

# FAITH COVENANT

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C H U R C H

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*Spreading A Love for God and His Glory*

*September 21, 2025*

And the Lord said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground.”

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Genesis 4:10

**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:** *Revelation 5:11-14*

Leader: Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice,

**All: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!**

Leader: And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying,

**All: To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!**

*\*Indicates  
when to stand.  
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## \*REVELATION SONG

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain; holy, holy is he.  
Sing a new song to him who sits on heaven's mercy seat.

*(Repeat)*

*(Chorus)*

*Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,  
who was and is and is to come.*

*With all creation I sing praise to the King of kings;  
you are my ev'rything and I will adore you.*

Clothed in rainbows of living color,  
flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder;  
blessing and honor, strength and glory and power be to you,  
the only wise King.

*(Chorus)*

Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder  
at the mention of your name.  
Jesus, your name is power, breath and living water,  
such a marv'lous mystery!

*(Chorus 2x)*

## \*PRAYER OF PRAISE

### 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

**\*GLORIOUS THINGS OF THEE ARE SPOKEN - Hymn #345**

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;  
he whose word cannot be broken formed thee for his own abode:  
on the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,  
well supply thy sons and daughters and all fear of want remove:  
who can faint, while such a river ever flows their thirst t'assuage?—  
grace which, like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hov'ring, see the cloud and fire appear  
for a glory and a cov'ring, showing that the Lord is near:  
thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day,  
safe they feed upon the manna which he gives them when they pray.

Savior, if of Zion's city I, through grace, a member am,  
let the world deride or pity, I will glory in Thy name:  
fading is the worldling's pleasures, all his boasted pomp and show;  
solid joys and lasting treasure none but Zion's children know.

## COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

### SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *Isaiah 55:6-7*

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near;  
let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts;  
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and  
to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

## WE HAVE NOT LOVED THEE

We have not loved Thee with a pure heart  
Nor have we loved each other  
We've not done justly and we've not loved mercy  
Nor walked humbly with God

So, have mercy, have mercy  
Jesus, have mercy, have mercy on us  
(Repeat all)

## SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

### DECLARATION OF GRACE: *Isaiah 61:10*

I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has  
clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of  
righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a  
bride adorns herself with her jewels.

### 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.

**\*PSALM 126**

Our mouths they were filled filled with laughter

Our tongues they were loosed loosed with joy

Restore us O Lord

Restore us O Lord

*(Chorus)*

*Although we are weeping*

*Lord help us keep sowing*

*The seeds of Your kingdom*

*For the day You will reap them*

*Your sheaves we will carry*

*Lord please do not tarry*

*All those who sow weeping*

*Will go out with songs of joy*

The nations will say He has done great things

The nations will sing songs of joy

Restore us O Lord

Restore us O Lord

*(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.)

**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)*

BE STILL MY SOUL - *Hymn #689*

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side;  
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;  
Leave to your God to order and provide;  
In ev'ry change he faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul: your best, your heav'nly Friend  
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: your God will undertake  
To guide the future as he has the past.  
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;  
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.  
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know  
His voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart,  
And all is darkened in the vale of tears,  
Then shall you better know his love, his heart,  
Who comes to soothe your sorrow and your fears.  
Be still, my soul: your Jesus can repay  
From his own fullness all he takes away.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hast'ning on  
When we shall be forever with the Lord,  
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,  
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.  
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,  
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

*Sermon Series—God’s Generational Faithfulness*

Pastor John Sackett

*The Wages of Sin is Death—Genesis 4:1-16*

<sup>1</sup>Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, “I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord.” <sup>2</sup>And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. <sup>3</sup>In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, <sup>4</sup>and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, <sup>5</sup>but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. <sup>6</sup>The Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? <sup>7</sup>If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, and you must rule over it.” <sup>8</sup>Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. <sup>9</sup>Then the Lord said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” He said, “I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?” <sup>10</sup>And the Lord said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground. <sup>11</sup>And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. <sup>12</sup>When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth.” <sup>13</sup>Cain said to the Lord, “My punishment is greater than I can bear. <sup>14</sup>Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me.” <sup>15</sup>Then the Lord said to him, “Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold.” And the Lord put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him. <sup>16</sup>Then Cain went away from the presence of the Lord and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

*While sin and depravity are expanding, God’s faithfulness still abounds. He is present, He is powerful, and He is good. He is worthy of our lives lived in worship.*

I. An offering to God rejected



## II. Murderous response

## III. Wandering away, yet still before God

### 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. The first 4 verses seem to present a healthy growth in the family—children are born, gainfully working, and now bringing an offering to the Lord. Then verse 5 shows something is very wrong. What do verses 5 -7 teach us about God and about man?
2. Consider re-reading chapter 3 and looking for similarities in phrasing and ideas. Is there something more to see here than a curiosity?
3. Gordon Wenham sees a 5-part drama, opening with Cain approaching God, and ending with Cain departing from God. In the middle section is dialogue, murder, dialogue. This approach might help us to see the clear consequence of our sin. Does the story end with Cain's departure?
4. Regarding Cain's mark, Franz Delitzsch remarks that God is essentially his protector which is the "utmost Mercy can do for the unrepentant." How do you treat the unrepentant?
5. Where is Jesus in this story? Has the promise of Genesis 3:15 developed?

