

FAITH COVENANT

C H U R C H

Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

December 12, 2021



*“And he said, ‘I will make all my goodness pass before you
and will proclaim before you my name ‘The Lord.’
And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious,
and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.”
Exodus 33:19*

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

*The word "Advent" comes from the Latin meaning "coming" or "arrival."
Advent is a time of preparation for the final coming of Jesus, while we give thanks for
the gift of Christ in the past. We meditate on the faithfulness of God to his promises –
past, present, and future.*

***CALL TO WORSHIP: Isaiah 9:6; 1 Timothy 3:16**

Leader: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the govern-
ment shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be
called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Fa-
ther, Prince of Peace.

All: He appeared in a body, was vindicated by the Spirit,
was seen by angels, was preached among the nations,
was believed on in the world, and was taken up in glory.

Leader: Proclaim it among the nations. Sing of his greatness you
people of God.

***COME AND WORSHIP**

Angels from the realms of Glory
Wing your flight o'er the Earth
Ye who sang creation's story
Now proclaim the Messiah's birth

(Chorus)

*Come and worship, come and worship
Come and worship, worship Christ the newborn king*

Shepherds in the fields abiding
Watching o'er the flocks by night
God with man is now residing
Yonder shines the infant light

(Chorus 2x)

Saints before the alter bending
Watching long in hope and fear
Suddenly the Lord descending
In His temple shall appear

(Chorus 2x)

**Call to
Worship**

Worship begins with God who invites us and welcomes us into his presence. Because of Christ, we can approach God with boldness even though we are sinful and weak.

**Indicates
when to stand.
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*PRAYER OF PRAISE

*SCRIPTURE OF PRAISE: *Psalm 13:5-6*

All: I trust in your steadfast love; my heart rejoices in your salvation. I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me.

*LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENT - *Hymn #193*

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of Lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood;
He will give to all the faithful, His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven; spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth, from the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish, as the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six winged seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to His presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry:
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord Most High!

**Call to
Confession**
We all sin daily,
in thought and
word and deed.
As we come
into God's
presence, we
acknowledge
how we have
rebelled against
our King and
seek his
forgiveness.

COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *Romans 2:1*

Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things.

All: Righteous and Holy Sovereign, save me from myself, from the deceits of my sin, from the treachery of my perverse nature, from denying your charge against my offences, from a life of continual rebellion against you; for I know that all my thoughts, affections, desires, and pursuits are easily alienated from you. Father of my spirit, King of my life, drive me not from your presence, but wound my heart that it may be healed, break it so that your own hand may make it whole. Amen (*Adapted from prayer in Valley of Vision*)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

DECLARATION OF GRACE: *Revelation 21:3-4*

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

***CHRIST THE SURE AND STEADY ANCHOR**

Christ, the sure and steady anchor in the fury of the storm
When the winds of doubt blow through me
and my sails have all been torn
In the suff'ring, in the sorrow, when my sinking hopes are few
I will hold fast to the anchor; it shall never be removed

Christ, the sure and steady anchor while the tempest rages on
When temptation claims the battle and it seems the night has won
Deeper still then goes the anchor though I justly stand accused
I will hold fast to the anchor; it shall never be removed

Christ, the sure and steady anchor through the floods of unbelief
Hopeless somehow, O my soul, now lift your eyes to Calvary
This, my ballast of assurance; see His love forever proved
I will hold fast to the anchor; it shall never be removed

Christ, the sure and steady anchor as we face the wave of death
When these trials give way to glory, as we draw our final breath
We will cross that great horizon, clouds behind and life secure
And the calm will be the better for the storms that we endure

Christ, the shore of our salvation, ever faithful, ever true
We will hold fast to the anchor; it shall never be removed

OFFERTORY & RESPONSE

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

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

INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY - Hymn #216

Infant holy, infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall;

Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing;

Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Flocks were sleeping; shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new

Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.

Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow;

Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.

Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing;

Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow;

Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.

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.)

Sermon Series: When God Appears to His People
Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.
Laws and Lawbreakers — Exodus 19:10-13 & 33:18-23 (ESV)

¹⁰ the Lord said to Moses, “Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their garments ¹¹ and be ready for the third day. For on the third day the Lord will come down on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people.

¹² And you shall set limits for the people all around, saying, ‘Take care not to go up into the mountain or touch the edge of it. Whoever touches the mountain shall be put to death. ¹³ No hand shall touch him, but he shall be stoned or shot; whether beast or man, he shall not live.’ When the trumpet sounds a long blast, they shall come up to the mountain.”

