

LEADERSHIP

Session

Jim Plunk, Moderator
Bob Barber
Shaun Sipe, Clerk
Chas Emerson*

Diaconate

Andrew Duff, Chairman
Robert Massey, Secretary
Chris Lyons***
Nick Manley
Scott Sartor
Charlie Smith
David Wright

*Sabbatical

**Emeritus

***Deacon on duty

Dick Brankstone**

Christ Covenant Church (PCA)

1068 Thousand Oaks ~ Phone: 662.469.9330

Jim Plunk, Pastor, jplunk@christcovenantms.org

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Justin & Carey Helms, Interim youth Interns, carey.helms@ruf.org; justin.helms@ruf.org

Like us on Facebook: Christ Covenant Church (PCA), Hernando, MS

www.christcovenantms.org



"For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake."

2 Corinthians 4:5

First Sunday of Advent

11.27.22

Notes

If you are new to church, the notes in this margin are a way to help you understand and follow along through each aspect of today's service. If you like, use the free space to take your own notes about anything you find interesting or thought provoking. If you have additional questions, you can talk with a church officer after the service.

Congregational Standing

Throughout the bulletin the asterisk * denotes congregational standing

We encourage you to use this bulletin during the week to reflect on what you have heard and experienced during worship. You can use the prayers, confessions, and scripture for personal worship and devotional time at home

WELCOME!

Thank you for joining us for worship today. Here at Christ Covenant, we seek to celebrate God's grace through Jesus Christ, who came to give us life today and for eternity. We also seek to cultivate a safe environment for the convinced and unconvinced to hear the free offer of the gospel in Jesus Christ. Whether you are follower of Jesus, or it has been a while since you've considered your relationship to Him, or you are exploring His claims for the first time, we are delighted to have you with us today. We would love to be able to connect with you and share with you more about the ministry of our church. If you are a visitor, please take a moment during the service to fill out a Visitor Card located in the back of the chair. We have a visitor bag for you in the lobby with a mug, coffee, pens and Dane Ortlund's book, "Gentle and Lowly, The Heart of Christ for Sinner's and Sufferers."

Ushers: Chris Lyons and David Wright

A/V Assistant: Matt Walden

Communion: Don & Ann Plunk

Church Nursery Helpers:

Church hour—Blair Harrell & JoAnn Harrison

Sunday school—Delena Beavers & Hillary Hale

For Your Children: We welcome children to attend and participate in the corporate worship by singing, praying and offering responses as they are able. For older children, we offer opportunities to hear a lesson that is age appropriate. For ages 4 years old and under, we offer Children's Church during the sermon portion of the service. Children will be dismissed before the sermon. For younger children, infants to age 3, we provide a nursery throughout the service for parents who would prefer not to have their children with them.

CHURCH CALENDAR * CHILDREN'S CHURCH SCHEDULE

Be sure to sign up on our website to receive the weekly E-news which is sent every Wednesday with the latest up-to-date information.

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST COVENANT CHURCH

Sunday - November 27th

9:15am—Coffee & Conversation

9:30am – Sunday Worship w/ Holy Communion; also via live stream

11:00am—Hanging of the Greens

Monday – November 28th

No activities planned

Tuesday – November 29th

6:00pm—Men's bible study

Wednesday–November 30th

6:30am—Men's bible study

5:15pm—Children's Team Meeting

6:00pm—Youth, Kids' Club

Thursday– December 1st

No activities planned

Friday– December 2nd

3:45pm—Youth meet to leave for CPYC

Saturday– December 3rd

No activities planned

Looking Ahead

- Leadership training—12.4, 12.18
- Kids' Club Choir—12.11, please arrive by 8:45am to rehearse
- Kids Club Choir sing at Wesley Meadows—12.7 (last Kids' Club)
- Christmas Eve Service—12.24
- Missions Emphasis Week—2.26-3.5
- Peru Mission Trip—6.2-9

PRAYER NEEDS

Praying for the families of Christ Covenant 11.26-12.3
Scott, Catherine, Ellie & Ben Sartor • Shaun & Shannon Sipe

Illness/Medical Prayer Needs: Michael Emerson • Hull Emerson • Valerie Walden • Betty Morrow • Monte Morgan • Henry Johnson • Christa Chapman • Hannah Tanous • Oliver Plunk • Ellie Plunk • Betty Walker • Terry Walker

OUR LOCAL & WORLD MISSIONS

Please pray for these local and world missions and our missionaries.

