25I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent among you.

26"You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,
and praise the name of the LORD your God,
who has dealt wondrously with you.
And my people shall never again be put to shame.

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

SONG OF ABUNDANCE

"We Will Feast"

Refrain:

We will feast in the house of Zion,
We will sing with our hearts restored.
"He has done great things,"
We will say together,
We will feast and weep no more.

We will not be burned by the fire, He is the Lord our God. We are not consumed by the flood, Upheld, protected, gathered up. (Refrain)

In the dark of night before the dawn, My soul be not afraid. For the promised morning, oh how long? O God of Jacob, be my strength. (Refrain)

Every vow we've broken and betrayed, You are the faithful One And from the garden to the grave, Bind us together, bring shalom. (Refrain)

Words: Sandra McCracken, 2014. Music: Sandra McCracken and Josh Moore, 2014.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

READING FROM THE EPISTLES

Hebrews 12:1-3

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

³Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

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

MATHEMATICAL PROPERTY OF DEVOTION

"Never Cease to Praise"

May we run this race, may we keep the faith,
May our eyes be fixed on Jesus;
That we'll not lose heart in our struggle with sin,
And through suffering know endurance.
May we arm ourselves with the mind of Christ,
To rejoice in trials and be not surprised;
May our hearts be so consumed by You,
That we never cease to praise.

May our company be the saints You've called, May we all stand firm in one spirit; That the gospel's truth may resound on earth, That all living things may hear it.

May the fruits of faith mark the path we trod, Through the life of Christ to the glory of God; May our hearts be so consumed by You, That we never cease to praise.

May the words we share be Your grace and peace, May our tongues speak Your proclamations; That the many parts of the body of Christ Be affirmed in their right relation.

As we long and wait for the groom to come, May we learn to love and spur each other on; May our hearts be so consumed by You, That we never cease to praise.

When that day arrives, and the race is won,
When our griefs give way to deliverance;
We will fully know as we're fully known,
All our groans will end as new songs begin,
And a multitude from ev'ry tribe and tongue,
Wearing robes of white will stand before Your throne,
And our hearts will be so consumed by You,
That we'll never cease to praise.

May our hearts be so consumed by You, That we never cease to praise.

Words and Music: Jeff Bourque.

GIVING OF FIRST FRUITS

"Psalm 100" Chancel Choir

Make a joyful noise to God all ye nations! Serve the Lord with gladness, Come before His presence with singing! Serve the Lord with gladness, Come before His presence with a song!

Make a joyful noise to God all ye nations!

Know ye that the Lord,
He is God.
It is He that has made us, and not we ourselves.
We are His people, sheep of His pasture.

Enter ye His gates with thanks, Enter ye His courts with praise and Make a joyful noise to God all ye nations!

For the Lord is good, And His mercy is everlasting! And His truth endures, From generation to generation. Make a joyful noise!

Make a joyful noise to God!

Words and Music: Caleb French; adapted from Psalm 100.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Divion Anderson Collins DAUGHTER OF MEAGAN AND HAMPTON COLLINS

PARENTAL VOWS

- 1. Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
- 2. Do you claim God's covenant promises on your child's behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for their salvation, as you do for your own?
- 3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before them a godly example, that you will pray with and for them, that you will teach them the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

CONGREGATIONAL VOW

Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE BAPTISM

THE PRAYER OF BLESSING

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.

Children's Worship Information:

Children ages 3 to 4 may attend Children's Worship for the entire worship service, while kindergarteners through 2nd graders are dismissed during the Passing of the Peace. Following the worship service, parents will find their children attending Children's Worship in the following rooms:

3K ■ C224/C225 (available for the entire worship hour)

4K • C221 (available for the entire worship hour)

Kindergarten • C221 (dismissed during the Passing of the Peace)*

1st & 2nd Grades • C316 (dismissed during the Passing of the Peace)*

*Children on the main level will dismiss through the door leading into the Fellowship

Hall, and children in the balcony will dismiss through the door closest to the elevator.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitors and members, please take a moment to fill out the pew pad with your full name and names of any family members attending with you. You may read all of our ministry announcements on page 18.

THE MORNING PRAYERS

Clay Wheeler

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

John 10:1-10

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber.

But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

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

"THE ABUNDANT LIFE"		
John Fountain		

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 communing but would like to participate, please come forward and 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.

The congregation will read aloud the portions that are *italicized*.

Prayer of Confession

Marty Crawford

Most holy and merciful Father,

We acknowledge and confess before you our sinful nature prone to evil and slow in good and all our shortcomings and offenses.

You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your life.

But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us,

who are ashamed and sorry for all wherein we have displeased you.

Teach us to hate our errors, cleanse us from our secret faults, and forgive our sins For the sake of your dear Son.

And O most holy and loving Father, Help us, we beg you, to live in your light and walk in your ways according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

M Assurance of Pardon

Truly, truly I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life
—John 6:47

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.

Words of Institution

from 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, Mark 14:22-25

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.

"Come All Ye Pining"



Words: Anne Steele, 1716-1778. Music: Brian T. Murphy.

"Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder"

Let us love and sing and wonder, Let us praise the Savior's name! He has hushed the law's loud thunder, He has quenched Mt. Sinai's flame.

Let us love the Lord who bought us, Pitied us when enemies, Called us by His grace and taught us, Gave us ears and gave us eyes:

He has washed us with His blood, He has washed us with His blood, He has washed us with His blood, He presents our souls to God.

Let us sing, though fierce temptation Threatens hard to bring us down! For the Lord, our strong salvation, Holds in view the conqueror's crown.

Let us wonder; grace and justice Join and point to mercy's store; When through grace in Christ our trust is, Justice smiles and asks no more:

He who washed us with his blood, He who washed us with his blood, He who washed us with his blood, Has secured our way to God.

Let us praise, and join the chorus Of the saints enthroned on high; Here they trusted him before us, Now their praises fill the sky:

He has washed us with his blood, He has washed us with his blood, He has washed us with his blood, He will bring us home to God.

He has washed us with His blood, He has washed us with His blood. (x4)

Words: John Newton, 1774. Music: Laura Taylor, 2001.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

© CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

O God our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.

BENEDICTION

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT: February 9 - 15, 2020

SUNDAY, February 9

8:45 a.m. Coffee Fellowship (Commons)

9:15 a.m. Sunday School for all ages and stages

(see page 20)

10:30 a.m. Gathered Worship (Sanctuary)

Children's Worship | Rising 3k through 2nd grades

5:00 p.m. Women's Study: God of Covenant

MONDAY, February 10

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

TUESDAY, February 11

10:00 a.m. Women's Study: Divine Design Discipleship (S104)

11:15 a.m. Women's Study: God of Covenant (E201)

11:30 a.m. Gospel Manhood (Fellowship Hall)

WEDNESDAY. February 12 Wednesdays@Covenant

5:30 - 7:15 p.m. 5:30-7:15 KidConnection (3K-6th grades; 3rd floor)

5:30 Dinner (Fellowship Hall)

5:30 Jr. High Activities (bring dinner to Youth Area)

6:00-7:30 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

6:15 Bible Study Options:

1. Women's Study: God of Covenant (E303)

2. "A Heart & Mind for God: THE-ologies of Christianity" with Josh Johnson (E201)

6:45 Sr. High Activities (Youth Area)

7:45 Band Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

MINISTRIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Please see our full calendar of Covenant events at covpres.com/calendar.

Class of 2023 Officer Recommendations. We are accepting recommendations for our class of 2023 Elders, Deacons, and Trustees. Please complete the nomination form at the back of this worship guide by February 16, and place it in the basket in the sanctuary foyer.

Sav-A-Life Need. Sav-A-Life Vestavia is in critical need of diapers in sizes 3, 4, 5, and 6 for their baby boutique. If you can donate diapers, please bring them to Phyllis Hamm's office. Thank you!

Sacred Studio 2020. Sacred Studio, the adult version of Created for a Purpose, is February 28 and 29. Abby Hutto, author of *God for Us*, will be our conference speaker. Connie Skellie, of Act of Congress, will lead worship. Visit sacredstudio.org for more information and to register.

College Ministry February Schedule. For the month of February, we have several Sunday lunches scheduled for our college ministry. Today, we will have lunch at the home of Elizabeth and Josh Johnson (1437 Linda Vista Lane, 35226), and then we will have lunch at Covenant on February 16. Finally, on February 23, students will have lunch with their adopted families.

Missions Festival 2020. Our annual Missions Festival is scheduled for March 15-18, and there are many ways that you can volunteer. Please visit covpres.com/missions to sign up. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Lloyd Kim, coordinator of Mission to the World (MTW). Dr. Kim graduated from UC Berkeley with a degree in engineering and worked as a consultant with Ernst & Young before getting his M.Div. at Westminster Seminary in California and his doctorate in New Testament Studies at Fuller Theological Seminary. He was associate pastor with New Life Mission Church (PCA) before joining MTW. Dr. Kim and his wife Eda served as missionaries with MTW beginning in 2004 in the Philippines and then in Cambodia. Lloyd served as MTW's international director of the Asia-Pacific region before his nomination as MTW coordinator in July of 2014. The Kims have three children: Kaelyn, Christian, and Katy. They reside in Lilburn, GA.

Children's Summer Activities. Already planning your summer? Take a look at our Children's Ministry schedule of activities and events at covpres.com/childrens-summer-activities.

WEDNESDAYS@COVENANT

January 8 - March 11, 2020

Join your Covenant family each week for a time of food, fellowship, and study. Like any family, we need to spend time together, check in with each other, and break bread together. As we study God's word and pray with each other, this midweek time plays an important role in our growth as a church family. We have something for everyone! See covpres.com/schedule for all the details.

