



The Lord's Day in Worship

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN exists to glorify God
by proclaiming the gospel of JESUS CHRIST
to our community *and* the world.



PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

—Isaiah 60:1-6 NRSV

Fill our worship with grace, Lord Jesus Christ, that every thought, word, and deed may be acceptable to You, our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.

—based on Psalm 19:14, *The Worship Sourcebook*.

{ **GATHERED WORSHIP:** The Triune God Renews His People }



 **FIRST HYMN**
“AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD”, Hymn 163

As with gladness, men of old
 Did the guiding star behold
 As with joy they hailed its light
 Leading onward, beaming bright
 So, most gracious Lord, may we
 Evermore be led to Thee.

As with joyful steps they sped
 To that lowly manger bed
 There to bend the knee before
 Him Whom heav’n and earth adore;
 So may we with willing feet
 Ever seek the mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare
 At that manger rude and bare;
 So may we with holy joy,
 Pure and free from sin’s alloy,
 All our costliest treasures bring,
 Christ, to Thee, our heav’nly King.

Holy Jesus, every day
 Keep us in the narrow way;
 And when earthly things are past,
 Bring our ransomed souls at last
 Where they need no star to guide,
 Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

(Words: William C. Dix Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher).

 Congregation stand, as able

DAILY WORSHIP RESOURCES

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. These scripture readings are set in the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), a schedule of daily Bible reading in accord with the Church year. They are designed around a two-year cycle that will take you through the Old Testament once, the New Testament twice, and the Psalms frequently. We are currently in the “Year 2” cycle.

SUNDAY, THE LORD’S DAY • FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Morning	Psalm 146, 147	Genesis 1:1-2:3	John 1:29-34
Evening	Psalm 111, 112, 113	Ephesians 1:3-14	

MONDAY

Morning	Psalm 1, 2 3	Genesis 2:4-9	John 1:1-18
Evening	Psalm 4, 7	Hebrews 1:1-14	

TUESDAY

Monday	Psalm 5, 6	Genesis 3:1-24	John 1:19-28
Evening	Psalm 10, 11	Hebrews 2:1-10	

WEDNESDAY

Morning	Psalm 119:1-24	Genesis 4:1-16	John 1:35-42
Evening	Psalm 12, 13, 14	Hebrews 2:11-18	

THURSDAY

Morning	Psalm 18:1-20	Genesis 4:17-26	John 1:43-51
Evening	Psalm 18:21-50	Hebrews 3:1-11	

FRIDAY

Morning	Psalm 16, 17	Genesis 6:1-8	John 2:1-12
Evening	Psalm 22	Hebrews 3:12-19	

SATURDAY

Morning	Psalm 20, 21:1-7	Genesis 6:9-22	John 2:13-22
Evening	Psalm 110:1-5, 116, 117	Hebrews 4:1-13	

SUNDAY, THE LORD’S DAY • SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Morning	Psalm 148, 149, 150	Genesis 7:1-10, 17-23	Mark 3:7-19
Evening	Psalm 114, 115	Ephesians 4:1-16	



STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Rev. Bill Boyd, Senior Pastor-Elect
 Rev. Marty Crawford, Church Administrator
 Rev. Dan Edwards, Pastor to Children and Families
 Rev. Stephen Folmar, Pastor of Music and Worship
 Rev. Craig Boden, Pastoral Care/Senior Adults
 Rev. Danny Giffen, Pastor of Discipleship
 Rev. T. J. Wolters, Pastor of Community
 Mr. Brian Oaks, Director of College Ministry
 Mr. John Steakley, Director of Student Ministries
 Miss Lucy Anderson, Director of Young Adults
 Dr. Bill Hay, Pastor Emeritus

bboyd@covpres.com
 mcrawford@covpres.com
 dedwards@covpres.com
 sfolmar@covpres.com
 lifematters@mindspring.com
 dgiffen@covpres.com
 twolters@covpres.com
 boaks@covpres.com
 jsteakley@covpres.com
 landerson@covpres.com
 bhay@covpres.com

