

FAITH COVENANT

C H U R C H

Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

March 3, 2024

For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would
be heir of the world did not come through the law but
through the righteousness of faith.

Romans 4:13

**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 9:9-11

The LORD is a refuge for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. Those who know your name trust in you, for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you. Sing the praises of the LORD, enthroned in Zion; proclaim among the nations what he has done.

***WHAT A BEAUTIFUL NAME**

You were the Word at the beginning, one with God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation, now revealed in You our Christ

What a beautiful name it is, what a beautiful name it is
The name of Jesus Christ my King
What a beautiful name it is, nothing compares to this
What a beautiful name it is, the name of Jesus

So great a love poured out upon us
When Jesus You brought heaven down
My sin was great Your love was greater
What could separate us now

What a wonderful name it is, what a wonderful name it is
The name of Jesus Christ my King
What a wonderful name it is, nothing compares to this
What a wonderful name it is, the name of Jesus
What a wonderful name it is, the name of Jesus
(*cont. opposite*)

**Indicates
when to stand.
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Death could not hold You, the veil tore before You
You silence the boast of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring, the praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again

You have no rival, You have no equal
Now and forever God You reign
Yours is the kingdom, Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name above all names

What a powerful name it is, what a powerful name it is
The name of Jesus Christ my King
What a powerful name it is, nothing can stand against
What a powerful name it is, the name of Jesus (3x)

***PRAYER OF PRAISE**

*THE LORD'S PRAYER (sung)

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 our sins
As we forgive those who have sinned against us

And lead us not into temptation, deliver us from evil
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever.

Amen, amen
(Repeat All)

And lead us not into temptation, deliver us from evil
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever.

Amen, amen, amen

COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *Acts 3:19-20*

Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus.

All: Gracious Father, we confess that we have desired too much for the comforts of the world, that we have loved the gifts more than the Giver. In your mercy, help us to see that we strive after shadows, but that you are the substance. We ask that you would blot out our sins; that you would receive Christ's worthiness for our unworthiness; his righteousness for our dead works, his glory for our shame. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

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.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

DECLARATION OF GRACE: *Acts 4:11-12*

This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

***WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS - Hymn #261**

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;

To God and to the Lamb I will sing;

To God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM,

While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,

While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be

And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,

And through eternity I'll sing on.

**Diaconal
Offering:**

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

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)

ANCIENT OF DAYS

Though the nations rage
Kingdoms rise and fall
There is still one King
Reigning over all
So I will not fear for this truth remains:
That my God is the Ancient of Days

(Chorus)

*None above Him, none before Him
All of time in His hands
For His throne it shall remain and ever stand
All the power, all the glory
I will trust in His name
For my God is the Ancient of Days*

Though the dread of night
Overwhelms my soul
He is here with me
I am not alone
O His love is sure and He knows my name
For my God is the Ancient of Days

(Chorus)

Though I may not see
What the future brings
I will watch and wait
For the Savior King
Then my joy complete standing face to face
In the presence of the Ancient of Days

(Chorus)

For my God is the Ancient of Days

Sermon Series—Romans: Coming Under Grace

Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.

The God of Promise: Romans 4:13-25

¹³For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. ¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, "So shall your offspring be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²That is why his faith was "counted to him as righteousness." ²³But the words "it was counted to him" were not written for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

I. How to Secure God's Promise

II. How Hope Springs from God's Promise

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. Paul expands the promise to Abraham from the land of Canaan to the whole world. How is he able to do this (or what gives him the grounds to expand the promise)?
2. Why does the promise of God have to come through faith and not through the law? Why does His grace guarantee that his promise will be fulfilled?
3. Sin still exists without the law (Romans 2:12). In what way are you doubly in trouble if you knowingly break the law? (cf. 2 Peter 2:21).
4. God will have to create a faithful people (verse 17). How does this strengthen our assurance?
5. It seems Paul is being generous with Abraham's "unwavering" trust in the Lord. How is that an encouragement to us?
6. Why are we always trying to smuggle in our works to God's grace? What is so unsettling about salvation by grace alone through faith?

