

## 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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Rebecca Emerson, Children's Director, [rebeccanemerson@christcovenantms.org](mailto:rebeccanemerson@christcovenantms.org)

Jamie Frank, Office Administrator, [office@christcovenantms.org](mailto:office@christcovenantms.org)

Justin & Carey Helms, Interim youth Interns, [carey.helms@ruf.org](mailto:carey.helms@ruf.org); [justin.helms@ruf.org](mailto:justin.helms@ruf.org)

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[www.christcovenantms.org](http://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*

Second Sunday in Lent  
3.5.23

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 Ortland's book, "Gentle and Lowly, The Heart of Christ for Sinner's and Sufferers."

Ushers: Chris Lyons & David Wright

A/V Assistant: Chris Tingle

Communion & Coffee:

Church Nursery Helpers:

Church hour—Mary Ashley McNeely & Meghan Barkley

Sunday School—Mary Esther Slater & Mary Hellen 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 - March 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—March 8th

6:30am—Men's bible study

9:00am—Women's bible study

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

Thursday– March 9th

No activities planned

Monday – March 6th

4:00pm—Session meeting

Friday– March 10th

No activities planned

Tuesday – March 7th

No activities planned

Saturday– March 11th

No activities planned

Looking Ahead

- Small Group Dates—3.5&26, 4.16&30
- Holy Week—4.2-9
- Spring Break—3.12-18, No youth, kids' club or Women's bible study
- Kids' Club sing at Wesley Meadows—4.19
- VBS—6.5-9, "Summer Sea Quest"
- Peru Mission Trip Dates—3.7, app due; 3.19, team meeting; 6.2-9, Mission Trip
- General Assembly—6.12-16, Renasant Convention Complex
- RYM—7.10-15

PRAYER NEEDS

Praying for the families of Christ Covenant 3.4-3.11  
Charlie & Britt Emerson • Ethan, Carrie, Steven Wait & Saylor Foresman

Illness/Medical Prayer Needs: Michael Emerson • Hull Emerson • Valerie Walden • Betty Morrow • Helen & Monte Morgan • Henry Johnson • Christa Chapman • Oliver Plunk • Betty Walker • Terry Walker • Betty Walter • Scott Slater • Dick & Emily Brankstone • The Slater family

Prayer Requests: Michael Emerson having surgery in CO 3.21, which will take several weeks of appointments & follow up • The Slater family, mourning the loss of Steven’s Grandmother, Lullene Slater

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	3.5.23	X	X
Mon	3.6.23	1 Kings 15	Acts 22
Tues	3.7.23	1 Kings 16	Acts 23
Wed	3.8.23	1 Kings 17	Acts 24
Thurs	3.9.23	1 Kings 18	Acts 25
Fri	3.10.23	1 Kings 19	Acts 26
Sat	3.11.23	Psalms 63	X

ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC WORSHIP

Prelude

\*Call to Worship Elder Bob Barber

LEADER: Behold the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love, that he may deliver their soul from death and keep them alive in famine.

PEOPLE: Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. For our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.

LEADER: Let your steadfast love, O Lord be upon us, even as we hope in you. From Psalm 33

\*Song of Adoration Steadfast

\*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.

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.

**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.

Trisagion: it means “thrice holy”, and the hymn is theologically rich with deep historical roots. It is a plea for mercy to the Holy Trinity

**Assurance of Pardon and Comfort**  
are encouraging words which is what we need to hear after the honesty of our confession

**Confession of Sin**

LEADER: Let us confess our sins to Almighty God.  
**ALL: O God, you have not called us into darkness, rather you have brought us into the light of your Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. By your grace we are children of light, children of the day. You have called us to be awake and sober-minded, having put on the breastplate of faith and love as well as the helmet of hope of our salvation. In light of this gracious reality, we ask that you would forgive us for living contrary to who we are in Christ and for denying him in our words and actions. Restore us, that we may seek to do good and honor you, our loving and merciful Father.**

*Adapted from 1 Thessalonians 5*

**Silent Confession**

**Song of Confession**

*Trisagion*

**Assurance of Pardon and Comfort**

LEADER: For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live in him.

