# The Lord's Day in Worship

#### **COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

...a healthy spirituality embraces all of creation as a gift from God, and trusts that God continues to sanctify his creation and causes humans to grow in gratitude toward the giver of these amazing gifts.

—Gisela Kreglinger

The Son of God goes forth to war.

-Reginald Heber

The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

—John the Beloved Apostle (1 John 3:8)

# **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

8:30 | Rev. Marty Crawford 11:00 | Rev. Henry Morris

# **M RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: The Father has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light.

All: He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of our sins.

—from Colossians 1

# **EXECUTE** CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

from "All Creatures of Our God and King"

All the redeemed washed by His blood, Come and rejoice in His great love. O praise Him! Alleluia! Christ has defeated every sin. Cast all your burdens now on Him. O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia!

# **PRAYER OF ADORATION**

Psalm 91

Leader: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

All: I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

Leader: For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence.

All: He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

Leader: You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday.

All: A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.

You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked.

Leader: Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—
the Most High, who is my refuge—
no evil shall be allowed to befall you,
no plague come near your tent.

All: For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.

Leader: You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

All: "Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name.

Leader: When he calls to me, I will answer him;
I will be with him in trouble;
I will rescue him and honor him.
With long life I will satisfy him
and show him my salvation."

"Immortal, Invisible"

Immortal, invisible,
God only wise,
In light inaccessible
Hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious,
The Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious,
Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting,
And silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting,
Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains,
High soaring above
Thy clouds, which are fountains
Of goodness and love.

To all, life Thou givest,
To both great and small,
In all life Thou livest,
The true life of all;
We blossom and flourish
As leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish,
But naught changeth Thee.

Great Father of glory,
Pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee,
All veiling their sight;
All praise we would render,
O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor
Of light hideth Thee!

# READING FROM THE PENTATEUCH

Deuteronomy 8:1-10

"The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that Yahweh swore to give to your fathers. <sup>2</sup>And you shall remember the whole way that Yahweh your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. 3 And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of Yahweh. 4Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. 5Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, Yahweh your God disciplines you. <sup>6</sup>So you shall keep the commandments of Yahweh your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. <sup>7</sup>For Yahweh your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills, 8a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, 9a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. <sup>10</sup> And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless Yahweh your God for the good land he has given you.

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

# PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

We acknowledge and confess before you;

Our sinful nature quick to do evil and slow to do good;

All our shortcomings and offenses are before you at all times.

You alone know how often we have sinned;

In wandering from your ways;

In wasting your gifts;

In forgetting your love.

O Lord, have mercy upon us;

For in our sin we have displeased you.

Turn us to yourself.

Cleanse us from our secret faults;

And forgive our sins;

You have set us free from the dominion of sin,

Cause us to live in your light and walk in your ways;

According to the promised grace of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

You were dead in your sins, but God made alive together with Christ Jesus. He has forgiven us all our trespasses. He canceled the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross.

-Colossians 2:13-14

**MASSURANCE OF PARDON** 

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.

# **® CONFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.

# **GIVING OF FIRST FRUITS**

"Not in Me"
Congregational Hymn



# The Sacrament of Baptism

8:30 service

William. Malcolm Mounger IV
SON OF MAGGIE AND WILLIAM MOUNGER

James William. Wohlwend SON OF KATIE AND JONATHAN WOHLWEND

11:00 service

Brooks Len Blackwood
SON OF IOHANNA AND COREY BLACKWOOD

For the promise is to you, and to your children, and to all that are afar, even as many as the Lord our God shall call unto himself. And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your seed after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto you and to your seed after you. Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you shall be saved, you and your household. (Acts 2:39; Genesis 17:7; Acts 16:31)

—from the Book of Church Order

#### 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 without reservation 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 truth and mystery of our holy faith, and that you will strive, by all the means which God has graciously given us, to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE BAPTISM

THE PRAYER OF BLESSING

CONGREGATIONAL VOW

Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of these children?

"JESUS LOVES ME"

Christ is Risen!

He is Risen, indeed!