¹⁸ Moses said, “Please show me your glory.” ¹⁹ And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name ‘The Lord.’ And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. ²⁰ But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live.” ²¹ And the Lord said, “Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, ²² and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³ Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen.”

Sermon Outline

I. A Terrifying Presence

II. A Second Chance

Sermon Questions

1. Why is it important to keep the giving of redemption before the giving of the law?
2. Consider: "The Law is more clearly seen as a gift of God's graciousness when tied to the story. Law becomes another part of the larger story of God's goodness and mercy." — T.E. Fretheim. How does the Exodus account help us from making the law of God impersonal?
3. How is the "Moses-model" often abused by church leaders? Why is this a wrong model for leaders?
4. My obedience is to the Lord who gave the law and not to the law itself. What happens when we lose sight of the Lord who stands behind his law?
5. Looking at Hebrews 12:18-24, how is Mt Sinai and Mt Zion compared? What does Jesus do that Moses could not?

Children's Question

We do not obey God so that He will love us. We are loved by God and so we want to obey the God who loves us. Why is it important to understand which comes first?

Sermon

God addresses and speaks to us by the reading and preaching of his Word. Both Christians and non-Christians need to hear the good news of salvation and grow in it.

**The Lord's
Supper**
The gospel is
not only heard,
but visibly seen
as God invites
us to commune
with him at his
table. In the
Lord's Supper
we remember
and experience
Jesus' saving
work.

***O COME, O COME EMMANUEL - Hymn #194**

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

(Chorus)

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save
And give them victory o'er the grave

(Chorus)

O come, thou Dayspring from on high and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight

(Chorus)

O come, thou Key of David, come and open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high
And close the path to misery

(Chorus)

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

All: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Leader: It is indeed good, right, and our delight that we should at all
times and in all places give thanks unto You, O Lord, Holy
Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

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

8:15 Elder Tom Jentz — 11 Elder Micah Tinkham

*JOY TO THE WORLD - Hymn #195

Joy to the world the Lord is come, let earth receive her King
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing

Joy to the earth the Savior reigns, let men their songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found
Far as, far as the curse is found

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders of His love

*BENEDICTION

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

Benediction

Just as worship begins with God's call, it ends with God sending us into the world with his word of grace. We go forth to live and serve by the power of his grace, not our own strength.

Leaders & Staff

Senior Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D. — Associate Pastor John Sackett

Youth/Refuge Director: Asst. Pastor Ben Melli Music Director/Assistant: Lisa Iddings/Laura Sackett

Staff: Kristin Bay, Hanni Hanson, Carlynn Stahlberg, Kelly Brown

Elders: Tim Anderson, Tom Jentz, Trent Neumann, Don Olmsted, Matt Riley Micah Tinkham

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 MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR: Samaritan House, Kalispell

MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: The S family serving in outdoor adventure ministry in the Middle East.

VESPERS SERVICE: Join us Sunday, Dec. 12, at 6:30 p.m. for Vespers, a brief evening service of silence and symbol, prayer and song. Come prepare your hearts for the Advent season as we follow this beautiful liturgy of worship.

SMALL GROUPS: Are you willing to lead or host a Small Group? The Small Group planning team is looking for potential leaders and hosts. While hosts can be anyone, leaders must be members. If you are interested in being considered as a leader, or desire to host a group in your home, please sign up in the foyer.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING: The junior and senior youth groups are Christmas caroling together and you are all invited (not just youth group kids but all ages, friends and family)! Meet at the church Wednesday, Dec. 22, at 6 p.m. and there will be treats back at the church afterwards.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES: There will be three Christmas Eve services this year at 4:00, 5:30 and 7:00 p.m. Nursery will be available at 4 and 5:30 p.m.

SERVING: December Deacon – Micah Hill

Today (1st service/2nd service)

Ushers: N. Hansons/Tinkhams

Children's Church: Tom Jentz

Nursery: Falks

Fellowship Hosts: Judy Fosberry & Paula Saldamando

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Gloria Hanson/Arline Tinkham

Next Sunday December 19th

Ushers: Sullivans/Bays

Children's Church: H. Hanson

Nursery: K. Neumann

Fellowship Hosts: Debbie Corder & Vicky Creamer

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Traci Carroll/Gloria Johnson

WEEKLY/MONTHLY

Sunday Worship Services

8:15 & 11 am, 6:30 pm

Sunday School

Sept.-May 10 am

Elder/Deacon Meeting

3rd Tuesdays 7 pm

Wednesdays

Men's Breakfast 6:30 am

Women's Bible Study 9:30, 12:30, 4:30

Jr High Youth @ 5 pm

Sr. High Youth @ 6:30 pm

Career Group 7 pm

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