### Children's Question

*Have you ever been so mad at a friend or sibling you started thinking about hurting them? How can Jesus's words and life help you to love them instead?*

**\*HE WILL BE**

God is faithful to His word  
Even when there seems no way  
Though time may pass His memory will not fade  
His promises will never fail

Faithful He has been, faithful He will be  
Time and time again His Word returns complete  
To His truth I cling when the night is deep  
Faithful He has been, faithful He will be

God is gracious when I doubt  
He draws near though I retreat  
Though I may wander through the wilderness  
He goes with me and gives me peace

Gracious He has been, gracious He will be  
What I don't deserve the Father gives to me  
Where He leads my feet I shall not want or need  
Gracious He has been, gracious He will be

God is worthy of my song  
Countless are His awesome deeds  
His mighty hand has parted raging seas  
For those He loves, He has redeemed

*(Chorus)*

*Worthy He has been, Worthy He will be  
Crowned in endless praise all earth and heaven sing  
Holy is the Lord who reigns in majesty  
Worthy He has been, worthy He will be*

*(Bridge 2x)*

He is my provider, covenant protector  
All my hope is in the Lord my God  
He is my sustainer, merciful redeemer  
All my hope is in the Lord my God

*(Chorus)*

*Worthy He has been, worthy He will be (2x)*

**CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

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

**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.

## PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION

### \*WE WILL FEAST IN THE HOUSE OF ZION

*(Chorus)*

*We will feast in the house of Zion  
We will sing with our hearts restored  
He has done great things we will say together  
We will feast and weep no more*

*We will not be burned by the fire,  
He is the Lord our God  
We are not consumed by the flood  
Upheld protected gathered up  
(Chorus)*

*In the dark of night before the dawn,  
My soul be not afraid  
For the promised morning oh how long  
Oh God of Jacob be my strength  
(Chorus)*

*Every vow we've broken and betrayed,  
You are the faithful one  
And from the garden to the grave  
Bind us together bring shalom  
(Chorus 2x)*

### \*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, Scott Cunningham, 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:** Veneration Church, Pastor Luke Taylor

**MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR:** Kevin & Sarah Johnson, serving in Medellín, Colombia; currently on educational leave in the U.S.

**SEPTEMBER SHEPHERDING GROUPS:** The Don Olmsted/Bruce Tulloch potluck is TODAY after the 2nd service.

**YOUTH GROUP:** Middle & High Schoolers are invited to come for worship, prayer, dinner, discipleship, and fun! Middle School [6th - 8th grade] from 5:30 - 7 pm; High School from 6:45 - 8:15 pm.

**NEW FOLKS' LUNCHEON:** Scott & Hannah Cunningham will be hosting a lunch potluck at their home after the 2nd service TODAY for anyone who is new to Faith Covenant.

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

**WOMEN'S MINISTRIES FALL KICKOFF:** The ladies of Faith Covenant are invited to a Soup & Cider Luncheon following the 2nd service on Sept. 28th. More information and signups in the foyer.

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

**OCTOBER SHEPHERDING GROUPS** (all after the 2nd service):

- 5th - Jason Davis/Kyle Hanson
- 12th - Sean Iddings/Wade Carroll
- 19th - Trent Neumann/Jeff McGarvey/Patrick Jentz

**FCC DIRECTORY:** It's that time again! We will be printing updated church directories in October/November. To that end, on Oct. 5 & 12, we are offering an opportunity for families & individuals to have a directory photo taken after church if they wish. (Signups in the foyer.) Also, if you need to update or add your contact information, please fill out one of the slips in the foyer and drop it in the box.

**COVENANT COLLEGE INFO DINNER:** at Tim & Kate Anderson's is TONIGHT at 5:30. RSVPs and questions can be directed to Kate Anderson or Kim Hansen.

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**SERVING:** September On-Call Deacon - Wade Carroll

**WEEKLY/MONTHLY**

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**Today (1st service/2nd service)**

Ushers: N&H Hanson / Ecks

Children's Church: T&T Jentz / J&J Brown

Nursery: Buis family / Wilburs

Fellowship Hosts: A. Haymond, C. Scrima, & L. Scrima

Communion Prep/Cleanup: B. Fenner / T. Paolini

**Next Sunday September 28**

Ushers: N&H Hanson / Ecks

Children's Church: T&T Jentz / J&J Brown

Nursery: Ourslands / Lancasters

Fellowship Hosts: Janis Orndorff & Gloria Tronstad

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Susie Sullivan / Arline Tinkham

**Sunday Worship Services**

8:15 & 11 am

**Sunday School**

10 am

**Vespers**

2nd Sunday @ 6 pm

**Sunday Evening Prayer Svc**

Non-Vespers Sundays @ 6 pm

**Wednesday Youth Group**

5:30-7pm (MS) / 6:45-8:15 pm (HS)

**Elder/Deacon Meeting**

3rd Monday @ 7 pm

**Men's Breakfast**

Wednesdays @ 6:30 am