RULING ELDERS

Sandy Stradtman, Clerk of Session

ewstradtman@aol.com

Steve Ankenbrandt	Mark Lee
Bill Bennett	Charlie Logan
Will Brooke	Robert Luttrell
William Dow	Russell Martin
A. C. Frese	Bruce McLeod
George Jones	Warren Norville
Win Jones	John Oliver
Michael Latta	Bill Ratliff

Bob Schaffeld
 Richard Thompson
 Sam Tortorici
 Lex Williamson
 John Wood

DEACONS

Lee Sheppard, Chairman of the Diaconate

lsheppard@maynardcooper.com

Eddy Alonso	Jonathon Gidley
Ward Bailey	Heath Henderson
Mike Barnett	Jeff Hicks
Chris Butler	John James
Trey Clegg	Rich Laws
Dave Condon	David Malone
Charles Crabbe	Stephen Mince
Ty Dedmon	Jason Peevy

Charlie Regan
 Todd Sitton
 Alan Spooner
 Mark Taylor
 Dave Traylor
 Joe Welsh

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness:

People: *For Christ is manifested in the flesh,
 He was vindicated by the Spirit,
 He was seen by the angels,
 He was proclaimed among the nations,
 He was believed on in the world,
 He was taken up in glory.
 Praise the Lord, all you nations.*

from I Timothy 3:16

{ **GATHERED WORSHIP:** The Triune God Renews His People }

❏ SECOND HYMN

“WE THREE KINGS”, Hymn 166

We three kings of Orient are; Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star.

Refrain:

*O star of wonder, star of night,
Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy perfect light.*

Born a King on Bethlehem’s plain, Gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never, Over us all to reign.

Frankincense to offer have I; Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, all men raising, Worship Him, God on high.

Refrain

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume, Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorr’wing, sighing, bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

Refrain

Glorious now behold Him arise; King and God and Sacrifice;
Alleluia, Alleluia! Earth to heav’n replies.

Refrain

(Words and Music: John H. Hopkins, Jr., 1857).



A new season of Wednesday Worship
begins January 18 with a new series—
“The Christian Life” led by Bill Boyd .
You don’t want to miss this—come join us!



Wednesday Evenings at 6:30 | Fellowship Hall
Dinner served at 5:30

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THIS WEEK

SUNDAY • January 8

8:30 a.m.	Morning Worship (Sanctuary) Children's Worship • 3 Years through 3rd Grade
9:40 a.m.	Sunday School for All Ages
11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship (Sanctuary) Children's Worship • 3 Years through 3rd Grade
12:00 noon	Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)
12:15 p.m.	Information Meeting • Mission Trips 2012 (E201)
6:00 p.m.	Youth Group
6:30 p.m.	Service of Prayer (Sanctuary)

MONDAY • January 9

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Covenant Day School and Mother's Day Out
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TUESDAY • January 10

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Covenant Day School
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WEDNESDAY • January 11

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Covenant Day School and Mother's Day Out
10:30 a.m.	The Grands Bible Study and Fellowship (E202)
6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S103) Wednesday Evening Activities return January 18, 2012

THURSDAY • January 12

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Covenant Day School
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FRIDAY • January 13

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Covenant Day School and Mother's Day Out
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SATURDAY • January 14

7:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m.	Churchwide Hour of Prayer (Tower Room)
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OLD TESTAMENT READING

PSALM 72:1-7

Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son. May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice. May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness. May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor. May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations. May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth. In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

THIS IS THE WORD OF THE LORD.

Thanks be to God!

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us humbly confess our sins:

Pastor: The light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. Let us confess our sins to God.

People: *Almighty and merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You and one another in both our actions and our inactions. We recognize that in Jesus Christ our light has come, yet often we choose to walk in shadows and ignore the light. Gracious God, forgive our sins and remove from us the veil of darkness that shrouds our lives. Illumined by Your Word and sacrament, may we rise to the radiance of Christ's glory. Amen.*

from The Worship Sourcebook

(PAUSE FOR A TIME OF INDIVIDUAL REFLECTION)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: *The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. To all who have received him, to those who believe in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.*

from John 1:9, 12

 Congregation stand, as able

MINISTRIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Congregational Meeting—A Congregational Meeting will be held today, immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service, for the purpose of electing church officers.