The peace of the LORD be with you.

And also with you.

Greet one another with words of peace and reconciliation.

The "passing of the peace" plays a significant role in our liturgy. It precedes our coming to the Lord's Table because this sacrament manifests and celebrates our unity in Christ as one body. 1 Corinthians 11:18-19 implores us not to let factions and divisions remain in our midst. Thus, the peace calls us to move toward our brothers and sisters as Christ moves toward us in reconciling grace and mutual love.

# **MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

See page 25 for all of our Ministry Announcements. Please fill out the attendance pad in your pew and pass it down.

**Children's Worship.** Children in 3K (3 years old before 9/1/23) through Kindergarten are invited to Children's Worship during the Passing of the Peace. Children leave from the foyer of the Sanctuary and walk to C221 with staff and volunteers. Children will rejoin their families for Communion, so please help your child find you by watching for him or her.

**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

# **READING FROM THE GOSPELS**

Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup>And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." <sup>4</sup>But he answered, "It is written,

"'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple <sup>6</sup>and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

"'He will command his angels concerning you,"

and

"On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone."

<sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" <sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. <sup>9</sup>And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

"'You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve."

<sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

Leader: Every word of God proves true.

All: He is a shield to those who take refuge in him.

MESSAGE	
Robby Holt	

# LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Congregation, please read aloud the portions that are italicized.

# **Words of Institution**

Luke 22:14-23; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

# **Prayer of Humble Access**

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.

And 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, you may stay in your seat or come forward with your fellow worshipers and cross your hands in front of your chest. The one serving communion will pray a brief prayer for you or pronounce a blessing over you.

# **HYMNS FOR THE EUCHARIST**

Congregation, please join in singing the hymns during Communion.

"Jesus, I Am Resting, Resting"









# **BENEDICTION**

**SUNDAY, April 21** 

8:30 am Gathered Worship

9:45 am Sunday School (see page 26 for adult communities)

11:00 am Gathered Worship

**MONDAY, April 22** 

8:15 am Women's Prayer Time (Parlor)

6:00 pm Women's Beatitude Living: A Christ-Centered

12-Step Group (Tower Room)

**TUESDAY, April 23** 

12:00 - 1:00 pm Women's Study: The Good, the Bad, & the Ugly of Work

Reimagined & Redeemed (Fellowship Hall)

lunch available beginning at 11:30

1:00 pm Women's Prayer for Prodigals (300)

WEDNESDAY, April 24

10:00 am Covenant Prayer Time (104)

11:30 am Lunch & Learn: Children's Social Skills (Dining Room)

5:30 - 7:30 pm The Marriage Course (Fellowship Hall)

pre-registration required

# MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Women's Ministry: Kristen Hatton. Please join us for lunch with author Kristen Hatton on May 1, 11:45 am - 1:00 pm (Dining Room). Kristen has written several books and has spoken at Covenant before. Her latest book, "Parenting Ahead," helps parents with younger children build a foundation for their family based on Biblical principles for the teen years to come. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends, neighbors, and co-workers. The cost is \$12. Please register at covpres.com/events.

**Social Skills Lunch & Learn.** Join us for lunch on April 24 at 11:30 am (Dining Room) and hear from Dr. Heather Lebensburger from the Behavioral Pediatric Institute of Alabama. She will be sharing practical, hands-on strategies and solutions to build social skills with our kids at home and around the dinner table. This lunch is aimed towards kids ages 5-12 (early elementary to early middle school), but anyone is welcome! Lunch is \$10. Please register at covpres.com/enfold.

**Children's Summer Fun.** Registrations are open for Vacation Bible School, Bonus Days, Built for a Purpose, and Game On! Visit copvres.com/childrens-summeractivities for details and to register.

**Hymn Sing.** Our annual spring Hymn Sing is April 28 at 5:00 pm! We will enjoy worship in The Pit with a BBQ dinner immediately following. Dinner is free; please sign up at covpres.com to help set up/clean up and bring a dessert to share.

