

FAITH COVENANT

C H U R C H

Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

March 24, 2024



“Fear not, daughter of Zion;
behold your King is coming,
sitting on a donkey’s colt.”

John 12:15

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 24:7-10

Leader: Lift up your heads, O gates! Be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

All: Who is this King of glory?

Leader: The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in
battle! Lift up your heads, O gates! Lift them up, O ancient
doors, that the King of glory may come in.

**All: Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is
the King of glory!**

**Indicates
when to stand.
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***ALL GLORY, LAUD, AND HONOR - Hymn #235**

All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!
Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One!

The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present:
to thee, before thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King!
All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!

***PRAYER OF PRAISE**

**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.

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY! - Hymn #100**

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, Holy, Holy, all the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, Holy, Holy, though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

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: *Psalms 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.

***LORD FROM SORROWS DEEP I CALL**

Lord from sorrows deep I call
When my hope is shaken
Torn and ruined from the fall
Hear my desperation
For so long I've pled and prayed
God come to my rescue
Even so the thorn remains
Still my heart will praise You

Storms within my troubled soul
Questions without answers
On my faith these billows roll
God be now my shelter
Why are you cast down my soul
Hope in Him who saves you
When the fires have all grown cold
Cause this heart to praise You

Should my life be torn from me
Every worldly pleasure
When all I possess is grief
God be then my treasure
Be my vision in the night
Be my hope and refuge
'Til my faith is turned to sight
Lord my heart will praise You

*Oh my soul put your hope in God
My help my rock I will praise Him
Sing oh sing through the raging storm
You're still my God my salvation*

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)*

JESUS STRONG AND KIND

Jesus said that if I thirst, I should come to him
No one else can satisfy, I should come to him

Jesus said if I am weak, I should come to him
No one else can be my strength, I should come to him

(Chorus)

*For the Lord is good and faithful, He will keep us day and night
We can always run to Jesus, Jesus strong and kind*

Jesus said that if I fear, I should come to him
No one else can be my shield, I should come to him
(Chorus)

Jesus said if I am lost, He will come to me
And he showed me on that cross He will come to me
(Chorus 2x)

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—Palm Sunday
Pastor John Sackett
Looking to Jesus Changes our Vision—John 12:12-21

*The Coming of the King takes our vision and turns it away from
our personal objectives toward God's global objectives.*

¹²The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. ¹³So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" ¹⁴And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

¹⁵"Fear not, daughter of Zion;
behold, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!"

¹⁶His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. ¹⁷The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. ¹⁸The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. ¹⁹So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him." ²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. ²¹So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus."

The coming of the King...

I. ...challenges a national vision

II. ...satisfies the longings of a personal vision

III. ...launches a global vision

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. FF Bruce notes that as Christ's "reign establishes peace on earth; it is inaugurated with a disarmament program." How does Jesus' triumphal entry accomplish this?
2. We understand that as the people proclaimed Jesus as Messiah, they were expecting a political/physical King as a rival to Rome. What are our expectations of Jesus' reign? Are they misaligned from His purposes?
3. How does the message "Fear not, daughter of Zion" comfort us? What are our disabling fears and anxieties?
4. We read in verse 18 that the crowds were looking for a sign. NT Scholar Herman Ridderbos writes, "this is as far as their faith went." What might we be chasing after?
5. In verses 20 and 21, we see Greeks arrive and declare, "We wish to see Jesus?." Who in your social/family circles "wish to see Jesus." How are you praying for them and for yourself in that relationship?

Children's Question

Can you remember how excited you were for your first Easter egg hunt? It is a lot of wonderful excitement over something that in itself is not very important. Jesus welcomes all that excitement but directs it toward something really important: the sharing of the good news to lost people in the world. What part can you play in that "hunt"?

*HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure.
That he should give his only Son to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss; the Father turns his face away;
as wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon the cross, my sin upon his shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there until it was accomplished.
His dying breath has brought me life; I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection.

*Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart, his wounds have paid my ransom.*

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)*

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

*THE KING OF GLORY COMES - Hymn #240

(Chorus)

*The King of glory comes, the nation rejoices.
Open the gates before Him, lift up your voices.*

Who is the King of glory, what shall we call him?
He is Emmanuel, the promised of ages.

(Chorus)

In all of Galilee, in city or village,
He goes among his people curing their illness.
(Chorus)

He gave his life for us, the pledge of salvation,
He took up on himself the sin of the nation
(Chorus)

He conquered sin and death; he truly has risen.
And he will share with us his heavenly kingdom
(Chorus)

*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

Music Director/Assistant: Lisa Iddings/Laura Sackett

Director of Women's Ministries: Sarah Morrison Refuge Director: Sissy Hashley

Staff: Kelly Brown, Hanni Hanson, Jenny Mattern, Niam Moody

Elders: Tim Anderson, Jason Davis, Sean Iddings, Tom Jentz,

Trent Neumann, Don Olmsted, Matt Riley, Micah Tinkham

Deacons: Wade Carroll, Terry Falk, Kyle Hanson, Jeff McGarvey,

Ryan Petersen, Mike Stahlberg, Mike Thompson, Bruce Tulloch

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOCAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR: Church of the Cross, Pastors Jake Neufeld & Russ Tamm

MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Kevin & Sarah Johnson

EASTER LILY ORDERS: Last day to place your order for an Easter lily in honor or memory of your loved one(s). Lilies will be displayed during the Easter services and may be taken home after the 11am service.

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.

NURSERY: Please note that there will be nursery offered during BOTH services beginning April 7. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact our new nursery coordinator Sunny-Mae Morin.

CALLING ALL ARTISTS AND CRAFTSPEOPLE! Elizabeth Michelsen is hoping to form a collective of artists to provide for the creative needs of Faith Covenant. Contact her for more information if you're interested.

FREEZER MEAL PARTY: Many hands make light work! Anyone is welcome to gather in the church kitchen on Saturday, April 13, from 10 am to 1 pm to help prepare freezer meals to bless members of our church body when they are in need (new babies, surgeries, moves, etc). No ingredients or culinary skills required. We'll make lunch to enjoy together, too! For questions or to RSVP, please contact Jessica Brown.

LADIES' SPRING TEA: will be Saturday, April 20, at 2pm.

SERVING: March Deacon - Jeff McGarvey

Today (1st service/2nd service)

Ushers: Joni Jenks & Nikki Streeter / Thompsons

Children's Church: Jentz / Browns

Nursery: Matterns

Fellowship Hosts: Traci Carroll & Deanna Kotila

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Carolyn Duncan / Arline Tinkham

Easter Sunday March 31 (8, 9:30, & 11am)

Ushers: N&H Hanson / Joni Jenks & Nikki Streeter / Thompsons

Children's Church: Hanni Hanson (8) / Sharon Salyer (11)

Nursery: Sunny-Mae Morin & Melissa Brake (8) / Hunters (11)

Fellowship Hosts: Deacons

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Barb Fenner / Jennifer Hargett

WEEKLY/MONTHLY

Sunday Worship Services

8:15 & 11 am

Sunday School

10am

Vespers

2nd Sunday @ 6:30 pm

Elder/Deacon Meeting

3rd Mondays 7 pm

Wednesdays

Men's Breakfast 6:30 am

Career Group 7 pm