

# FAITH COVENANT

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C H U R C H

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*Spreading A Love for God and His Glory*

*January 11, 2026*

Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.'  
For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.

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Matthew 9:13

**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**

**MOMENT FOR MINISTRY:** *Perspectives (Lindsey Vander Ark)*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP:** *Psalm 150*

Leader: Praise the LORD.

**All:** Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty  
heavens.

Leader: Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his  
surpassing greatness.

**All:** Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise  
him with the harp and lyre,

Leader: Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.

*\*Indicates  
when to stand.  
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**\*O GOD BEYOND ALL PRAISING - Hymn #660**

O God beyond all praising, we worship you today  
And sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;  
For we can only wonder at every gift you send,  
At blessings without number and mercies without end:  
We lift our hearts before you, and wait upon your word,  
We honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,  
That we who know your favor may serve you as our king;  
And whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,  
We'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:  
To marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,  
And make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

**\*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

**\*10,000 REASONS (BLESS THE LORD)**

*(Chorus)*

*Bless the Lord, O my soul; O my soul, worship his holy name.  
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship your holy name.*

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,  
it's time to sing your song again.  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,  
let me be singing when the evening comes.

*(Chorus)*

You're rich in love and you're slow to anger.  
Your name is great and your heart is kind.  
For all your goodness I will keep on singing;  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

*(Chorus)*

And on that day when my strength is failing,  
the end draws near and my time has come;  
still my soul will sing your praise unending,  
ten thousand years and then forevermore!

*(Chorus 2x)*

I'll worship your holy name; I'll worship your holy name.

**COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN**

**SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *James 2:10***

For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

Leader: You shall have no other gods before me.

All: **But I often place other things on the throne of my heart above you.**

Leader: You shall not make for yourself a carved image...You shall not bow down to them or serve them.

All: **But I make you into who I want you to be.**

Leader: You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.

All: But I treat your name lightly and do not bring honor to you.

Leader: Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work.

All: But I make excuses for spending the day pursuing my own pleasures with little thought on how I can set apart the Sabbath to you.

Leader: Honor your father and your mother.

All: But I spurn authority and set my own rules.

Leader: You shall not murder.

All: But I often hate my brother in my heart.

Leader: You shall not commit adultery.

All: But my thought life is often x-rated and my heart filled with lust.

Leader: You shall not steal.

All: But I devote my life to pursue convenience and consumption.

Leader: You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

All: But I often speak against my neighbors and run them down to others.

Leader: You shall not covet.

All: But I desire and chase after far more than I need and I am not content with what I have.

All: Forgive us, O God. Put to death our sinful desires and practices through the power of your Holy Spirit. Renew us in the image of your Son, our Savior-Jesus Christ. Amen.

*(Adapted from the Ten Commandments - Exodus 20)*

## SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

### DECLARATION OF GRACE: Hebrews 2:17-18

Therefore, he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make atonement for the sins of the people. For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

### 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.

**\*JESUS PAID IT ALL (O PRAISE THE ONE)**

I hear the Savior say, "Your strength indeed is small.  
Child of weakness, watch and pray, find in me your all in all."

*(Chorus)*

*Jesus paid it all; all to him I owe  
Sin had left a crimson stain, he washed it white as snow*

Lord now indeed I find, thy power and thine alone  
Can change the leper's spots, and melt the heart of stone

*(Chorus)*

And when before the throne, I stand in him complete  
"Jesus died my soul to save," my lips shall still repeat

*(Chorus)*

*Oh, praise the One who paid my debt  
And raised this life up from the dead (3x)*

*(Chorus)*

**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 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.

## *Ministry is Messy—Matthew 9:9-13 & 11:16-19*

Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.

*Matthew 9:9-13 (ESV)*

<sup>9</sup>As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him. <sup>10</sup>And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. <sup>11</sup>And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” <sup>12</sup>But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>13</sup>Go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

*Matthew 11:16-19*

<sup>16</sup>“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates, <sup>17</sup>“We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’ <sup>18</sup>For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ <sup>19</sup>The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

I. God Calls Sinners to Jesus

II. Sinners Question Those Called



### Questions for Further Reflection

1. Tax collectors were a hated and despised group of people. They were considered unpatriotic traitors, fraudulent thieves, and the worst kinds of sinners. Jesus eating with them upset “good” people. What kind of people would upset you if Jesus was eating with them? How does the gospel challenge your own heart in this?
2. Who were the critics of Jesus and John the Baptist? How did they miss the gospel?
3. Criticism is not a spiritual gift. Throwing bricks is not being “prophetic.” What is the proper way to raise up concerns for a ministry if you have them?
4. Why is it hard for forgiven sinners to remember they were and are forgiven sinners? What turns “younger brothers” into “older brothers”?
5. Ministry with real people with real problems will always be messy. How do you encourage those who are engaged in this work? How do you keep from being an impediment for this work?