SCHEDULE

5:30-6:15 p.m. Fellowship Dinner (Fellowship Hall)

serving lines remain open until 6:00; \$6/adult, \$4/child with a \$25 family max

5:30-7:15 p.m. Nursery Activities

infants through 2 year olds; Nursery Level KidConnection* Dinner, Worship, & Activities 3 year olds through 6th graders; 3rd Floor Jr. High Dinner & Activities (Youth Rooms)

6th-8th grades; bring dinner down to Youth Rooms

6:00-7:30 p.m. **Chancel Choir** (S103)

6:15-7:15 p.m. Adult Options:

Women's Study: "God of Covenant"** (E305)
Small group discussion of this study by Jen Wilkin
All Adult Study: "A Heart & Mind For God:

THE-ologies of Christianity" (E201)

This study with Josh Johnson will enable us to have a deeper understanding of Scripture, and thereby know our God and our Savior Jesus Christ in a deeper way. Topics include "Who is the Holy Spirit, and is He at work today?" and "What happens at the end of the story?"

6:45 p.m. Sr. High Activities (Youth Rooms)

^{*}Please register at covpres.com/weekly-activities.

^{**}Please register at covpres.com/womens-studies.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

9:15 a.m.

Directional signs are located around the church.

COLLEGE | COMMONS College students*

CROSSPOINTE | S100 Young families; 30s

THRESHOLD | E304 *Singles and young marrieds;*

20s and 30s

(Pastor: Josh Johnson)

COMMUNITY | E305 All ages and life stages

UPPER ROOM | S101 *60s and 70s*

(Pastor: Marty Crawford)

CORNERSTONE | S104 3os and 4os

FOUNDATIONS | DINING ROOM 30s and 40s

LIGHTHOUSE | E301 3os and 4os

(Pastor: David Driskill)

LIVING STONES | E303 40s and 50s

KINGDOM BUILDERS | E201 50s and 60s

(Pastor: Dan Edwards)

YOUTH | YOUTH AREA Students grades 7-12

(Pastor: John Fountain)

^{*}College students gather in Commons Area at 12:00 for class and lunch.

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

EXECUTIVE STAFF

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

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Ingram Link, Director of Women's Ministries

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Sandy Willson, Interim Senior Pastor

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Bill Hay, Pastor Emeritus

Josh Johnson, Assistant Pastor (Young Adults, Adult Discipleship) jjohnson@covpres.com

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RULING ELDERS

2020 2021 2022

Bill Bennett Eric Getty Ty Dedmon
Will Brooke Russell Martin John Hamilton
Michael Latta Daniel Murray Mark Hogewood

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Charlie Logan Warren Norville John James
Paul Loyless Sandy Stradtman David O'Dell

Bob Schaffeld Clay Wheeler Norman Pless
Lee Sheppard Kurt Senn
Steve Stigler

Mark Taylor
John Wood

DEACONS

Robert Stephens Clark Worrell

2020 2021 2022

Jim Bennett Tripp Alexander Nick Baggett William Edwards Paul Darden Ward Bailey Samuel Bragg Merrill Johnston Jay Evans Randall Lancaster Bryan Flores Trey Clegg John Gant Will Graham Mark Midvette John David Gray Jeff Hicks Stephen Mince Jim Jenkins Clyde Prather Marty Martin Alan Spooner John Shank **Bud Miller**

Bud Miller Alan Spooner John Shank
Tyler O'Connor Patrick Strong Matt Thomas
John Shults Greg Tomlinson
Danny Smith

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.

FEBRUARY READING PLAN

	EXODUS	MATTHEW
1/2	□ 26-28	□ 21
3	□ 29-30	□ 22:1-22
4	□ 31-33	□ 22:23-46
5	□ 34-36	□ 23:1-22
6	□ 37-38	□ 23:23-39
7	□ 39-40	□ 24:1-22
	LEVITICUS	
8/9	□ 1-2	□ 24:23-25:30
10	□ 3-4	□ 25:31-46
11	□ 5-6	□ 26:1-19
12	□ 7-9	□ 26:20-56
13	□ 10-12	□ 26:57-75
14	□ 13-15	□ 27:1-31
15/16	□ 16-18	□ 27:32-28:20
		MARK
17	□ 19-20	□ 1:1-22
18	□ 21-23	□ 1:23-45
19	□ 24-26	□2
20	□ 27-Numbers 1	□ 3:1-21
	NUMBERS	
21	□ 2-3	□ 3:22-35
22/23	□ 4-7	□ 4
24	□ 8-9	□ 5:1-20
25	□ 10-12	□ 5:21-43
26	□ 13-15	□ 6:1-32
27	□ 16-18	□ 6:33-56
28		
	□ 19-21	□ 7:1-13
29/March 1	□ 19-21 □ 22-25	□ 7:1-13 □ 7:14-8:21

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

FOR THE CLASS OF 2023

Elected officers serve a three-year term.

Please submit your recommendations by Sunday, February 16. You may place this form in the baskets provided in the sanctuary foyer or the church office.

•	Recommendations for the Office of ELDER :
	1
	2
	3
	4
	Recommendations for the Office of DEACON :
	1
	2
	3
	4
•	Recommendations for the Office of TRUSTEE:
	1
	2

Note: Those elders and deacons currently serving in the classes of 2021 and 2022 should not be recommended