Peru Mission (Esdras, Wes) • Mike and Roxanne Winebrenner (Christ Fellowship in Horn Lake) • Hunter Brewer (Trinity Collierville) • RUF: John Craft (Rhodes College), John Crosby (University of Memphis), Ro Taylor (Delta State University), Anthony Forrest (Jackson State), Spencer Sipe (Vanderbilt) • Dewayne Williams (Restoration Now) • Daniel and Kendall Myrick (Reclaimed Ministry)

Community Bible Reading Schedule

DAY	DATE	OLD TESTAMENT	NEW TESTAMENT
Sun	11.27.22	X	X
Mon	11.28.22	Ruth 4	Matthew 5
Tues	11.29.22	1 Samuel 1	Matthew 6
Wed	11.30.22	1 Samuel 2	Matthew 7
Thurs	12.1.22	1 Samuel 3	Matthew 8
Fri	12.2.22	1 Samuel 4	Matthew 9
Sat	12.3.22	Psalms 49	X

Scan this code
to download the
Community
Bible Reading
App



Preparing for Worship
With so many distractions vying for our attention, this is a time to listen to the prelude music, read of Vision Statement on the front cover, and get ready for the service.

Call to Worship If worship is offering all that we are to all that God is, then this call is a way to proclaim this movement, while also challenging us on what we worship daily.

Why we sing
We sing in order to remember the stories of how God has worked in our lives. Singing takes the truth of who God is and what He is doing, and applies it into our lives.

Prayer of Invocation
Is from the Latin *invocare*, meaning “to call on.” God has called us to worship—and now, in grateful response, we cry out for His presence among us.

The Lord’s Prayer
Jesus gave this example in the New Testament (Matthew 6:9-13) to show us how to pray. We use this prayer corporately each week as a reminder.

ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC WORSHIP

Prelude

Lighting of the Advent Wreath—The Prophecy Candle
Isaiah 2:1-5 (p. 567) Oliver Plunk
Matthew 24:36-44 (p. 830) Jodi Plunk

READER: We light the first candle, the Prophecy Candle, to remind us that the promise of Christ’s Advent was prophesied many years before his birth. It also reminds us to look forward to his Second Advent, which will bring the full realization of those promises. Come quickly, Lord Jesus.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

***Call to Worship** Rev. Jim Plunk
PASTOR: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.
PEOPLE: I will say of the Lord, “He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”
PASTOR: “Because he loves me,” says the Lord, “I will rescue him; I will protect him for he acknowledges my name.
PEOPLE: He will call upon me, and I will answer him;...With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation. From Psalm 91

***Song of Adoration** Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus #196

***Invocation** (concluded by the Lord’s Prayer)
ALL: 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.

Confession

is the time when we are honest about ourselves with each other and with God. As we admit our misplaced affections, we are called to reorder our lives. Only by being honest will the good news of grace be significant and needed.

Assurance of Pardon and Comfort

are encouraging words which is what we need to hear after the honesty of our confession

Confession of Sin

PASTOR: Let us now humbly confess our sins together:

ALL: O Lord, our love is like the morning cloud, like the dew that goes early away. We are quick to forget you and turn away from you, our God and King. Forgive us our sins and ever remind us that what you desire most is steadfast love, not sacrifice, and the knowledge of you rather than burnt offerings.

From Hosea 6

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon and Comfort

PASTOR: Come, let us return to the Lord; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him.

Hosea 6:1-2

ALL: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is well-pleased.

