

FAITH COVENANT

C H U R C H

Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

August 3, 2025

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge;
fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Proverbs 1:7

**Call to
Worship**

Worship begins
with God who
invites us and
welcomes us into
his presence.
Because of Christ,
we can approach
God with
boldness even
though we are
sinful and
weak.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** *Psalms 118:26-29*

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! The LORD is
God, and he has made his light to shine upon us. Oh, give thanks to
the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

**Indicates
when to stand.
All Music Copied
Under CCLI
License #34680*

*OUR GREAT GOD

Eternal God, unchanging, mysterious and unknown
Your boundless love unfailing, in grace and mercy shown
Bright seraphim in endless flight around your glorious throne
They raise their voices day and night in praise to you alone.

(Chorus)

Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!

Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!

Lord, we are weak and frail, helpless in the storm
Surround us with your angels, hold us in your arms
Our cold and ruthless enemy, his pleasure is our harm
Rise up, oh Lord, and he will flee before our Sovereign God.

(Chorus)

Let every creature in the sea and every flying bird
Let every mountain, every field and valley of the earth
Let all the moons and all the stars in all the universe
Sing praises to the living God, who rules them by his word

(Chorus 2x)

Colors in the Church

We use different colored banners in a symbolic way throughout the liturgical year.
White = purity & holiness
Purple = royalty & suffering.
Red = blood & fire
Blue = royalty
Black = mourning & death (only used on Good Friday)
Green = life & growth

***PRAYER OF PRAISE**

***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 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: *Psalms 95:7-9*

Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, when your fathers put me to the test and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.

All: O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, we have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from your commandments and rules. To you, O Lord, belongs righteousness, but to us open shame. To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against him and have not obeyed the voice of the LORD our God by walking in his ways, O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive.

(adapted from Daniel 9)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

DECLARATION OF GRACE: *Psalms 95:1, 7*

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

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.

***HIS MERCY IS MORE**

(Chorus)

*Praise the Lord! His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, new every morn
Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more*

What love could remember no wrongs we have done
Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
What Father, so tender, is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor
Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more
(Chorus)

What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more
(Chorus 2x)

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)*

THERE IS A FOUNTAIN FILLED WITH BLOOD - Hymn #253

There is a fountain filled with blood, drawn from Immanuel's veins;
and sinners, plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains:
lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains;
and sinners, plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains.

The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day;
and there have I, as vile as he, washed all my sins away:
washed all my sins away, washed all my sins away;
and there have I, as vile as he, washed all my sins away.

E'er since by faith I saw the stream your flowing wounds supply,
redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die:
and shall be till I die, and shall be till I die;
redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.

Then in a nobler, sweeter song I'll sing your pow'r to save,
when this poor lisping, stamm'ring tongue lies silent in the grave:
lies silent in the grave, lies silent in the grave;
when this poor lisping, stamm'ring tongue lies silent in the grave.

Dear dying Lamb, your precious blood shall never lose its pow'r,
till all the ransomed church of God be saved, to sin no more:
be saved, to sin no more, be saved, to sin no more;
till all the ransomed church of God be saved to sin no more.

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.

Sermon Series—Summer Psalms & Proverbs
Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.
The Absolute Key to all of Life that Every Believer Must Know
-or-
Avoiding a Clickbait Life
Proverbs 1:1-7

¹The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel: ²To know wisdom and instruction, to understand words of insight, ³to receive instruction in wise dealing, in righteousness, justice, and equity; ⁴to give prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the youth—⁵Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance, ⁶to understand a proverb and a saying, the words of the wise and their riddles. ⁷The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

I. The Necessity of Wisdom

II. The Extravagance of Wisdom

Questions for Further Reflection

1. What about finding Biblical wisdom is both liberating and daunting?
2. What does it mean to fear the Lord? How is this the beginning of wisdom?
3. Consider: “Wisdom is skill in the art of godly living.” How does this bring together both the intellectual and practical aspects of living together?
4. What is the difference between “descriptive” and “prescriptive”? How does this difference help us in interpreting some proverbs?
5. Consider: “There are other Christians, of whose faith in Christ I have no doubt, who can’t keep a job. They get jobs; they just can’t keep them. They don’t show up on time; they don’t do what they are told by their supervisors; they turn their instructions into an argument; they make careless mistakes for want of attention and intention, and then can’t believe that they have been let go once again.”—Pastor Robert Rayburn. How does biblical wisdom address this? What counsel would you give to someone like this?

