

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

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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

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
2.5.23

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 and put it in the offering plate. 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: Robert Massey & Charlie Smith

A/V Assistant: Chris Tingle

Communion & Coffee: Chas & Jennifer Emerson

Church Nursery Helpers:

Church hour—Delena Beavers & Catherine Sartor

Sunday School—Donna Belenchia & Hannah Wilkerson

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 - February 5th

9:15am—Coffee & Conversation

9:30am – Sunday Worship w/ Holy

Communion; also via live stream

11:00am—Sunday school

Various times—Small groups

Wednesday–February 8th

6:30am—Men’s bible study

9:00am—Women’s bible study

6:00pm—Kids’ Club, Youth, Women’s bible study

Thursday– February 9th

No activities planned

Monday – February 6th

No activities planned

Friday– February 10th

No activities planned

Tuesday – February 7th

9:00am—Covenant Presbytery

6:00pm—Men’s bible study

Saturday– February 11th

No activities planned

Looking Ahead

- Missions Emphasis Week—2.26-3.5
- Small Group Dates—2.5&19, 3.5&26, 4.16&30
- Easter Egg Hunt—3.25
- Holy Week—4.2-9
- Kids’ Club sing at Wesley Meadows—4.19
- VBS—6.5-9, “Summer Sea Quest”
- Peru Mission Trip—6.2-9
- General Assembly—6.12-16, Renasant Convention Complex
- RYM—7.10-15

PRAYER NEEDS

Praying for the families of Christ Covenant 2.4-2.11
Dick & Emily Brankstone • Brian, Katie, Will & Caroline Cantrell

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 • Scott Slater • The Belenchia Family • The Bernard family

Prayer Requests: Donna Belenchia’s sister, Betty, recovering well after suffering a stroke at Thanksgiving time • The Bernard family, mourning the loss of Craig, a teaching elder at Houston Pres.

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	2.5.23	X	X
Mon	2.6.23	2 Samuel 19	Acts 1
Tues	2.7.23	2 Samuel 20	Acts 2
Wed	2.8.23	2 Samuel 21	Acts 3
Thurs	2.9.23	2 Samuel 22	Acts 4
Fri	2.10.23	2 Samuel 23	Acts 5
Sat	2.11.23	Psalms 59	X

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 loves. 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

*Call to Worship Rev. Jim Plunk

PASTOR: I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

PEOPLE: My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.

PASTOR: Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together! *Psalms 34:1-3*

*Song of Adoration *King of Saints*

*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.

Reading of the Law

PASTOR: What is the fifth commandment?

ALL: The fifth commandment is: Honor your father and your mother: that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God gives you.

PASTOR: Who are meant by father and mother in the fifth commandment?

ALL: By father and mother, in the fifth commandment, are meant, not only natural parents, but all superiors in age and gifts; and especially such as, by God’s ordinance, are over us in place of authority, where in family, church, or commonwealth. *(continued)*

Reading the law guides us into all truth, but also convicts us. It is appropriate to read before we confess sin.

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

PASTOR: What is required in the fifth commandment?

ALL: **The fifth commandment requires the preserving the honor, and performing the duties, belonging to everyone in their several places and relations, as superiors, inferiors, or equals.**

PASTOR: What is forbidden in the fifth commandment?

ALL: **The fifth commandment forbids the neglecting of, or doing anything against, the honor and duty which belongs to everyone in their several places and relations.**

Westminster Larger Catechism 123-124 Westminster Shorter Catechism 64-65

Confession of Sin

PASTOR: In Jesus, we have put off the old humanity, which belonged to our former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and we have put on the new humanity, which is created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

ALL: **Therefore, forgive us Lord for the corrupting talk that comes out of our mouth, talk that tears down, rather than builds up and give grace to those that hear.**

From Ephesians 4

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon and Comfort

PASTOR: In Jesus, we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.

Ephesians 1:7

ALL: **Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, new creation! The old has passed away, behold, the new has come!**

2 Corinthians 5:17

*Song of Renewal

O Great God

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School: Adults meet in the sanctuary and the elders will team teach a class on church history not only giving historical highlights but applications for today. Youth meet in the south end lounge area where the boys are continuing w/ Church 101 by RYM. The girls are going through “Women of the Word.” Kids meet in the classrooms. No Sunday school 2.19 & 26

Covenant Presbytery: Meets Tuesday. 2.7, at Christ Pres. In Somerville, TN

Ladies Event: Galentines’ Coffee and Conversation on Saturday, February 11 at 10:00 AM. Ladies, please come enjoy coffee and a light breakfast at the church with your CCC sisters!

Youth Meals: If you’re able to provide a meal for youth, there is a sign up on our website. Thank you!