Children's Question

We have hope in God because he keeps his promises. Even when things are really hard, we know that he will be with us and never leave us. Have there been times when you have doubted if God would be there through a hard time? How does following Jesus give assurance to your heart?

***JESUS, LOVER OF MY SOUL - Hymn #508**

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, 'til the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide; O receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none, hangs my helpless soul on thee;
Leave, ah leave me not alone, still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head with the shadow of thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want, more than all in thee I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name, I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am; thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art, freely let me take of thee;
Spring thou up within my heart; rise to all eternity.

**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.

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

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.

***ALL MY BOAST IS IN JESUS**

What wonder of wonders, what love is this
That Christ would die for me
His goodness, His merit, His righteousness
This sinner's only plea
O foolish pride, be crucified
The work is finished

(Chorus)

*All my boast is in Jesus; all my hope is His love
And I will glory forever in what the cross has done*

Now fully forgiven, my life is filled
With graces undeserved
For mercy that flowed down that sacred hill
Let praises now return
Rise up, my soul, and bless the Lord
Who else is worthy?

(Chorus)

(Bridge 2x)

O praise the One forever blessed
Him alone my heart adores
And I will boast in nothing less
Than the love of Christ, my Lord

I boast not in riches, in strength, or might
But in the grace of God
I glory in weakness, to live is Christ
In plenty or in want
That I may know, that all may see
His pow'r within me

(Chorus)

Now I stand in this freedom
Ransomed, clean in His sight
And I cannot be ashamed for
My boast is Jesus Christ (3x)

***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: Church at Creston, Pastor Kyle Winter

MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Kevin & Sarah Johnson, United World Mission

FOOD, FUN, & FELLOWSHIP: Today is the last day to sign up in the foyer if you're interested in participating in Food, Fun, & Fellowship.

MARCH YOUTH GROUP: will be meeting on the 6th, 13th, and 20th from 6-7:30pm.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME: We will spring forward NEXT WEEK on Mar. 10th.

SHEPHERDING GROUP POTLUCK: for those in the Riley/Thompson group will be March 17 after the 2nd service.

TURKEY TRIP MEETING – There will be a brief meeting (20-ish min.) next Sunday, Mar. 10 at 9:30 in the FCC library. The purpose is to meet with those of you interested in the possibility of joining an FCC mission trip to Turkey, probably in November or possibly in the spring of 2025. The purpose of the trip will be to spend time with and encourage our FCC missionaries J&K and J&R. No missions experience is necessary—just a love for God and our missionaries! Contact Steve Haymond with questions.

EASTER LILIES: It's that time of year again! If you would like to order an Easter lily in honor/memory of a loved one, fill out one of the forms in the foyer and drop it in the box with \$10 by March 24. You can also order online using the link in the Friday eNews or the QR code located near the sign up forms.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES: There will be two GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES on March 29 (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 Easter. Faith Covenant Deacons will cook and serve breakfast between 9 and 11am There will be no Sunday School classes that day.

SERVING: March Deacon - Jeff McGarvey

Today (1st service/2nd service)

Ushers: Ecks / Bays

Children's Church: Carolyn Duncan & Clara Carroll / Anderson

Nursery: Lancasters

Fellowship Hosts: Paula Saldamando & Chris Scrima

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Eileen Pierson / Rachel McManus

Next Sunday March 10

Ushers: Ecks / Bays

Children's Church: Carolyn Duncan & Clara Carroll / Anderson

Nursery: Kelly Brown & Yvonne Hernandez

Fellowship Hosts: Amy Haymond & Kim von Olhausen

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Dawn McGarvey / Jeanie Brenneman

WEEKLY/MONTHLY

Sunday Worship Services

8:15 & 11am

Sunday School

Sept.-May 10 am

Vespers

2nd Sunday @ 6:30 pm

*Note: no Vespers in March

Elder/Deacon Meeting

3rd Mondays 7 pm

Wednesdays

Men's Breakfast 6:30 am

Career Group 7 pm