Children’s Question

Living wisely is more than following the rules. The choices we make help form our character. Our character is how we glorify God. How do we make wise choices in life when it is not clear?

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.

***BE THOU MY VISION** - Hymn #642

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art
thou my best thought, by day or by night;
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great Father; I thy true son,
thou in me dwelling and I with thee one.

Be thou my battle shield, sword for my fight;
be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r:
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only first in my heart,
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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

*HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION - Hymn #94, 1-4,6

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed;
for I am your God, and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call you to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply;
the flame shall not hurt you; I only design
your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake.

*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

Youth & Family Pastor: Jake Neufeld

Elders: Tim Anderson, Jason Davis, Sean Iddings, Tom Jentz, Trent Neumann,
Don Olmsted, Lloyd Pierson, Matt Riley, John Sackett, Micah Tinkham

Deacons: Wade Carroll, Terry Falk, Kyle Hanson, Patrick Jentz, Jeff McGarvey,
Tom Moody, Ryan Petersen, Mike Thompson, Bruce Tulloch

Assistant to the Deacons/Mercy Ministries: Dawn Tinkham

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOCAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR: Alethia Christian Fellowship, Pastor Scott Keller

MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: David & Ulrike Byle, serving in Berlin, Germany

EVENING PRAYER SERVICE: Every Sunday except the week of Vespers at 6 pm.

(Please note, there is no Vespers or prayer service next Sunday because of Summer Songs & Supper)

COLLEGE-AGE/YOUNG ADULT GROUP: Jake Neufeld will be taking over as host of the summer Bible study for college-age/young adults at his home in Columbia Falls. The next meet-up is tomorrow, August 4, at 6:30 pm. Dinner is provided. Please see the Friday eNewsletter or reach out to the church office to get Jake's address.

FAMILY VBS: The next fun-filled session of family VBS is this Tuesday, August 5, from 5:30-7 pm. Contact Christina Davis with questions.

SUMMER SONGS & SUPPER: The annual Faith Covenant outdoor BBQ + hymn-a-long is coming up next Sunday, August 10, at 6pm. Bring some chairs or a picnic blanket and join us on the church lawn. Sign-up sheet and hymn request forms are in the foyer. Please plan to bring a side dish or salad to share!

LOST AND FOUND: Final call to check the overflowing lost and found pile downstairs to reclaim your missing belongings. All items still remaining after today will be donated.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: If your children have not attended Sunday school in the past and you wish to enroll them (ages 2-12th grade), please fill out one of the cards in the foyer. Having this information in advance helps our wonderful Sunday school coordinators plan ahead for teachers, curriculum, etc. Note: We will return to our school year schedule (worship services at 8:15 & 11, with Sunday school in between @ 10 am) on September 14.

SERVING: August On-Call Deacon - Bruce Tulloch

Today (1st service/2nd service)

Ushers: M&G Tronstad / Haymonds

Children's Church: C. Duncan & C. Carroll / J. Thompson

Nursery: K. Haymond & S. Thompson / J. Orndorff & K. Brown

Fellowship Hosts: E. Pierson & J. Haugestuen

Communion Prep/Cleanup: B. Fenner / A. Tinkham

Next Sunday August 10

Ushers: M&G Tronstad / Haymonds

Children's Church: C. Duncan & C. Carroll / J. Thompson

Nursery: Sarah Morrison & fam / G. Wright & Y. Hernandez

Fellowship Hosts: V. Creamer & D. Corder

Communion Prep/Cleanup: J. Eck / J. Brown

WEEKLY/MONTHLY

Sunday Worship Services

8:15 & 10:15 am

Vespers

2nd Sunday @ 6 pm

Sunday Evening Prayer Svc

Non-Vespers Sundays @ 6 pm

Elder/Deacon Meeting

3rd Monday @ 7 pm

Wednesdays

Men's Breakfast 6:30 am