

FAITH COVENANT

C H U R C H

Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

March 31, 2024



Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples,
“I have seen the Lord.”

John 20:18

*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.

**Indicates
when to stand.
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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 offer yourselves to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of your body to him as instruments of righteousness.

All: Our good and glorious God, you are holy and just; yet we are poor sinners, conceived and born in guilt, prone to do evil, unable of our own to do good. So often our words are instruments of wickedness, and we offer ourselves to the delights of sin. Father forgive us, we pray, for hearts that are unmoved by your mercy, for hearts that avoid dying with Christ. Grant us daily increase of the grace of your Holy Spirit, and produce in us the fruits of holiness and of righteousness, pleasing in your sight, that we may offer ourselves to you as true instruments of righteous. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

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.
On a Good Day—John 20:1-18

¹Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” ³So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. ⁴Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, ⁷and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples went back to their homes. ¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. ¹²And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹³They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” ¹⁴Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” ¹⁶Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that he had said these things to her.

I. The Big Picture

II. The Big Difference

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.

Sermon Questions

1. How does Jesus bring together the overall plan of salvation which started in Genesis 3:15?
2. We see in the NT letters a repeated emphasis on being made new in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 6:15; Ephesians 4:24; Colossians 3:10). In what ways do you see the “here but not yet” aspect of this in life? How does this message give you hope?
3. Christianity is above all the belief that Christ did not remain in the grave, but that he really and truly was raised from the dead. How has this reality changed your life? In what way does the resurrection ensure your failures are not the final word of your life?
4. In Mark 8:27-33, we see the highs and lows of Peter side by side. Where have you seen this pairing in your own life? How are you encouraged by the Jesus in those moments?
5. Consider: “The full triumphant power of Easter consists precisely in the fact that there is nothing here to prove, that all of man’s knowledge, all human proofs are totally powerless before this reality.” Alexander Schmemmann.

Children’s Question

*On your very best day, you still know that you are not perfect.
How does the good news of Jesus encourage you on good and bad days?
Because of Jesus, your failures are not the final word.*

**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.

***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)

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Wine is located in the two outer rings; juice is located in the center ring.

PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION

***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.

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: Easthaven Baptist Church, Pastor Chad Warren

MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Kevin & Sarah Johnson

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

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

APRIL YOUTH GROUP DATES: 4/3, 4/10, & 4/24 from 6-7:30 pm

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 10am to 1pm 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 Sunday, April 20, at 2pm.

CURIOUS ABOUT FAITH COVENANT?: If you're new to the church and/or desire to become a member of Faith Covenant, you're invited to join the pastors for a lunch in the fellowship hall after the 2nd service on Sunday, April 21.

SAVE THE DATE: This year's VBS program, *The King is Coming*, will run from June 24 to June 27.

SERVING: March Deacon – Jeff McGarvey

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

Ushers: N&H Hanson / Joni J. & Nikki S. / Mike T. & Terry F.
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

Next Sunday April 7

Ushers: Tronstads / Johnsons
Children's Church: Russell / Brown
Nursery: Tinkhams / Kate Neumann
Fellowship Hosts: Kristin Bay & Sharon Salyer
Communion Prep/Cleanup: Jenn Eck / Niam Moody

WEEKLY/MONTHLY

Sunday Worship Services

8:15 & 11 am

Sunday School

Sept.-May 10 am

Vespers Service

2nd Sunday 6:30pm

Elder/Deacon Meeting

3rd Mondays 7 pm

Wednesdays

Men's Breakfast 6:30 am

Career Group 7 pm