Luke 2:14

***Song of Renewal**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel # 194

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School: Adults will meet for the annual Hanging of the Greens in place of Sunday school. Kids will meet and joins the adults near the end to decorate w/ their crafts. Will resume next week

CPYC: For those attending CPYC, please arrive no later than 3:45pm on Friday, 12.2. Bring your \$150 payment and release forms if those haven't been turned in yet.

Hanging of the Greens: Join us for our annual Hanging of the Greens today, in place of Sunday school. All are encouraged to stay for some festive fun and fellowship as we hang some simple decorations as a church family! Kids will meet for Sunday school and join the adults at the end to hang the crafts they've been working on.

Children's Team Meeting: Will meet Wednesday, 11.30, 5:15pm at the church

Youth Christmas Party: The annual youth Christmas party will be Wednesday, 12.7, from 6-8pm at the Sartor's home, 1584 Hillshire North. Wear your ugliest sweater and bring a \$10 gift for a dirty Santa exchange. Talk to Catherine Sartor if you can help w/ food for the evening. Youth will resume in 2023

Leadership Training: Remaining dates for 2022 are 12.4 and 12.18 and Pastor Jim will cover Reformed Theology

Peru Mission Trip Interest Meeting and Potluck: After church, 12.11, there will be an interest meeting and potluck for anyone interested in hearing about the Peru mission trip this coming June. If you plan to attend, please email Katie Cantrell kdcfly@gmail.com and let her know what dish you're bringing.

Kids' Club: Kids' Club will sing at Wesley Meadows 12.7, meet at the church. Also, they will sing during service 12.11. Please arrive no later than 8:45am to rehearse.

Advent Devotional: Advent devotion booklet for families available in the lobby

Peru Mission Trip: Mark your calendars for our Peru Mission Trip coming up June 3-10, 2023. Please pray for those going, (is God calling YOU?) those we'll minister to, and the Lord's provision for finances. Stay tuned for more info to come!

COMMUNION GUIDELINES AND PRAYERS

Bread: Each tray contains gluten-free bread in the brown cup.

Cup: Each tray has wine in the outer rim. The pink cups in the center are filled with grape juice.

When we celebrate the Lord’s Supper, we are gathering around the table of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Therefore, we invite all followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this wonderful sacrament: those who are baptized members of a congregation which proclaims the gospel, who are at peace with God and neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with his church.

Parents, your children are welcome to partake, if they have been baptized and been received as a communing member of the church to which you belong. If you think your child is ready to become a member, please speak to one of the elders.

Prayer for Covenant Children (not yet a communing member)

Lord Jesus, thank you for placing me inside your family, the church. Help me more and more to know you, to love you, and to follow you as your faithful disciple. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. I now resolve in humble reliance on the Holy Spirit to seek to walk in a manner pleasing to you. Amen.

Prayer of Those Struggling with Sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my needs and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the pioneer and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

COMMITTING TO GOD’S KINGDOM

***Confession of Faith**

PASTOR: We confess our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed

ALL: We believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance With the Father, By whom all things were made; who for us men, and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to The Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again, with glory to judge both the living and the dead: whose kingdom shall have no end. And we believe in the Holy Spirit, The Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. and we believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

Nicene Creed

Kingdom Moment

Holy Baptism

Eli Mills & Samuel Mills

Kingdom Prayers of the People

Offertory

Even So, Come

***Doxology** (*Children under 4 dismissed at this time*)

LISTENING TO GOD’S WORD

***Prayer for Illumination**

The Reading of God’s Word

Psalms 2 (p. 448)

READER: The grass withers, the flowers fade

ALL: But the word of our God will stand forever. *Isaiah 40:8*

The Sermon

Rev. Jim Plunk

We confess our faith as an act of worship, together with Christians in all times and places. “If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”

The term “catholic” refers to the church universal, knowing no racial, economic, or geographic barriers.

