

FAITH COVENANT

C H U R C H

Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

March 26, 2023

“Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, When you come into the land to which I bring you and when you eat of the bread of the land, you shall present a contribution to the Lord.”

Numbers 15:18-19

**Call to
Worship**

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: *Psalm 29:1-2,4,11

Leader: The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

All: May the LORD give strength to his people! May the LORD bless his people with peace!

Leader: Attribute to the LORD, O heavenly beings, attribute to the LORD glory and strength.

All: Attribute to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

ALL PEOPLE THAT ON EARTH DO DWELL - *Hymn #1

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with fear, his praise forth-tell,
Come ye before him and rejoice!

The Lord ye know is God indeed;
Without our aid he did us make;
We are his folk, he doth us feed,
And for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,
Approach with joy his courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless his name always,
For it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good,
His mercy is forever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

***PRAYER OF PRAISE**

**Indicates
when to stand.
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***10,000 REASONS (BLESS THE LORD)**

(Chorus)

*Bless the Lord, O my soul; O my soul, worship his holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship your holy name.*

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
it's time to sing your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
let me be singing when the evening comes.

(Chorus)

You're rich in love and you're slow to anger.
Your name is great and your heart is kind.
For all your goodness I will keep on singing;
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

(Chorus)

And on that day when my strength is failing,
the end draws near and my time has come;
still my soul will sing your praise unending,
ten thousand years and then forevermore!

(Chorus 2x)

I'll worship your holy name; I'll worship your holy name.

**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: *Ephesians 5:3-6*

But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving. For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

All: O King and Father, your Son died and was raised in power. Now enable us to die to our sin in repentance so we may rise to new life in Him. Forgive our careless attitudes toward your purposes, our reluctance to relieve the suffering of others, our envy of those who have more than we have. Forgive us of our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure, our neglect of your wise and gracious law. Help us to change our way of life, so that we may desire what is good, love what you love, and do what you command, through Jesus our Lord. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

DECLARATION OF GRACE: *Psalm 25:8-10*

Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – Heidelberg Catechism (1563), Question 32**

Leader: Why are you called a Christian?

All: Because by faith I am a member of Christ and so I share in his anointing. I am anointed to confess his name, to present myself to him as a living sacrifice of thanks, to strive with a good conscience against sin and the devil in this life, and afterward to reign with Christ over all creation for all eternity.

***GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH**

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty; hold me with Thy powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore (2x)

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing waters flow;
Let the fiery cloudy pillar; lead me all my journey through.

Strong deliverer, be Thou still my strength and shield. (2x)

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of deaths, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.

Songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee (2x)

Land me safe on Canaan's side, bid my anxious fears goodbye (4x)

Goodbye

Special Prayer for the Heyboer Family

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.)

OFFERTORY & RESPONSE

*Reminder: please sign and pass the Attendance Register down the pew.
Children ages 4-6 excused for Children's Church (downstairs Corner Classroom)*

WHAT LOVE, MY GOD

What love my God would bring you down to earth
What king would take a low and lonely birth
Yet to this dark and broken place you came
To sleep beneath the stars that you had made

What love my God would send the Way of Life
To walk the road, rejected and despised
That you might know the weakness I possess
And be my rock of strength and righteousness

(Chorus)

*O Your love my God like a flood
As heaven opened up pouring out on us
O praise the King who came to the world
In his love like a mighty flood*

What love my God could hold you to the tree
To bear that overwhelming debt for me
The Son of heaven leaves the Father's side
The Healer bleeds, the Life was made to die
(Chorus)

What love my God, so gracious and extreme
Was strong enough to come and fight for me
To go through hell and down into the grave
And raise me up to see you face to face
You raise me up to see you face to face
(Chorus 2x)

Sermon Series—Numbers: A Pilgrim People
Pastor John Sackett
The Demands of Our God Bring Life: Numbers 15

¹The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, When you come into the land you are to inhabit, which I am giving you, ³and you offer to the LORD from the herd or from the flock a food offering or a burnt offering or a sacrifice, to fulfill a vow or as a freewill offering or at your appointed feasts, to make a pleasing aroma to the LORD...” ¹⁴And if a stranger is sojourning with you, or anyone is living permanently among you, and he wishes to offer a food offering, with a pleasing aroma to the LORD, he shall do as you do. ¹⁵For the assembly, there shall be one statute for you and for the stranger who sojourns with you, a statute forever throughout your generations. You and the sojourner shall be alike before the LORD...” ¹⁷The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ¹⁸“Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, When you come into the land to which I bring you ¹⁹and when you eat of the bread of the land, you shall present a contribution to the LORD. ²⁰Of the first of your dough you shall present a loaf as a contribution...” ²²“But if you sin unintentionally, and do not observe all these commandments that the LORD has spoken to Moses... ²⁴then... all the congregation shall offer one bull from the herd for a burnt offering, a pleasing aroma to the LORD... ²⁵And the priest shall make atonement for all the congregation of the people of Israel, and they shall be forgiven... ³⁰But the person who does anything with a high hand, whether he is native or a sojourner, reviles the LORD, and that person shall be cut off from among his people. ³¹Because he has despised the word of the LORD and has broken his commandment, that person shall be utterly cut off; his iniquity shall be on him.” ³²While the people of Israel were in the wilderness, they found a man gathering sticks on the Sabbath day. ³³And ...they brought him to Moses and Aaron and to all the congregation. ³⁴They put him in custody, because it had not been made clear what should be done to him. ³⁵And the LORD said to Moses, “The man shall be put to death; all the congregation shall stone him with stones outside the camp.” ³⁷The LORD said to Moses, ³⁸“Speak to the people of Israel, and tell them to make tassels on the corners of their garments throughout their generations... for you to look at and remember all the commandments of the LORD, to do them, not to follow after your own heart and your own eyes, which you are inclined to whore after. ⁴⁰So you shall remember and do all my commandments, and be holy to your God. ⁴¹I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God: I am the LORD your God.”

