

FAITH 
COVENANT

C H U R C H

Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

April 23, 2017

*“Therefore take up the whole armor of God,
that you may be able to withstand in the evil day,
and having done all, to stand firm.”*

Ephesians 6:13

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Our worship is
a response to
God's initiative.
The pattern of
our worship
reflects the
gospel.*

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** *Psalm 147, Revelation 4*

Leader: Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God;
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

All: **Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and
is and is to come!**

Leader: Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understand-
ing is beyond measure.

All: **Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and
honor and power, for you created all things, and by your
will they existed and were created.**

ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME! - *Hymn #296 vs. 1, 3, 5-6*

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed of the fall,
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe, on this terrestrial ball,
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!

Oh, that with yonder sacred throng, we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!

JESUS! WHAT A FRIEND FOR SINNERS!- Hymn #498 vs.1-3 & 5

Jesus what a friend for sinners, Jesus lover of my soul
Friends may fail me foes assail me, he my Savior makes me whole

(Chorus)

*Hallelujah what a Savior! Hallelujah what a friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end*

Jesus what a strength in weakness, let me hide myself in Him
Tempted tried and sometimes failing, he my strength my victory wins

(Chorus)

Jesus what a help in sorrow, while the billows o'er me roll
Even when my heart is breaking, he my comfort helps my soul

(Chorus)

Jesus I do now receive Him, more than all in Him I find
He hath granted me forgiveness, I am His and He is mine

(Chorus)

***PRAYER OF PRAISE**

God Calls Us

The Lord summons his people to worship and we respond in obedience. The Lord's call is a call to action. We gather, praise, adore, give thanks, etc. The Call to Worship is a joyful summons and a clear reminder that worship is our coming into God's presence by his command, and not our command that he come into our presence.

**Indicates when to stand.*

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**God
Cleanses Us**

The biblical response to God's call to be in his presence is confessing our sins. We humble ourselves when we approach our God. This is a corporate prayer of all God's people. It is a great privilege of the gospel that we can stand forgiven before the Lord of glory.

***JESUS, I COME**

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.

Into thy freedom, gladness and light, Jesus, I come to thee.

Out of my sickness into thy health,

Out of my wanting and into thy wealth,

Out of my sin and into thyself, Jesus, I come to thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.

Into the glorious gain of thy cross, Jesus, I come to thee.

Out of earth's sorrows into thy balm,

Out of life's storms and into thy calm,

Out of distress into jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.

Into thy blessed will to abide, Jesus, I come to thee.

Out of myself to dwell in thy love, Out of despair into raptures above,

Upward forever on wings like a dove, Jesus, I come to thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.

Into the joy and light of thy home, Jesus, I come to thee.

Out of the depths of ruin untold, Into the peace of thy sheltering fold,

Ever thy glorious face to behold, Jesus, I come to thee.

Jesus, I come to thee.

COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *James 1:19-22*

Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

All: O blessed Jesus, you know the impurity of our affection, the narrowness of our sympathy, and the coldness of our love; take possession of our souls and fill our minds with the image of yourself; break the stubbornness of our selfish wills and mold us in the likeness of your unchanging love. O you who alone can do this, our Savior, our Lord, and our God. Amen. (*William Temple, 1910*)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

DECLARATION OF GRACE: *Colossians 2:13-14*

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, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

***CONFESSION OF CHRIST'S GRACE:**

– *The Heidelberg Catechism (1563), Question 1*

Leader: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

All: **That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.**

Leader: He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

All: **Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.**

Offering

We give back to God a portion of what he has given us to use to declare that he is Lord of all. (This is part of our service as a church family, and visitors should not feel obligated to participate.)

***GOD, BE MERCIFUL TO ME** (*Psalms 51*)

God, be merciful to me; on Thy grace I rest my plea
Plenteous in compassion Thou, blot out my transgressions now;
Wash me, make me pure within; cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.

My transgressions I confess; grief and guilt my soul oppress.
I have sinned against Thy grace, and provoked Thee to Thy face.
I confess Thy judgment just; speechless, I Thy mercy trust.

Broken, humbled to the dust, by Thy wrath and judgment just,
Let my contrite heart rejoice, and in gladness hear Thy voice;
From my sins O hide Thy face, blot them out in boundless grace.

