

# FAITH COVENANT

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C H U R C H

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*Spreading A Love for God and His Glory*

*December 14, 2025*



You will say in that day: I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for  
though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, that  
you might comfort me.

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Isaiah 12:1

**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**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

*The word “Advent” comes from the Latin meaning “coming” or “arrival.”  
Advent is a time of preparation for the final coming of Jesus, while we give thanks  
for the gift of Christ in the past. We meditate on the faithfulness of God to his  
promises –past, present, and future.*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP: Isaiah 52:7-10**

Leader: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him  
who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings  
good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who  
says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

All: The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;  
together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the  
return of the LORD to Zion.

Leader: Break forth together into singing, you waste places of  
Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he  
has redeemed Jerusalem.

*\*Indicates  
when to stand.  
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## **\*COME BEHOLD THE WONDROUS MYSTERY**

Come behold the wondrous mystery, in the dawning of the King  
He the theme of heaven's praises, robed in frail humanity  
In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come  
Look to Christ, who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, he the perfect Son of Man  
In his living, in his suffering, never trace nor stain of sin  
See the true and better Adam, come to save the hell-bound man  
Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law, in him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous mystery, Christ the Lord upon the tree  
In the stead of ruined sinners hangs the Lamb in victory  
See the price of our redemption, see the Father's plan unfold  
Bringing many sons to glory, grace unmeasured, love untold

Come behold the wondrous mystery, slain by death the God of life  
But no grave could e'er restrain him, praise the Lord, He is alive  
What a foretaste of deliverance, how unwavering our hope  
Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when he comes.

## **\*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

**\*HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING - Hymn #203**

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies;  
With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ the everlasting Lord;  
Late in time behold him come, Offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Hail! the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the son of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

## COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

### SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *2 Samuel 22:26-28*

With the merciful you show yourself merciful; with the blameless man you show yourself blameless; with the purified you deal purely, and with the crooked you make yourself seem tortuous. You save a humble people, but your eyes are on the haughty to bring them down.

**All:** Lord of all mercy and compassion, I am neither blameless nor pure. My heart is crooked, and I elevate myself at the expense of others. Forgive me for my sins and cleanse me from my defilement, that through my Redeemer, Christ Jesus, I might be pure and spotless. Grant me a humble heart, and by your Holy Spirit, enable me to strive for new and fresh obedience, all to the praise of your glorious grace. Amen.

## SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

### DECLARATION OF GRACE: *2 Samuel 22:29-31*

For you are my lamp, O LORD, and my God lightens my darkness. For by you I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall. This God—his way is perfect; the word of the LORD proves true; he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him.

### **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 GLORY AND MY GOOD**

I have seen my Father's glory revealed in Jesus Christ  
And the more that I behold Him, the more He satisfies  
When I gaze upon His beauty, when I see Him as I should  
Then my eyes are lifted upward for His glory and my good

There is hope in every trial for I can trust the Lord  
He will turn my heart towards Him and help me bear the thorn  
So in faith I follow Jesus on the road not understood  
For I know that He is working for His glory and my good

*(Chorus)*

*To our God be the glory*

*To our God be praise*

*He alone the name above all names*

*I will boast ever only in the Lord my God*

*For I know His glory is my good*

See the open arms of Jesus upon the cross that day  
What they understood as weakness deserves my every praise  
For the charge that was against me, it was nailed into the wood  
Yes, I know that He has saved me for His glory and my good

*(Chorus)*

Would I gladly be made nothing that Christ would be made more  
Would I seek the only kingdom that far outweighs them all  
I will stand before my Father where the faithful saints have stood  
*And with joy my heart shall praise Him for His glory and my good*

*(Chorus 2x)*

Yes I know His glory is my good

**CHRISTIAN BAPTISM OF:**

*Noah Richard Morin*

## 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)*

### LO HOW A ROSE E'ER BLOOMING - Hymn #221

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung  
of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung  
It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter  
when half spent was the night

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the rose I have in mind  
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind  
To show God's love aright, she bore to men a Savior  
when half spent was the night

The shepherds heard the story, proclaimed by angels bright,  
how Christ, the Lord of glory, was born on earth this night.  
To Bethlehem they sped and in the manger found him,  
as angel heralds said.

This flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air  
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness ev'rywhere  
True man, yet very God, from sin and death he saves us  
and lightens ev'ry load

O Savior, child of Mary, who felt our human woe  
O Savior, King of glory, who dost our weakness know  
bring us at length, we pray, to the bright courts of heaven  
and to the endless day

### 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—Advent: A New King is Coming*  
Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.  
*Anger Turned Away—Isaiah 12:1-3*

<sup>1</sup>You will say in that day: "I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, that you might comfort me. <sup>2</sup>"Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation." <sup>3</sup>With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