Sermon Outline:

*The good life can only be found in a good and life-giving God,
therefore our lives must conform to God's gracious demands.*

I. The grace of our God sustains hope

II. Obedience brings freedom and life

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.

Questions for Further Reflection:

1. Nancy Guthrie notes, “one of the most amazing things about the story is it is much more about God’s desire to dwell with His people than about God’s people’s desire to dwell with Him.” What are some ways in which our desires can be retrained or refocused?
2. Three times in our passage the rule is given that “one law and one rule shall be for you and for the stranger who sojourns with you.” What are some of the implications of this common standard?
3. OT Scholar Ian Duguid notes that the laws in their context, “challenge our instinctive notion that obedience to God is bondage and that doing whatever we want brings freedom.” Why do we naturally think this way? What can help us to turn this upside down?
4. The offering of the first dough is a bit unique here. What does this sacrifice suggest? What might be some ways in which this practice can be brought into our lives today?
5. Is the stoning of the Sabbath breaker too harsh?

Children’s Question

Our passage ends with an instruction to sew tassels to the corners of one’s clothes. This was to remind the people about all of God’s good laws. What are some ways we can be helped to remember how God wants us to live?

**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.

***GRACE**

Your grace that leads this sinner home
From death to life forever
And sings the song of righteousness
By blood and not by merit

Your grace that reaches far and wide
To every tribe and nation
Has called my heart to enter in
The joy of Your salvation

(Chorus)
*By grace I am redeemed
By grace I am restored
And now I freely walk
Into the arms of Christ my Lord*

Your grace that I cannot explain
Not by my earthly wisdom
The prince of life without a stain
Was traded for this sinner
(Chorus)

Let praise rise up and overflow
My song resound forever
For grace will see me welcomed home
To walk beside my Savior
(Chorus)

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Wine is located in the two outer rings; juice is located in the center ring.
(see FCC observance opposite)*

We observe the Lord's Supper 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. Visiting children who have not been examined by their church's leadership, we ask to refrain. By sharing in the Supper, you are acknowledging to our church that you are in covenant with our Triune God through the person and work of Jesus Christ. If you are in doubt about your participation, please refrain. 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.

PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION

8:15 Elder Matt Riley— 11 Elder Jason Davis

*BECAUSE HE LIVES (AMEN)

I believe in the Son, I believe in the Risen One
I believe I overcome, by the power of His blood

(Chorus)

*Amen, amen, I'm alive, I'm alive because He lives
Amen, amen, let my song join the one that never ends
Because He lives*

I was dead in the grave, I was covered in sin and shame
I heard mercy call my name, He rolled the stone away

(Chorus)

Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives ev'ry fear is gone
I know He holds my life
My future in His hands
(Chorus 2x)

*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

Assistant Pastor (Youth): Ben Melli Music Director/Assistant: Lisa Iddings/Laura Sackett

Refuge Director: Sissy Hashley Staff: Hanni Hanson, Carlynn Stahlberg, Kelly Brown, Jenny Mattern

Elders: Tim Anderson, Jason Davis, Sean Iddings, Tom Jentz, Trent Neumann, Don Olmsted,
Matt Riley, Micah Tinkham

Deacons: Wade Carroll, Terry Falk, Kyle Hanson, Micah Hill, Ryan Petersen,
Mike Stahlberg, Bruce Tulloch

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOCAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR: Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Columbia Falls, Pastor Matthew Nelson

MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Jim & Jill Hadlock, serving with CRU on the The Jesus Film Project

YOUTH GROUP SPRING CLEAN-UP: The youth group will gather at Faith Covenant on Saturday, April 1, from 10am to 1pm to do some outdoor spring cleaning. Bring a pair of work gloves, along with a push broom & rake if you have one. Questions can be directed to Ben Melli or the church office.

EASTER LILY ORDERS: Place your order for an Easter lily in honor or memory of your loved one(s). Dedications will be printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin and lilies will be displayed during the Easter services. Forms are available on the table in the foyer to fill out and leave in the box provided or return to the church office along with \$10.00 (per lily), no later than Sunday, April 2.

EASTER SERVICES: There will be two GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES on April 7 (6pm & 8pm) and three services on EASTER SUNDAY (8:00, 9:30 and 11am) Note: children's church and nursery will be available at the 8am and 11am services only on 4/9. Faith Covenant Deacons will cook and serve breakfast between 9 and 11am There will be no Sunday School classes that day.

SERVING: March Deacon - Kyle Hanson

Today (1st service/2nd service)

Ushers: Hadley & Duncan/von Olhausens
Children's Church: Carolyn Duncan/Nicole Fisher
Nursery: Kate & Isaac Neumann
Fellowship Hosts: Amy Haymond & Janis Orndorff
Communion Prep/Cleanup: Susie Sullivan/Jessica Brown

Next Sunday April 2

Ushers: Ecks/von Olhausens
Children's Church: Jentz/Julie Thompson
Nursery: Arline Tinkham & Lorrie Gomez
Fellowship Hosts: Gloria Hanson-Tronstad & Kim Hansen
Communion Prep/Cleanup: Gloria H-T/Jeanie Brenneman

WEEKLY/MONTHLY

Sunday Worship Services

8:15 & 11 am

Sunday School

10am

Vespers

2nd Sunday @ 6:30 pm

Elder/Deacon Meeting

3rd Tuesdays 7 pm

Wednesdays

Men's Breakfast 6:30 am

Jr High Youth @ 5 pm

Sr. High Youth @ 6:30 pm

Career Group 7 pm
