

FAITH   
COVENANT  

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C H U R C H

*Spreading A Love for God and His Glory*

*May 7, 2023*

And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent  
and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten,  
when he sees it, shall live.”

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Numbers 21:8

**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:** *Deuteronomy 32:1-4; Psalm 7:17*

I will give to the LORD the thanks due to his righteousness,  
and I will sing praise to the name of the LORD, the Most High.  
For I will proclaim the name of the LORD; ascribe greatness to our  
God!

**\*REJOICE THE LORD IS KING** - *Hymn #310*

Rejoice the Lord is King, your Lord and King adore  
Rejoice give thanks and sing and triumph evermore

*(Chorus)*

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice*

*Rejoice again I say rejoice*

Jesus the Savior reigns, the God of truth and love  
When He had purged our stains He took His seat above

*(Chorus)*

His kingdom cannot fail, He rules o'er earth and heaven  
The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given

*(Chorus)*

He sits at God's right hand till all His foes submit  
And bow to His command and fall beneath His feet

*(Chorus)*

Rejoice in glorious hope, our Lord the Judge shall come  
And take His servants up to their eternal home

*(Chorus)*

*\*Indicates*

*when to stand.*

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**\*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

**\*ALL PRAISE TO HIM**

All praise to Him, the God of light  
Who formed the mountains by His might  
All praise to Him Who names the stars  
That sing His fame in skies afar

All praise to Him Who reigns in love  
Who guides the galaxies above  
Yet bends to hear our every prayer  
With sovereign pow'r and tender care

All praise to Him whose love is seen  
In Christ the Son, the Servant King  
Who left behind His glorious throne  
To pay the ransom for His own

All praise to Him Who humbly came  
To bear our sorrow, sin, and shame  
Who lived to die, Who died to rise  
The all-sufficient sacrifice

All praise to Him whose pow'r imparts  
The love of God within our hearts  
The Spirit of all truth and peace  
The fount of joy and holiness

*To Father, Son, and Spirit now  
Our souls we lift, our wills we bow  
To You, the triune God, we raise  
With loving hearts our song of praise*

## COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

### SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *Psalm 7:11-12*

God is a righteous judge, and a God who feels indignation every day. If a man does not repent, God will whet his sword; he has bent and readied his bow.

**All:** We confess that we have often grieved your Spirit. We have not heeded your life-giving Word, nor have we spoken the good news of Christ's lordship to our neighbor. We have not lived gloriously as the new temple of the Spirit. Have mercy on us, O God. Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit and fill us with a great desire to be your faithful people. Amen.

## SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

### DECLARATION OF GRACE: *Psalm 7:9-10*

Oh, let the evil of the wicked come to an end, and may you establish the righteous- you who test the minds and hearts, O righteous God! My shield is with God, who saves the upright in heart.

### **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.

**\*AMAZING GRACE (My Chains Are Gone)**

Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

*(Chorus)*

*My chains are gone, I've been set free, my God, my Savior has ransomed me.  
And like a flood his mercy reigns, unending love, amazing grace.*

The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.

*(Chorus 2x)*

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow; the sun forbear to shine.  
But God, who called me here below,  
Will be forever mine, will be forever mine.  
You are forever mine.

**DIACONAL OFFERTORY & RESPONSE**

**OFFERING:**

This morning  
we share in  
worshiping  
through our  
diaconal  
offering for  
those needing  
assistance in  
our church  
and  
community.  
Please use the  
Special Offer-  
ing envelopes  
located in the  
pew racks.

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

EVEN SO COME

All of creation all of the earth  
Make straight a highway a path for the Lord  
Jesus is coming soon

Call back the sinner wake up the saint  
Let ev'ry nation shout of Your fame  
Jesus is coming soon

*(Chorus)*

*Like a bride waiting for her groom  
We'll be a church ready for You  
Ev'ry heart longing for our King we sing  
Even so come Lord Jesus come  
Even so come Lord Jesus come*

There will be justice all will be new  
Your name forever faithful and true  
Jesus is coming soon

*(Chorus)*

*(Bridge 2x)*

*So we wait, we wait for you  
God we wait; you're coming soon*

*(Chorus)*

*Even so come Lord Jesus come*

*Sermon Series—Numbers: A Pilgrim People*  
Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.  
*A Pair of Scandals: Numbers 21*

<sup>1</sup>“When the Canaanite, the king of Arad, who lived in the Negeb, heard that Israel was coming by the way of Atharim, he fought against Israel, and took some of them captive. <sup>2</sup>And Israel vowed a vow to the LORD and said, “If you will indeed give this people into my hand, then I will devote their cities to destruction.” <sup>3</sup>And the LORD heeded the voice of Israel and gave over the Canaanites, and they devoted them and their cities to destruction. So the name of the place was called Hormah. <sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. <sup>7</sup>And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.”