I. Wrath removed

II. Trust established



### Questions for Further Reflection

1. Chapter 11 of Isaiah speaks of the kingdom of the Messiah. Chapter 12 is the conclusion of both that theme and the theme of the first 12 chapters. The Messiah of chapter 11 is the Lord himself in chapter 12. How does that instruct us as we celebrate Christ's advent?
2. Consider: "Verse 2 celebrates a glorious paradox: the angry God is finally the only source of comfort...In the end, 'comfort' (salvation) can be found only by fleeing into the arms of the righteous God whose wrath we have incurred." –Barry Webb. How does this prepare us for the suffering servant in Isaiah 53?
3. As God's people, finding delight and joy in Him is a command. So much so, that we find God's judgment on Israel for failing to do this. (Deuteronomy 28:47 *Because you did not serve the LORD your God with joyfulness and gladness of heart*) Why is joy so integral to our faith?
4. Verse 2 is nearly identical to Exodus 15:2, and verse 5 echoes Exodus 15:21. Each are songs after a deliverance of the Lord. How is this instructive for us?
5. In what way is repentance the foundation for our joy? How does repentance fuel our hearts with praise?

### Children's Question

*Praise and thanksgiving are essential parts of our life of faith.*

*How does Jesus encourage a thankful heart in you?*

### 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.

**\*LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE - Hymn #193**

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;  
Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in His hand,  
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood,  
Lord of Lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood;  
He will give to all the faithful, His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven; spreads its vanguard on the way,  
As the Light of light descendeth, from the realms of endless day,  
That the powers of hell may vanish, as the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six winged seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye,  
Veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry:  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord Most High!

**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.

**CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

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

**PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION**

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.

## \*KING OF KINGS

In the darkness we were waiting, without hope without light  
Till from Heaven You came running, there was mercy in Your eyes  
To fulfill the law and prophets, to a virgin came the Word  
From a throne of endless glory, to a cradle in the dirt

*(Chorus)*

*Praise the Father, Praise the Son, Praise the Spirit three in one  
God of Glory, Majesty, Praise forever to the King of Kings*

To reveal the kingdom coming and to reconcile the lost  
To redeem the whole creation, You did not despise the cross  
For even in Your suffering You saw to the other side  
Knowing this was our salvation, Jesus for our sake You died

*(Chorus)*

And the morning that You rose all of heaven held its breath  
Till that stone was moved for good for the Lamb had conquered death  
And the dead rose from their tombs and the angels stood in awe  
For the souls of all who'd come to the Father are restored

And the Church of Christ was born then the Spirit lit the flame  
Now this Gospel truth of old shall not kneel shall not faint  
By His blood and in His Name in His freedom I am free  
For the love of Jesus Christ who has resurrected me

*(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*

*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:** Swan Chapel, Pastor Chuck Cushman

**DECEMBER MISSION FOCUS:** Joe & Kelly Swenson

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES:** will be at 4, 5:30, & 7pm on the evening of Wed., Dec. 24. Nursery will be available at the 4pm service. \*Please note, the 4pm service is traditionally VERY full, so if you prefer a little more space the 5:30 or 7pm are more spacious.

**YOUTH GROUP CAROLING:** This Wed. night from 6-8:30, the youth group will meet at the church and then caravan to the memory care unit at Buffalo Hill Terrace to sing of the joy of Christ's birth. Parents and friends are welcome to join us! Let Jake know if you can help with transportation to and from.

**LOST & FOUND:** There is a collection of winter coats in the lost and found downstairs. If you've been missing yours, check the pile. Anything still remaining in two weeks will be donated to the Warming Center.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Youth Group Winter Retreat will be Jan. 16-18 at Dickey Lake Bible Camp. More information coming soon.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Ladies of all ages are invited to join us at the church as we celebrate God's gift of covenant children. Ladies' combined baby shower will be Sat., Jan. 10, from 9:30-11:30am. For more details, contact Hannah Cunningham.

### **GENERAL OFFERING SUMMARY:**

Anticipated YTD Offerings = \$ 646,154    Actual YTD Offerings = \$ 784,672

If you have questions about the FCC budget, please reach out to Terry Falk or Wade Carroll.

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**SERVING:** December On-Call Deacon - Bruce Tulloch

**WEEKLY/MONTHLY**

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

Ushers: Hobus Family / Davis Family

Children's Church: T&T Jentz / J. Adney & C. Kliem

Nursery: Ourslands / Josts

Fellowship Hosts: L. Pierson & G. Tronstad

Communion Prep/Cleanup: E. Pierson / C&L Scrima

#### **Next Sunday December 21**

Ushers: Ingrams / Matterns

Children's Church: H&Z Hanson / Jake Neufeld

Nursery: Buis Family / Wilbur Family

Fellowship Hosts: A. Haymond & J. Orndorff

Communion Prep/Cleanup: T. Carroll / N. Moody

#### **Sunday Worship Services**

8:15 & 10:15 am

#### **Vespers**

2nd Sunday @ 6 pm

#### **Sunday Evening Prayer Svc**

Non-Vespers Sundays @ 6 pm

#### **Wednesday Youth Group**

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

#### **Elder/Deacon Meeting**

3rd Monday @ 7 pm

#### **Men's Breakfast**

Wednesdays @ 6:30 am