

FAITH COVENANT

C H U R C H

Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

September 7, 2025

Above all else, guard your heart,
for everything you do flows from it.

Proverbs 4:23

**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: *Psalm 96:1-4

Oh, sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!
Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to
day.

ALL PEOPLE THAT ON EARTH DO DWELL - *Hymn #1

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with fear, his praise forth-tell,
Come ye before him and rejoice!

The Lord ye know is God indeed;
Without our aid he did us make;
We are his folk, he doth us feed,
And for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,
Approach with joy his courts unto;
Praise, laud, and bless his name always,
For it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good,
His mercy is forever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

**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.

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

***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

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)

COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *Isaiah 29:13-14*

And the Lord said: "Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men, therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden."

All: O Lord, forgive us our failure to keep your commandments.

We confess that we often cleanse the outside of our lives yet do nothing about the inside of our hearts. Outside we look righteous, moral, and upright, yet inside we are filled with anger, lust, greed, and idolatry. Outwardly we go to church, give money, and read your Word, yet inwardly we neglect justice, love, and mercy. These we should have done without neglecting the others. We put ourselves into the best positions, because we think we deserve them, yet the truth is we are unworthy of any blessing. Have mercy on us for being like the Pharisees. May you cleanse us from the inside out. (*Adapted from Luke 11:37-52*)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

DECLARATION OF GRACE: *Joel 2:13*

Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

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.

***GOOD AND GRACIOUS KING**

I approach the throne of glory nothing in my hands I bring
But the promise of acceptance from a good and gracious King

I will give to You my burden as You give to me Your strength
Come and fill me with Your Spirit as I sing to You this praise

(Chorus)

*You deserve the greater glory, overcome I lift my voice
To the King in need of nothing, empty handed I rejoice
You deserve the greater glory, overcome with joy I sing
By Your love I am accepted, You're a good and gracious King*

O what grace that You would see me as Your child and as Your friend
Safe secure in You forever I pour out my praise again

(Chorus)

(Bridge 2x)

Holy, holy, Lord Almighty
Good and gracious, good and gracious
Holy, Holy, Lord Almighty
Good and gracious King

(Chorus)

You're a good and gracious King

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)*

OH WHY SO HEAVY, OH MY SOUL?

Oh why so heavy, oh my soul? Thus to myself I've willed
Oh why so heavy, oh my heart? And so sorrow filled?

(Chorus)

*Hope thou in God, He still shall be thy glory and thy endless praise
His saving grace shall comfort thee through everlasting days.*

His goodness made thee what thou art and yet will he redeem
Oh be thou of a contrite heart and put your trust in him

(Chorus 2x)

Oh why so heavy, oh my soul?

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.
Where Your Heart Is—Proverbs 4:20-27

Proverbs 4:20-27 (NIV):

²⁰My son, pay attention to what I say; turn your ear to my words. ²¹Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart; ²²for they are life to those who find them and health to one's whole body. ²³Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it. ²⁴Keep your mouth free of perversity; keep corrupt talk far from your lips. ²⁵Let your eyes look straight ahead; fix your gaze directly before you. ²⁶Give careful thought to the paths for your feet and be steadfast in all your ways. ²⁷Do not turn to the right or the left; keep your foot from evil.

I. Guarding the heart

II. Guiding the heart

Questions for Further Reflection

1. In the Bible, the word “heart” speaks to our whole inner person—our minds, will, and emotions. How does our contemporary culture use the word “heart”? Why do we need to always keep this in mind when we see the word ‘heart’ in the Bible?
2. Wisdom is skill in the art of godly living. Keeping our heart is essential to cultivating that skill. How does Matthew 6:19-21 instruct us in matters of the heart?
3. Mark 7:6 “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, ‘This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.’” (See Isaiah 29:13) Jesus condemns going through religious motions while the heart is disengaged. The answer is not to get rid of the motions, but to change the heart. Why are we to connect both the inner motivation and the outer actions together?
4. Consider: “God is the highest good of the reasonable creature; and the enjoyment of him is the only happiness with which our souls can be satisfied...Fathers and mothers, husbands, wives or children, or the company of friends are but shadows; but the enjoyment of God is the substance. These are but scattered beams; but God is the sun. These are but streams; but God is the ocean...Why should we labor for, or set our hearts on anything else but that which is our proper end and true happiness?” –Jonathan Edwards. How is this a challenge for you? In what way does your desire for God regularly move your heart?
5. For a Christian, what does it mean for us to attend to our hearts? How can a person train or exercise his/her heart? How does the good news of Jesus transform our hearts?

