

FAITH COVENANT

C H U R C H

Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

April 9, 2023



“Why do you seek the living among the dead?
He is not here, but has risen.”

Luke 24:5-6

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Christ is risen!

All: **He is risen indeed!**

Leader: The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.

All: **Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!**

Leader: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

All: **The LORD is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.**

*CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY

Christ the Lord is ris'n today, alleluia
Sons of men and angels say, alleluia
Raise your joys and triumphs high, alleluia
Sing ye heavens and earth reply, alleluia

Lives again our glorious King, alleluia
Where O death is now thy sting, alleluia
Once he died, our souls to save, alleluia
Where thy victory O grave, alleluia

Love's redeeming work is done, alleluia
Fought the fight the battle won, alleluia
Death in vain forbids Him rise, alleluia
Christ has opened paradise, alleluia.

Soar we now where Christ has led, alleluia
Following our exalted Head, alleluia
Made like Him like Him we rise, alleluia
Ours the cross the grave the skies, alleluia, alleluia

*PRAYER OF PRAISE

*All: Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again!

*YET NOT I BUT THROUGH CHRIST IN ME

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy my righteousness and freedom
My steadfast love my deep and boundless peace
To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to his
Oh how strange and divine I can sing all is mine
Yet not I but through Christ in me

The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side the Savior he will stay
I labor on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need his power is displayed
To this I hold my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley he will lead
Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome
Yet not I but through Christ in me

No fate I dread I know I am forgiven
The future sure the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And he was raised to overthrow the grave
To this I hold my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released I can sing I am free
Yet not I but through Christ in me

With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For he has said that he will bring me home
And day by day I know he will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne
*To this I hold my hope is only Jesus, all the glory evermore to him
When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me*

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.

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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.

COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *Romans 6*

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?...If we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. Therefore, do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer the parts of your body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather to God.

All: Our good and glorious God, you are holy and just; yet we are poor sinners. Our words are often instruments of wickedness, and we offer ourselves to the pleasures of sin. Father, forgive us, we pray, for hearts that are unmoved by your mercy, for hearts that avoid dying with Christ. Forgive us for allowing sin to reign in us. By the power of your Spirit, produce in us the fruits of holiness and righteousness, pleasing in your sight. Enable us to offer ourselves fully to you through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DECLARATION OF GRACE: *Romans 5:8-10*

God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

***COMMON CONFESSION OF FAITH: APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
From there he will come to judge the living 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.

The Apostle's Creed

The Apostle's Creed is an ancient summary of what Christians believe. By confessing the Creed in worship, we are uniting with all of God's people in our common faith in Christ. We joyfully declare who we are while we remember what truly matters. The word "catholic" is a Greek word that simply means 'universal'. It speaks of all Christians everywhere.

***IN CHRIST ALONE**

In Christ alone my hope is found, he is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones he came to save;
Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied
For ev'ry sin on him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay, light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
for I am his and he is mine bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
*No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from his hand.
Till he returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.*

OFFERTORY & RESPONSE

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

Children ages 4-6 excused for Children's Church 8 & 11 a.m. services (downstairs 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.*

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: Easter Sunday
Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.
The Power of the Resurrection—Luke 24:1-12(ESV)

¹But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. ²And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. ⁵And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? ⁶He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.” ⁸And they remembered his words, ⁹and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, ¹¹but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹²But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves and he went home marveling at what had happened.

*Because Jesus was raised by the power of the father,
we have been enabled to walk in Christ’s victory.*

Sermon Outline

I. Vindication

II. Victory

Sermon Questions

1. How did the resurrection vindicate the mission of Jesus?
2. Why do you think the disciples did not believe the women who said Jesus was risen? Even so, Peter ran to the tomb. What might account for this?
3. Simon Wiesenthal was asked by a dying S.S. soldier to forgive him for the evil he committed against the Jewish people. He walked away from the soldier without saying anything. He later asks the question: "What should I have done?" What in the gospel provides an answer to this question?
4. All that Jesus accomplishes for his people is an act of supernatural grace. Why must we always remember that grace comes from God to us? The message of the resurrection is the supremacy of God. In what ways do people try and steal some of his glory?
5. What can give someone who has been so horribly wronged the power to forgive?

Children's Question

How does having your sins forgiven by the Lord, enable you to extend grace to those who have sinned against you?