*God's love and justice are not in opposition to one another  
and we are to keep both of these truths together.*

I. Vipers



## II. Violence

### **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. What is puzzling about the bronze serpent given Israel's trouble with idolatry (cf. 2 Kings 18:4)? Jesus uses the image of the bronze serpent as a picture of himself in John 3:14-15. How do those dots connect?
2. The total destruction of peoples by Israel appears barbaric and unconscionable to many. How are we to understand these cases in light of a biblical theology of judgment?
3. What was unique about Israel then that is no longer true for today?
4. The Bible consistently teaches God's judgment upon sin. The good news of Jesus is that he bore God's judgment for his people. How do we bring together Divine mercy and judgment in the gospel? What happens when there is "love" without "justice" in the world?
5. What is the difference between a human-centric view of life and the world and a Theo-centric view? How does this help us when understanding Scripture?

### **Children's Question**

*How does Jesus laying down his life help answer the problems we have with God judging sin?*

**\*TO GOD BE THE GLORY**

To God be the glory great things He has done  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin  
And opened the life gate that all may go in

*(Chorus)*

*Praise the Lord praise the Lord*

*Let the earth hear His voice*

*Praise the Lord praise the Lord*

*Let the people rejoice*

*O come to the Father through Jesus the Son  
And give Him the glory great things He has done*

O perfect redemption the purchase of blood  
To every believer the promise of God  
The vilest offender who truly believes  
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives

Great things He has taught us  
Great things He has done  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son  
But purer and higher and greater will be  
Our wonder our transport when Jesus we see

**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)*

**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.

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

### \*KING OF KINGS

In the darkness we were waiting, without hope without light  
Till from Heaven You came running, there was mercy in Your eyes  
To fulfill the law and prophets, to a virgin came the Word  
From a throne of endless glory, to a cradle in the dirt

*(Chorus)*

*Praise the Father, Praise the Son, Praise the Spirit three in one  
God of Glory, Majesty, Praise forever to the King of Kings*

To reveal the kingdom coming and to reconcile the lost  
To redeem the whole creation, You did not despise the cross  
For even in Your suffering You saw to the other side  
Knowing this was our salvation, Jesus for our sake You died  
*(Chorus)*

And the morning that You rose all of heaven held its breath  
Till that stone was moved for good for the Lamb had conquered death  
And the dead rose from their tombs and the angels stood in awe  
For the souls of all who'd come to the Father are restored

And the Church of Christ was born then the Spirit lit the flame  
Now this Gospel truth of old shall not kneel shall not faint  
By His blood and in His Name in His freedom I am free  
For the love of Jesus Christ who has resurrected me  
*(Chorus)*

Praise forever to the King of Kings

### \*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.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**LOCAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR:** Trinity Lutheran Church, Pastor Brian Lee

**MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR:** 100 Fold Studios

**LADIES' SPRING TEA:** is TODAY! Ladies, join us downstairs in the fellowship hall after the 2nd service.

**VESPERS SERVICE:** Come unplug and recharge with this evening service of prayer and song next Sunday, May 14, at 6:30 p.m.

**COMMUNICANTS' CLASS:** If you are interested in your child attending Communicants' Class, please sign up in the foyer. The class will meet Mon.-Thurs., May 15-18, from 3:45-4:30pm at the church. Contact the office with questions. (office@faithcov.com or 752-2400).

**GRADUATION SUNDAY:** If you or someone you know is graduating, please fill out the card in the foyer and put it in the box or leave in the office by next Sunday. We will honor our graduates at coffee hour on Sunday, May 21.

**BIGFORK SHEPHERDING GROUP POTLUCK:** Will be May 21 in the fellowship hall after the 2nd service for those in Matt Riley's group.

**SUMMER SERVICE SCHEDULE:** Starting SUNDAY, MAY 28, we will switch into summer mode at Faith Covenant, with no Sunday School and service times at **8:15 & 10:15.**

**SUMMER SEAQUEST VBS:** Kids ages 3 through those entering 5th grade are invited to four fun-filled evenings of VBS June 19-22 from 6-8:30pm. Signups coming 5/26.

**SUMMER WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** There's still time to sign up for the women's summer study of *Breathe: The Life-Giving Oxygen of the Lord's Prayer* by Karen Hodge, starting June 13th at 7pm. If you would like a book (even if you're unable to attend the study), please sign up in the foyer and drop \$10 in the box.

**LOST & FOUND:** All lost & found items will be donated to charity soon, so make sure to check the table in the fellowship hall for missing items.

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**SERVING:** May Deacon - Wade Carroll

**Today (1st service/2nd service)**

Ushers: M&G Tronstad / Steve Haymond & Bud Salyer

Children's Church: Hanni Hanson / Micah Tinkham

Nursery: Lancasters

Fellowship Hosts: Nick & Hanni Hanson

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Carolyn Duncan / Jessica Brown

**Next Sunday May 14**

Ushers: M&G Tronstad / Steve Haymond & Bud Salyer

Children's Church: Hanni Hanson / Micah Tinkham

Nursery: Hunters

Fellowship Hosts: Judy Fosbery & Paula Saldamando

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Susie Sullivan / Chris Scrima

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**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