Short Term Missions—Join us for an Informational Meeting today immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service in E201 to find out more about the incredible short term mission trips planned for 2012. Opportunities include: Spring Break Trip to Honduras (March 17-23); Zambia (Summer 2012—a great family trip) and Sydney, Australia where we will partner with MTW missionaries Jim and Claudia Jung.

TONIGHT—Offerings of Prayer, Praise and Thanksgiving—Everyone is encouraged to join us tonight at 6:30 in the Sanctuary as we gather to offer prayers of praise, thanksgiving, confession, repentance and supplication as we reflect on the One who led us faithfully through 2011 and will lead us faithfully in the new year ahead. Bring your favorite Psalm or verse that focuses on the Lord and His amazing love for us as we join our hearts and minds in worship through our spoken prayers. Nursery childcare (age 5 and under) available.

New Members Class—Interested in making Covenant your church home? We invite you to a New Members Class on Friday/Saturday, February 3-4. Class begins with dinner on Friday evening at 5:30 p.m. Saturday's session meets from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon (full breakfast served). Reservations are requested by calling Victoria Williams at 871-7002. Nursery childcare (age 5 and under) available by request.

Midweek at Covenant—Our full Wednesday evening schedule resumes January 18. Our midweek events provide a great opportunity for building community as we enjoy a meal together at 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall followed by Wednesday Worship (youth-adults), Kidz Club (3 years-6th grade) and Chancel Choir rehearsal. Children's Music Clubs meet at 5:00 p.m.

Luncheon in Honor of Bill and Cyndie Hay—Fixed Point Foundation will host a luncheon in honor of Bill and Cyndie Hay (Pastor Emeritus) on Sunday, January 22, at Latimer House (Mountain Brook Village) immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Fixed Point Executive Director, Larry Taunton, will interview Dr. Hay on his 33 years of ministry in Birmingham. Seating is limited and reservations are requested. Cost is \$25 per person. For reservations, please contact Rebekah Page at 960-5257 or rpage@fixed-point.org.

Annual Missions Festival • February 27-29—Volunteer to be involved as we prepare to host over 40 missionaries from around the globe. Sign-up sheets in adult Sunday School classes.

“CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS”, Hymn 234

Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne:
Hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns, All music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing, Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King thru all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of love: Behold His hands and side—
Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky, Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his wond'ring eye, At mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of life: Who triumphed o'er the grave,
Who rose victorious to the strife, For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing, Who died, and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring, And lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of heav'n: One with the Father known,
One with the Spirit thru Him giv'n, From yonder glorious throne.
To Thee be endless praise, For Thou for us hast died,
Be Thou, O Lord, thru endless days, Adored and magnified.

(Words: Verses 1, 2 and 4, Matthew Bridges; Verse 3, Godfrey Thring. Music: George J. Elvey).

BENEDICTION

“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.”

THE GIVING OF “FIRST FRUITS”

“GRACIOUS SPIRIT, DWELL WITH ME”

Chancel Choir
Anna Lu Hemphill, *pianist*
Donald Given, *organist*

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be;
Help me now thy grace to see, I would be like thee;
And, with words that help and heal, thy life would mine reveal;
And, with actions bold and meek, for Christ, my Savior, speak.
Truthful Spirit, dwell with me, I would truthful be;
Help me now thy truth to see, I would be like thee;
And, with wisdom kind and clear, thy life in mine appear;
And, with actions brotherly, speak Christ's sincerity.
Holy Spirit, dwell with me, I would holy be;
Show thy mercy tenderly, make me more like thee;
Separate from sin, I would and cherish all things good,
And whatever I can be give him who gave me thee.
Mighty Spirit, dwell with me, I would mighty be;
Help me now thy pow'r to see, I would be like thee;
'Gainst all weapons hell can wield, be thou my strength and shield;
Let thy word my weapon be, Lord, thine the victory.