Peru Mission Trip Interest Meeting Follow Up: Sunday, 2.19, after church, there will be a 30-45 minute follow up meeting for those interested in the Peru Mission Trip this summer. ALL ARE WELCOME!! We'll offer basic info about the trip and we'll try to answer ALL THE QUESTIONS! Call Katie Cantrell with questions: 901-825-0628 HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Missions Emphasis Week: This year we start on Sunday February 26th with Wes Baker from Peru Mission in town and hopefully joined by Esdras preaching. We will finish Sunday March 5th with Rev Anthony Forrest from RUF-Jackson State preaching. Our theme will be focused on local mercy ministry, so officers will be leading training on mercy ministry Tuesday-Thursday evenings from 6-8pm. More details to follow.

Small Groups: Meet tonight! This is a great way to get to know more people in the church and grow together. Groups are based geographically and meet in member homes. Please see an elder to be placed in a group. Remaining date for this month is 2.19

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.

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 which can be put in the offering plate. Also, you can give securely 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.

COMMITTING TO GOD’S KINGDOM

***Confession of Faith** Elder Shaun Sipe

LEADER: We confess our faith with the words of the Apostles Creed
ALL: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary, He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen *The Apostles Creed*

Kingdom Prayers of the People

Offertory *Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery*

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

LISTENING TO GOD’S WORD

***Prayer for Illumination**

The Reading of God’s Word *Exodus 20:12(p.61)*

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
”The fifth commandment: Authority in family, church, and common-wealth”

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 memorial acclamation reminds us of the center of history and our lives; the death, resurrection, and return of Jesus.

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: You commanded light to shine out of darkness, divided the sea and dry land, created the vast universe and called it good. You made us in your image to live with one another in love. Through long generations you have been faithful and kind to all your children. Therefore, with angels and archangels and 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: Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

PEOPLE: Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.

Lord Jesus, come in glory. 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

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.

GOING OUT WITH GOD’S BLESSING

*Song of Sending Take My Life & Let It Be #585

*Benediction

PASTOR: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. 2 Corinthians 13:14

PEOPLE: Amen!

*Gloria Patri

SERMON NOTES

Continuing in the series: Covenant Redemption and Relationship: The Mission of God in the Book of Exodus

“The fifth commandment: Authority in family, church, and common-wealth”
Exodus 20:12p.61)

When not in authority

When in authority

When equal

#585 Take My Life, and Let It Be

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Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days;
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee,
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only, for my King;
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee,
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my will and make it Thine;
It shall be no longer mine,
Take my heart, it is Thine own;
It shall be Thy royal throne,
It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee,
Ever, only, all for Thee.

King of Saints

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Jesus Christ, God's holy lamb,
We will laud thy lovely name;
We were saved by God's decree,
And all our debt was paid by thee.

Thou has washed us in thy blood,
Made us kings and priests to God;
Take this tribute of the poor;
Less we can't, we can't give more.

**Souls redeemed, your voices raise,
Sing your dear Redeemer's praise;
Worthy thou of love and laud,
King of saints, incarnate God.
Souls redeemed your voices raise,
Sing your dear Redeemer's praise;
Worthy thou of love and laud,
King of saints, incarnate God.**

Righteous are thy ways and true;
Endless honors are thy due;
Grace and glory in thee shine;
Matchless mercy, love divine.

We for whom thou once was slain,
We thy ransomed sinner train,
In this one request agree,
"Spirit make us more like thee."

Repeat Chorus

O Great God

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O great God of highest heav'n, occupy my lowly heart.
Own it all and reign supreme, conquer ev'ry rebel pow'r.
Let no vice or sin remain that resists Your holy war.
You have loved and purchased me, make me Yours forevermore.

I was blinded by my sin, had no ears to hear Your voice,
Did not know Your love within, had no taste for heaven's joys.
Then Your Spirit gave me life, opened up Your Word to me,
Through the gospel of Your Son, gave me endless hope and peace.

Help me now to live a life that's dependent on Your grace.
Keep my heart and guard my soul from the evils that I face.
You are worthy to be praised with my ev'ry thought and deed.
O great God of highest heav'n, glorify Your name through me.

You are worthy to be praised with my ev'ry thought and deed.
O great God of highest heav'n, glorify Your name through me.

Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery

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Come, behold the wondrous myst'ry, 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 myst'ry, He the perfect Son of Man;
In His living, in His suff'ring, 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 myst'ry, 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 myst'ry, 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 deliv'rance, how unwavering our hope;
Christ in power resurrected, as we will be, when He comes.

Come, behold the wondrous myst'ry, slain by death the God of life;
But no grave could e'er restrain Him, praise the Lord, He is alive!