Gracious God, my heart renew, make my spirit right and true.
Cast me not away from Thee, let Thy Spirit dwell in me;
Thy salvation's joy impart, steadfast make my willing heart.

OFFERTORY & RESPONSE

Reminder: please sign and pass the Attendance Register down the pew.

11 a.m. Service: Children ages 4-6 excused for Children's Church (downstairs in the Corner Classroom)

BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE

Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea,
a great High Priest whose name is Love, who ever lives and pleads for me.

My name is graven on his hands, My name is written on his heart;
I know that while in heav'n he stands no tongue can bid me thence depart,
no tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look and see him there who made an end of all my sin.

Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;
for God the Just is satisfied to look on him and pardon me,
to look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there! The risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless righteousness;
the great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace!

*One with himself I cannot die, my soul is purchased by his blood;
my life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my Savior and my God,
with Christ, my Savior and my God.*

Sermon Series: Ephesians 5 & 6
Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.
Life in the War Zone - Ephesians 6:13-17 (ESV)

¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷ and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God,

Sermon Outline

I. Prepared for the fight

II. Propelled for the fight

Sermon Questions for Further Reflection

1. Paul's image of the soldier and armor is drawn from the Old Testament. These individual pieces are all description of activities that the Messiah would perform. How is it an encouragement for you to consider that the armor or work of the Messiah becomes our armor to put on?
2. The belt of righteousness comes from Isaiah 11:4-5. (Especially the Greek translation (LXX) which reads: "And he shall have his loins girt with righteousness, and his sides clothed with truth." The idea is to fasten your clothes tightly to prepare for activity. How does the truth enable us to do this?
3. Being strengthened in the Lord (v-10) comes before being able to stand firm. Why is this order so important in the life of faith?
4. The helmet and breastplate language comes from what the Lord does in Isaiah 59:17. In what way is this "putting on the new self" as Paul has already described?
5. The footwear comes from Isaiah 52:7 and the idea of God as a shield is found repeated in the OT (Gen 15:1, Ps 5:12, 28:7, etc). How does being armed with God's righteousness by faith protect us from the Evil One?
6. The OT also refers repeatedly to the Lord's judgment as a sword. Here we see that the proclamation of the gospel is a weapon to liberate those who have been held captive to Satan. Knowing that this is the work of God through us, how does this encourage us to share the words of the gospel to others?

God Consecrates Us

Consecrate means to make holy, to set apart. The Word of God does that for the lives of believers. Through the sermon, confessions of faith, and the offering we are sanctified for service to our Lord to joyfully offer up our lives to him.

**God Communes
with Us**

The Lord strengthens and nourishes our faith through a sacramental meal. Through Jesus, communion with God has been reestablished. The covenant has been renewed. The Lord's Supper is the gospel made visible for us and we share in it as the full community of God's people.

***HE WILL HOLD ME FAST**

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;
For my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

(Chorus)

*He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
For my Saviour loves me so, He will hold me fast.*

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in his holy sight, He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last;
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.

(Chorus)

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast
'Till our faith is turned to sight, When He comes at last!

(Chorus 3x)

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Wine is located in the two outer rings; juice is located in the center ring.

PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION

At Faith Covenant, the Lord's Supper is observed each Lord's Day as the climax of our worship service. We invite to the Lord's Table all those who are baptized disciples of Jesus Christ, under the authority of Christ and His body, the Church. By eating the bread and drinking the cup with us as a visitor, you are acknowledging to our church that you are in covenant with God. You also acknowledge that you are a sinner, without hope except in the sovereign mercy of God, and that you are trusting in Jesus Christ alone for your salvation. If you have any doubts about your participation, please speak to the pastor or one of the elders after the service. Wine and bread are the elements of the supper as instituted by Jesus Christ. We recommend the use of wine; however we offer both juice and wine in the tray to allow true liberty of conscience.

***TIS' SO SWEET TO TRUST IN JESUS - Hymn #679**

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take Him at His word;
just to rest upon His promise, just to know, "Thus saith the Lord!"

(Chorus)

*Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him!
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
O for grace to trust Him more!*

O how sweet to trust in Jesus, just to trust His cleansing blood;
and in simple faith to plunge me 'neath the healing, cleansing flood!