**Save-the-Date: May 19.** During both services on Sunday, May 19, we will commission the Johnson family as they prepare for their call to serve in Honduras with Mission to the World. We also will have a church-wide reception at 4:00 pm that afternoon to celebrate their family!

**Scripture Memory.** Our church-wide scripture memory for the Easter Season (March 31 - May 18) is Romans 6:22-23:

But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life.

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

#### 9:45 a.m.

Directional signs are located throughout the church.

College age **COLLEGE** | FELLOWSHIP HALL 20s and 30s

THRESHOLD | 304

KING'S TABLE | 201 30S

(Pastor: Josh Johnson)

mid 30s to mid 40s **CROSSPOINTE** | 100

late 30s to late 40s **CORNERSTONE** | 104

(Pastor: John Fountain)

**LIGHTHOUSE** | 305 late 30s to early 50s

late 50s to early 70s **KINGDOM BUILDERS** | 301

(Pastor: David Driskill)

early 40s to early 50s **FOUNDATIONS** | 303

**LIVING STONES | DINING ROOM** late 40s to early 60s

(Pastor: Henry Morris)

All ages and life stages COMMUNITY | 300

late 60s and above **OPEN DOORS & UPPER ROOM** | 101

(Pastor: Marty Crawford)

Students grades 7-12 YOUTH | YOUTH AREA

(Pastor: John Fountain)

# STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

#### **EXECUTIVE STAFF**

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

David Driskill, Assistant Pastor (Shepherding, Middle Adults)
John Fountain, Assistant Pastor (Family Ministries,
Young Adults)

Robby Holt, Senior Pastor Ingram Link, Director of Women's Ministries Henry Morris, Assistant Pastor (Missions, Middle Adults) mcrawford@covpres.com

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# MINISTRY STAFF

Rick Barnes, Director of Music
Jami Bennett, Director of MDO and Nursery Ministries
Madelyn Cheshire, Director of Girls' Ministries
Rachel Davis, Assistant Director of Girls' Ministries
Dan Edwards, Assistant Pastor (Middle Adults)
Sarah Faulkner, Assistant Director of Children's Ministries
Nancy Hall, Director of Covenant Day School
Kristian Hatley, Director of Enfold Ministry
Josh Johnson, Assistant Pastor (Young Adults,
Adult Discipleship)

Katie Kirkpatrick, Iron City Fellows Coordinator
Sara Litten, Director of Youth Ministries
Caroline Royal, Director of Young Women's Discipleship
Daniel Sluis, Director of Guys' Ministries
Laura Tucker, Director of Children's Ministries
Sean Walsh, Assistant Director of Guys' Ministries

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#### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Katie Caldwell, Director of Design and Production
Meg Cotney, Director of Finance
Tyler Cuidon, Director of Technical Services
Anne Hall, Assistant Director of Nursery Ministries
Phyllis Hamm, Ministry Assistant (Missions, Member Care)
Kadie Laughlin, Ministry Assistant (Family Ministries)
Stacey Loyless, Director of Communications and Media
George Mincey, Director of Facilities
Jocelyn Martin, Ministry Assistant (Children's)
Casey O'Dell, Ministry Assistant (Children's Choir, Worship)
Kim Oliver, Assistant to the Senior Pastor
Justin Richardson, Assistant to the Church Administrator
Karan Stuart, Receptionist
Victoria Williams, Ministry Assistant (Women, Shepherding)
Matt Wood. Director of Food Services

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Rev. Bill Hay, Pastor Emeritus in memoriam (1940 - 2024)

# **RULING ELDERS**

2024	2025	2026
Dave Gray	Bill Bennett	Logan Casey
Heath Henderson	Mark Hogewood	Nathan Collums
Paul Loyless	Cy Huffman	Eric Getty
Tyler O'Connor	Daniel Murray	Mark Midyette
Jason Peevy	David O'Dell	Lee Sheppard
Charlie Regan	Kurt Senn	John Smith T
Charles White	Clay Wheeler	Darrell Tucker