### Children’s Question

*Jesus was criticized for helping sinful people. Why do you think they did this?  
How did Jesus respond to them?*

### 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.

**\*HERE IS LOVE VAST AS THE OCEAN**

Here is love vast as the ocean  
Lovingkindness as the flood  
When the Prince of Life our ransom  
Shed for us His precious blood  
Who His love will not remember  
Who can cease to sing His praise  
He can never be forgotten  
Throughout heav'n's eternal days

On the mount of crucifixion  
Fountains opened deep and wide  
Through the floodgates of God's mercy  
Flowed a vast and gracious tide  
Grace and love like mighty rivers  
Poured incessant from above  
Heav'n's peace and perfect justice  
Kissed a guilty world in love

On the morn of resurrection  
Mercy filled the thirsty grave  
Where the stone of death burst open  
Springs of life flowed unrestrained  
Love no heart could ever measure  
Joy no sorrows will outrun  
Rush upon the soul believing  
In the risen reigning Son

Oh this love vast love of Jesus  
Bids us come and drink and live  
To this weary world of longing  
What more could our Savior give  
*Now to Christ who fully loved us  
And who freed us from our sin  
Be all glory and dominion  
Everlasting praise to Him*

**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.*

**PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION**

## \*THE GOD WE LOVE

We believe in one God the Father, the Almighty the Maker of all  
The One who rules the seen and unseen, we believe and we adore  
Jesus Christ one Lord of creation from the Father, begotten not made  
He is the Light from Light eternal and the God of every age

*(Chorus)*

*All glory to the Father now  
All honor to the Son  
And praise the Spirit now and always  
This is the God we love*

For this world and for our salvation, He came down from the heavens above  
Born of a virgin and the Spirit, truly man and truly God  
He was crucified under Pilate, suffered death and was laid in the grave  
And in accordance with the scriptures on the third He rose again

*(Chorus)*

*(Bridge)*

And He has made His ascent into the heavens above  
Where He sits at the Father's right hand now  
But He will come back again and He will judge in truth  
The Holy Spirit has come, voice of the prophets of God  
Sent to us he has given us new life, forgiven now and baptized  
One holy church we rise, we rise

*(Chorus 2x)*

*This is the God we love*

*Now we wait to be resurrected  
And we look for the world without end  
This is our creed our faith our anthem  
This is the God we love*

## \*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:** Bible Study Fellowship

**JANUARY MISSION FOCUS:** MTW Internships

**VESPERS SERVICE:** Join us for Vespers tonight at 6 pm. Come unplug and recharge with this evening service of prayer and song.

**FOOD, FUN, & FELLOWSHIP:** Faith Covenant's mix-and-match gathering will happen the months of February, March, and April. TODAY is the last day to sign up.

**REVELATION READ-ALoud:** Ladies, join us this Wed., Jan. 14, from 9:30-11:30 am as we read the book of Revelation together prior to the beginning of our study.

**YOUTH WINTER RETREAT:** for 6th-12th graders is next weekend, Jan. 16-18, at Dickey Lake Bible Camp. You can register using the QR code in the foyer or the link in the Friday eNewsletter.

**SHEPHERDING GROUP POTLUCK:** Tinkham/Falk/Cunningham group will have a time of fellowship next Sun., Jan. 18, following the 2nd service.

**WOMEN'S WINTER BIBLE STUDY:** Begins Wed., Jan. 21. Sign up sheets are in the foyer. It's \$15 for the book + workbook, which will be available next week. Payment can be dropped off in the church office or paid with a credit card using the QR code.

**ANNUAL MEETING:** The annual congregational meeting will be Wed., Jan. 28. A 6 pm soup supper will precede the 7 pm meeting. All members are encouraged to attend but you do not need to be a member to attend. Sign up in the foyer to bring a pot of soup or a side to share.

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

**WEEKLY/MONTHLY**

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

Ushers: Wilkersons / Bonners

Children's Church: S. Duncan & C. Carroll / A. Brown

Nursery: S. Morin / Wilburs

Fellowship Hosts: D. Corder & A. Ingram

Communion Prep/Cleanup: A. Haymond / J. Brown

**Next Sunday January 18**

Ushers: Petersen Family / Lancaster Family

Children's Church: A&C Hanson / J&J Brown

Nursery: M&J Mattocks / S&B Votapka

Fellowship Hosts: P. Saldamando & E. Pierson

Communion Prep/Cleanup: C. Duncan / N. Moody

**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**

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