(Chorus)

Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus, just from sin and self to cease;
just from Jesus simply taking life and rest, and joy and peace.

(Chorus)

I'm so glad I learned to trust Him, precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;
and I know that Thou art with me, will be with me to the end.

(Chorus)

***BENEDICTION**

If you are in need of personal prayer, an elder is available up front after the service.

**God
Commissions
Us**

Having been richly blessed by the Lord in our worship, we are sent forth as his ambassadors of reconciliation into the world. Our worship of God as his people now extends into our lives throughout the week. We are to offer ourselves as living sacrifices to him in all areas of our lives.

Leaders & Staff

Senior Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D. & Associate Pastor Taylor Clark

Staff: Kristin Bay, Hanni Hanson, Carlynn Stahlberg, Kelly Brown, Sara Motley (*Nursery*)

Elders: Tim Anderson Grady Bennett, Tom Jentz, Trent Neumann, Don Olmsted, Matt Riley,
Micah Tinkham, Steve Thompson *Deacons:* Terry Falk, Kyle Hanson, Micah Hill, Ryan Petersen,
Mike Stahlberg, Bruce Tulloch, Phil Van Duyne

To be added to church enews, and prayer lists, please contact us at office@faithcov.com.
For more about Faith Covenant and the Presbyterian Church in America, go to faithcov.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOCAL OR REGIONAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR: Rocky Mountain Community Church, Billings PCA, Pastors Alfred Poirier, Jason Barrie, and Rolf Meintjes

MISSION PROJECT OR MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Matt & Becky Allhands, at Covenant Seminary in St. Louis.

UPWARD BOUND VBS 2017: We are excited to announce this summer's Upward Bound VBS for children age four through students entering 6th grade the evenings of June 26-29 (Mon-Thurs). Please prayerfully consider serving the children in our church and community through one of the following roles: teacher, worship/skit, dinner and snack team, registration, recreation, nursery, sound and crafts. Please contact Kate Anderson (270-7836) or the church office by April 30 to join the team!

TEA ON THE FARM: Oink, baa, moo ... we invite you! Women and girls of all ages are invited to a very special tea party Sunday, May 7, at 2:00 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. Join us for country cooking and refreshment in the care of our Good Shepherd ... boots not required! Please RSVP by signing up in the foyer!

COMMUNITY KITCHEN-FEEDING THE FLATHEAD: Those of you who are volunteering with Feed the Flathead will serve next Thursday, May 11, at Central Christian Church.

SERMON RECORDINGS can be found at our website faithcov.com. Listen online, subscribe to the podcast or download by clicking on the sermon title.

LOST & FOUND: Check out the lost and found table in the fellowship hall for items that might belong to you. Remaining items will be donated to charity.

SERVING: April Deacon: Terry Falk/Ryan Petersen

WEEKLY/MONTHLY

Today (1st service/2nd service)

Ushers: Becky & Isaac Neumann/Scott & Sue Richardson

Children's Church: Becky Neumann

Nursery 8:15 a.m.: Jentz & Saldamando

Nursery 11 a.m.: Tinkhams

Fellowship Hosts: Carolyn Duncan & Alyssa Hobus

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Barb Makowski/Hanni Hanson

Next Sunday - April 30th

Ushers: Becky & Isaac Neumann/Scott & Sue Richardson

Children's Church: Becky Neumann

Nursery 8:15 a.m.: Longeneckers

Nursery 11 a.m.: Putzlers & Carlsons

Fellowship Hosts: Kate Anderson & Laura Pierson

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Carol Martin/Yvonne Hernandez

Worship Services

Sundays 8:15 & 11 am

Sunday School

Sundays 10 pm

Music Practice

Tuesdays 5:30 pm

Trustees

1st Tuesdays 5:30 pm

Elder/Deacon Meeting

3rd Tuesdays 7 pm

Elizabeth Women

2nd & 4th Tuesdays noon

Sr. & Jr. Youth Groups

Wednesdays 7 pm

College/Career Small Group

Wednesdays 7 pm

Faith Covenant Church - 611 Third Ave. East, Kalispell, MT 59901 - 406-752-2400 - www.faithcov.com