(Words: Thomas T. Lynch. Music: K. Lee Scott)

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

Our Children's Ministry provides Children's Worship for children, three years through 3rd Grade, during both morning worship services.

Children will be escorted from the Sanctuary to Children's Worship during the Passing of the Peace.

Three Years Old	Meet in Room C222 (<i>available for the entire worship hour</i>)
Four and Five Years Old	Meet in Room C221 (<i>available for the entire worship hour</i>)
First through Third Grades	Dismissed during the service • Meet in Room C316

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of God • *from* Isaiah 9

Pastor: The peace of the LORD be always with you.

People: *And also with you!*

Greet one another with a sign of friendship such as: "The peace of Christ be with you" and "And also with you."

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please take a moment to fill out the attendance notepad located in the pew racks.

"THERE IS A FOUNTAIN", Hymn 196

There is a fountain filled with blood, Drawn from Immanuel's veins,
And sinners plunged beneath that flood, Lose all their guilty stains:
Lose all their guilty stains, Lose all their guilt stains;
And sinners plunged beneath that flood, Lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see, That fountain in his day,
And there may I, though vile as he, Wash all my sins away:
Wash all my sins away, Wash all my sins away;
And there may I, though vile as he, Wash all my sins away.

Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood, Shall never lose its pow'r,
Till all the ransomed Church of God, Be saved to sin no more:
Be saved to sin no more, Be saved to sin no more;
Till all the ransomed Church of God, Be saved to sin no more.

E'er since by faith I saw the stream, Thy flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my theme, And shall be till I die:
And shall be till I die, And shall be till I die;
Redeeming love has been my theme, And shall be till I die.

When this poor lisp'ing, stamm'ring tongue, Lies silent in the grave,
Then in a nobler, sweeter song, I'll sing Thy pow'r to save:
I'll sing Thy pow'r to save, I'll sing Thy pow'r to save;
Then in a nobler, sweeter song, I'll sing Thy pow'r to save.

(Words: William Cowper. Music: Traditional American melody).



“NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD OF JESUS”, Hymn 195

What can wash away my sin?
 Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
 What can make me whole again?
 Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Refrain:

*Oh! precious is the flow
 That makes me white as snow;
 No other fount I know,
 Nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

For my pardon, this I see,
 Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
 For my cleansing this my plea,
 Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Refrain

Nothing can for sin atone,
 Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
 Naught of good that I have done,
 Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Refrain

This is all my hope and peace,
 Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
 This is all my righteousness,
 Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Refrain

(Words and Music: Robert Lowry).

NEW TESTAMENT READING

EPHESIANS 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

THIS IS THE WORD OF THE LORD.

Thanks be to God!

MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL:

O God, who by the leading of a star did manifest Your only beloved Son to the Gentiles; Mercifully grant, that we, who know You now by faith, may after this life have the fruition of Your glorious Godhead; through Christ our Lord.

INTERCESSOR:

(HERE THE INTERCESSOR WILL PRAY FOR THE CHURCH LOCAL, UNIVERSAL, AND FOR THE WORLD)

And so, Lord, we pray as Christ taught:

ALL:

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.

HYMNS FOR THE EUCHARIST

“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 Mount Sinai's flame,
He has washed us with His blood, He has washed us with His blood,
He has washed us with His blood, He has brought us nigh to God.

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 bear us down
For the Lord, our strong salvation, Holds in view the conqueror's crown
He, Who washed us with His blood, He, Who washed us with His blood,
He, Who washed us with His blood, Soon will bring us home to God.

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
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood, Thou hast washed us with Thy blood,
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood, Thou art worthy Lamb of God.

(Words: John Newton. Music: Laura Taylor).

Celebrant: 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, united in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him by faith, with thanksgiving.

Amen.

—The Book of Common Prayer

THE GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

THIS IS THE WORD OF THE LORD.

Thanks be to God!