# **DEACONS**

2024	2025	2026
Samuel Bragg	Will Bennett	Richard Cox
Paul Darden	William Edwards	Caleb Faulkner
Joe Fante	Will Graham	Gary Gorham
Steve Killgore	John David Gray	Keith Harrelson
Robert Luttrell	John Harrelson	Jeff Hayes
Steve Pfitzer	Merrill Johnston Jr.	Randall Lancaster
Brent Powell	Jack Russell	William Ledbetter
Matt Searson	Greg Tomlinson	Jesse Scroggins
		Will Slappey
		Daniel Taylor

#### STEERING COMMITTEE

Will Brooke, Member At-large
David Driskill, Pastoral Liaison (Shepherding)
John Fountain, Pastoral Liaison (Family)
Will Graham, Chair of the Diaconate
Mark Hogewood, Clerk of the Session
Robby Holt, Moderator of the Session
Ingram Link, Ministry Liaison (Women)

Paul Loyless, Shepherding Ministry Chair Henry Morris, Pastoral Liaison (Missions) Daniel Murrary, Personnel Committee Chair Tyler O'Connor, Family Ministry Chair Matt Searson Finance Committee Chair Steve Stigler, Missions Ministry Chair

# **RESOURCES**

Our pastors are using the following resources as they study and prepare for their sermons.

A Biblical Theological Introduction to the New Testament, Michael J. Kruger Calvin's Commentaries Volume XVI: Harmony of Matthew, Mark, Luke, John Calvin Echoes of Scripture in the Gospels, Richard B. Hays

Matthew, Craig S. Keener

Matthew: A Mentor Commentary (Volume 2: Chapters 14-28), Knox Chamblin

Matthew: The NIV Application Commentary, Michael J. Wilkins

Reading Matthew, David E. Garland

Reading the New Testament as Christian Scripture, Constantine R. Campbell

and Johnathan T. Pennington

The Christbook Matthew 1-12, Frederick Dale Bruner

The Story Retold, G. K. Beale and Benjamin J. Gladd

# **HYMN CREDITS**

Find our gathered worship playlist at covpres.com/music-worship.

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

Words: St. Francis of Assisi, ca. 1225; tr. by William H. Draper, 1926. Music:

LASST UNS ERFREUEN.

"Immortal, Invisible"

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith (1824-1908). Music: Welsh melody.

"Not in Me"

Words and Music: CCLI Song # 7006013. David L. Ward, Eric Schumacher

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"Jesus Loves me"

Words: Anna Bartlett Warner (1859). Music: William B. Bradbury.

"Jesus, I Am Resting, Resting"

Words and Music: CCLI Song # 2697066. David Hampton, Jean Sophia Pigott

 $\ensuremath{@}$  1998 New Spring (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.)

CCLI License # 147209.

"There is One Gospel"

Words and Music: CCLI Song # 7199817. Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson

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"Galatians 2:20"

Words: Galatians 2:20. Music: Adam Wright.

# AN OUTLINE FOR MATTHEW'S GOSPEL

Matthew 1:1-4:11 | Introducing King Jesus

Jesus IS the Seed of Abraham, the Son of David, the long-awaited King, the Messiah

From the *beginning* he is Immanuel — **God with Us**Matthew 4:1-11 — The Beginning of the King's Victory over Evil

Matthew 4:12-7:29 | Jesus, the True King, Launches the Kingdom 4:12-25 — The Beginning of the Launch 5:1-7:29 — The King's Sermon on the Mount

*Matthew 8-10* | The King has Rescuing and Renewing Power / Follow Him on His Mission

Matthew 11-13 | Various (Mostly Hostile) Reactions to King Jesus

Matthew 14-16:20 | What KIND of King / Messiah is Jesus?

One with Power and Mercy and Bread for all

One who must suffer before he enters his glory

One who invites us to follow him in the same pattern

*Matthew 16:21-28:20* | The One Who Will Rescue the Whole Creation through His Suffering, Death, and Resurrection

Jesus, the True King, confronts Israel's bogus leaders
The Trial, Crucifixion, and Resurrection of Jesus,
the True King...who is **WITH** his church *to the End* of the Age