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.

Children’s Question

How are you able to guard your heart? How does Jesus guide your life?

***GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS - Hymn #32**

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my father
There is no shadow of turning with thee
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be

(Chorus)

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed thy hand hath provided
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love

(Chorus)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside

(Chorus)

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

*WE ARE NOT OVERCOME

Flesh will fail and bones will break
Thieves will steal, the earth will shake
Night will fall, the light will fade
The Lord will give and take away

(Chorus)

*Because of His great love we are not overcome
Because of His great love we are not overcome*

Put no trust in the earth
In the sod you stand upon
Flowers fade into dust
The Lord will make a place for us

(Chorus)

Offer up your shoes and shirt
Turn your cheek, turn your cheek
Bear the yoke of love and death
The Lord will give all life and breath

(Chorus)

Because of His great love we are not overcome

*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: Trinity Lutheran, Pastor Brian Lee

MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Kevin & Sarah Johnson, currently on educational leave in the US

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

VESPERS: Next Sunday, September 14, at 6 pm.

SEPTEMBER MISSIONS POTLUCK w/ J&E: TODAY following the 2nd service.

YOUTH GROUP KICKOFF: for middle and high school youth and their families @ Mike & Julie Thompson's home on Echo Lake is this Wed., Sept. 10th, from 5 - 8 pm.

YOUTH GROUP: begins Wed, Sept. 17 (5:30-7 pm for 6th-8th grade / 7-8:30 pm for 9th-12th)

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CHURCH?: There's a signup sheet in the foyer for Pastor John's Sunday school class, "Introducing Faith Covenant", which begins next week.

SUNDAY SCHOOL + SCHEDULE CHANGE: We switch back to our fall schedule NEXT WEEK, with service times at 8:15 and 11 am and Sunday school for all ages at 10 am.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUBSTITUTES: Sign up in the foyer if you're willing to serve as an occasional sub in a Sunday school class.

QUILTING CREW: Sewing session @ the church on Sept. 11 & 25 from 9-3.

SEPTEMBER SHEPHERDING GROUPS: Next week, Sept. 14 (Tim Anderson/Ryan Petersen) and Sept. 21 (Don Olmsted [w/Tom Jentz as stand-in]/Bruce Tulloch)

REFUGE TRAINING: Sat, Sept. 20, from 8-4—all are welcome, but if you're interested in becoming a mentor in our program, this is part of the required training, so take advantage of this opportunity and join us! Please sign up in the foyer if you're interested.

NEW FOLKS' LUNCHEON: Scott & Hannah Cunningham will be hosting a lunch potluck at their home after the 2nd service on Sun., Sept. 21, for all new(ish) Faith Covenant attendees. If that description fits you, sign up in the foyer!

SAVE THE DATE: Women's ministries fall kickoff luncheon, Sun., Sept. 28, after the 2nd service.

WOMEN'S FALL BIBLE STUDY: on God's Covenant Promises, beginning Wed., Oct. 1. More information and signups in the foyer.

SERVING: September On-Call Deacon - Wade Carroll

Today (1st service/2nd service)

Ushers: Carrolls / Bonners

Children's Church: Tinkhams / S. Salyer & G. von O

Nursery: Streits / K. Anderson

Fellowship Hosts: E. Pierson & L. Pierson

Communion Prep/Cleanup: A. Haymond / H. Embry

Next Sunday September 14

Ushers: Carrolls / Bonners

Children's Church: Tinkhams / S. Salyer & G. von O

Nursery: Ourslands / Josts

Fellowship Hosts: S. Salyer & K. Anderson

Communion Prep/Cleanup: C. Duncan / C. Scrima

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

Men's Breakfast

Wednesdays @ 6:30 am