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.

***IS HE WORTHY?**

(Women Lead – Men Echo)

Do you feel the world is broken? *(We do)*

Do you feel the shadows deepen? *(We do)*

But do you know that all the dark won't stop
the light from getting through? *(We do)*

Do you wish that you could see it all made new? *(We do)*

(Men Lead – Women Echo)

Is all creation groaning? *(It is)* Is a new creation coming? *(It is)*

Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? *(It is)*

Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? *(It is)*

(All Together)

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?

Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?

The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave

He is David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave

Is He worthy? Is He worthy?

Of all blessing and honor and glory, is He worthy of this? He is!

(Women Lead – Men Echo)

Does the Father truly love us? *(He does)*

Does the Spirit move among us? *(He does)*

And does Jesus, our Messiah hold forever those He loves? *(He does)*

Does our God intend to dwell again with us? *(He does)*

(All Together)

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?

Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?

The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave

He is David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave

continued above

**God Communes
with Us**

The Lord
strengthens and
nourishes our
faith through a
sacramental
meal. Through
Jesus, commun-
ion 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.

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.

***IS HE WORTHY?** *continued*

From every people and tribe, every nation and tongue
He has made us a kingdom and priests to God to reign with the Son
Is He worthy? Is He worthy? Of all blessing and honor and glory
Is He worthy? Is He worthy? Is He worthy of this? He is!
Is He worthy? Is He worthy? He is! He is!

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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

PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION

8 Elder Sean Iddings — 9:30 Elder Jason Davis—11 Elder Tim Anderson

***LIFT HIGH THE CROSS** - Hymn #263 vs. 1, 3-5

(Chorus)

*Lift high the cross the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name*

Come brethren follow where our Savior trod
Our King victorious Christ the Son of God

(Chorus)

O Lord once lifted on the glorious tree
As Thou hast promised draw men unto Thee

(Chorus)

Thy kingdom come, that earth's despair may cease
Beneath the shadow of its healing peace

(Chorus)

For Thy blest cross which doth for us atone
Creation's praises rise before Thy throne

***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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOCAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR: Salvation Army

MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: D & N in Central Asia

EASTER LILIES: Those who purchased Easter lilies may take them home after the 11:00 service.

THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES TODAY, Easter Sunday.

Join us downstairs for Easter breakfast served by our deacons between 9 and 11 am.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN–FEEDING THE FLATHEAD: Those of you who are volunteering with Feed the Flathead will serve on Thursday, April 13, at Central Christian Church. Contact Dawn Tinkham for details (406-471-0656).

SHEPHERDING GROUP POTLUCK: Tim Anderson's West Valley group will meet in the fellowship hall for a potluck next Sunday, April 16, after the 2nd service.

CURIOUS ABOUT FAITH COVENANT?: You are invited to a "Start Here" luncheon hosted by Pastor Ben Melli on April 23rd after the 2nd service. If you're new to the church and/or desire to become part of the Faith Covenant community, bring your questions and your appetite for a time of fellowship. Contact Ben Melli with any questions (406-885-4916 or ben@faithcov.com).

SAVE THE DATE: The Ladies' Spring Tea will be Sunday, May 7, after the 2nd service.

VBS JUNE 19-22 SAVE THE DATE: This year's VBS program, *Summer SeaQuest*, will be Monday, June 19, through Thursday, June 22!

SUMMER WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Starting in June, women will have the opportunity to study *Breathe: The Life-Giving Oxygen of the Lord's Prayer* by Karen Hodge. More information and signups coming next week.

SERVING: April Deacon – Bruce Tulloch

Today (8, 9:30, & 11am services)

Ushers: N&H Hanson/Ecks/Johnsons

Children's Church: Jentz/Julie Thompson

Nursery: Danielsons (8)/ Wrights (11)

Fellowship Hosts: Deacons

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Carolyn Duncan/Yvonne Hernandez

Next Sunday April 16

Ushers: Jenks & Streeter/Bonners

Children's Church: Jentz/Sharon Salyer

Nursery: Dawn Tinkham

Fellowship Hosts: Janis Orndorff & Sharon Salyer

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Traci Carroll/Theresa Paolini

WEEKLY/MONTHLY

Sunday Worship Services

8:15 & 11 am

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, 12:45, 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