Offertory is a time for prayerful reflection and response by considering how to be generous with your time, talents and resources. If you are new to our church, or exploring Christianity, please don’t feel obligated to give. Instead, please be sure to fill out a visitors card. Offerings, tithes & cards can be put in the box in the back of the sanctuary before or after service. Also on our website <https://christcovenantms.org/online-giving/>

Doxology We sing this short hymn of praise to thank and adore our God of glory.

The Sermon is a teaching based on the passage from the reading of God’s Word. The role of the sermon is to make real truths of the Gospel. It is not just an intellectual function. Rather, using the imagination, our hearts are to be affected by the text.

The Great Thanksgiving:
Following the pattern of Jesus, this prayer of thanksgiving reminds us this is a meal offering thanks to God for all he has done as we bring our whole selves to him with the communion of the saints.

Words of Institution: These words recorded in the synoptic gospels and 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 are words from Jesus setting this meal apart from every other meal as a holy sacrament for God’s people.

The Lord’s supper: God meets us not only in hearing the Word, but also in visible, tangible form—uniting us with himself spiritually by faith in Christ

COMMUNING WITH GOD

The Great Thanksgiving

PASTOR: The Lord be with you

PEOPLE: And with your spirit

PASTOR: Lift up your hearts

PEOPLE: We lift them up to the Lord

PASTOR: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

PEOPLE: It is right to give Him thanks and praise

PASTOR: It is indeed good, right and our delight that we should at all times and all places give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we praise and magnify your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying...

ALL: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

PASTOR: Christ our Passover was sacrificed for us!

PEOPLE: Hallelujah!

PASTOR: Let us proclaim the mystery of the faith:

ALL: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Hallelujah!

PASTOR: The gifts of God for the holy people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving. Let us partake of the feast!

Holy Communion

Prayer of Dedication

GOING OUT WITH GOD’S BLESSING

*Song of Sending

*Benediction *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

PASTOR: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord life up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

PEOPLE: Amen! *Numbers 6:24-26*

*Gloria Patri

SERMON NOTES

“An Advent King“
Psalms 2 (p. 448)

His reign is kingly

His reign is victorious

His reign offers a refuge

The Benediction
is how we close our time of worship. It is not a prayer but rather a blessing with a charge to go beyond our church into the world carrying the hope, joy and love of the Gospel.

Gloria Patri
We have heard and witnessed God’s glory. Now we leave singing His glory that others might know His glory.

Sermon Audio
If you want to listen to any archived sermons, please visit the sermon page on our website www.christcovenantms.org or subscribe to our podcast on your smartphone. All music used by permission. CCLI License #3258262

Practical Needs and Prayer
If you have questions or would like to pray with someone, our officers can be available after the worship service, or you may call the church office and leave a message for a deacon at 662.469.9330 and someone will get in touch with you. You can also send prayer requests to office@christcovenantms.org.

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

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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 heav'nly 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 pow'rs 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!”

#196 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

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Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Joy to those who long to see thee, Dayspring from on high, appear;
Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse, of thy birth we long to hear!
O'er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth:
“Go to him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth.”

Come to earth to taste our sadness, he whose glories knew no end;
By his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;
This the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

#194 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

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O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

**Rejoice!
Rejoice!
Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.**

O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
In ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe.

Repeat Chorus

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

Repeat Chorus

O come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.

Repeat Chorus

O come, thou Key of David, come and open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.

Repeat Chorus

Even So, Come

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All of creation, all of the earth,
make straight a highway, a path for the Lord;
Jesus is coming soon.

Call back the sinner, wake up the saint,
let ev'ry nation shout of Your fame;
Jesus is coming soon.

**Like a bride waiting for her groom,
we'll be a church ready for You.
Ev'ry heart longing for our King, we sing:**

“Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come.
Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come.”

There will be justice, all will be new.
Your name forever, faithful and true;
Jesus is coming soon.

Repeat Chorus

“Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come.
Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come.”

So we wait, we wait for You.
Oh, we wait; You're coming soon.
So we wait, we wait for You.
Oh, we wait; You're coming soon.

Repeat Chorus 2x

“Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come.
Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come.
Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come.
Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come.”