*1 Thessalonians 5:9-10*

**ALL: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

*Psalms 51:10*

**\*Song of Renewal**

*Jesus, I Come*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Sunday School:** Resumes this week w/ a recap of the Mercy Ministry Training

**Missions Emphasis Week:** This morning we are joined by Rev. Anthony Forrest. Anthony is a native of Mississippi. After high school graduation, he attended the University of Mississippi, also his wife Felicia’s alma mater. They married in 2007 and lived in Oxford, MS, where they saw the impact of campus ministry firsthand and felt a sincere desire to be involved in campus ministry. Anthony and Felicia left Oxford, and he attended Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson and interned at Redeemer Church, PCA. At the end of his seminary time and internship, the call to be the next campus minister at Jackson State University came. He accepted the call in the spring of 2019, with his wife by his side and their three children: Axayla, Arilyn, and Athan.

**Small Groups:** Meet tonight! This is a great way to get to know more people in the church and grow together. March dates are 3.5 & 26. Groups are based geographically and meet in member homes. Please see an elder to be placed in a group.

**Spring Break:** Spring break will be observed the week of 3.12-18. There will be no Wednesday night activities, Women’s bible study or Men’s morning bible study.

**Peru Mission Dates:** Please return your completed application to Bob Barber no later than 3.7. Team meeting to finalize commitments, 3.19 after Sunday school

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

**Annual Easter Egg Hunt:** Join us for the annual Easter Egg Hunt 3.25 from 3-5pm at the home of Robert & Katie Massey, 1090 Lake View Drive, Hernando. Watch for a sign up for ways to help.

**General Assembly Volunteering:** Covenant presbytery is hosting General Assembly at the Renasant Convention Complex in Memphis June 12-16th. Please plan to attend evening worship, morning seminars, and visit denomination booths! Also, please volunteer (<http://covenantpresbytery.net/50th-general-assembly/>). Send questions to Suellen Warren ([swarren@ipcmemphis.org](mailto:swarren@ipcmemphis.org)) and RE Morgan Murphy ([morganjmurphy@gmail.com](mailto:morganjmurphy@gmail.com)). Look for a card in the lobby w/ specific needs requested.

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**

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 Moment**

RUF-Jackson State University

**Kingdom Prayers of the People**

**Offertory**

*Across the Lands*

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

LISTENING TO GOD’S WORD

**\*Prayer for Illumination**

**The Reading of God’s Word**

*Colossians 1:15-23 (p. 983)*

READER: The grass withers, the flowers fade

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

**The Sermon**

Rev. Anthony Forrest

”The Cosmic Christ”

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.”

**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.

**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: We need not hide ourselves from you, before whose justice no one can stand. Your mercy was proclaimed by the apostles and the prophets, and shown forth to us in Jesus Christ . You give your law to guide us, and you promise new life that we may live to serve you among our neighbors in all we do and say. 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: **We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory.**

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 *On Jordan’s Stormy Banks I Stand*

**\*Benediction**

PASTOR: Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it. *1 Thessalonians 5:23-24*

PEOPLE: **Amen!**

**\*Gloria Patri**

SERMON NOTES

“The Cosmic Christ“

*Colossians 1:15-23 (p.983)*

Jesus Christ is the Lord of Creation

**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](http://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](mailto:office@christcovenantms.org).

Jesus Christ is the Lord of Redemption

# On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand

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On Jordan's stormy banks I stand  
And cast a wishful eye  
To Canaan's fair and happy land,  
Where my possessions lie

All o'er those wide extended plains  
Shines one eternal day;  
There God the Son forever reigns  
And scatters night away.

**I am bound, (I am bound,)**  
**I am bound, (I am bound,)**  
**I am bound for the promised land.**  
**I am bound, (I am bound,)**  
**I am bound, (I am bound,)**  
**I am bound for the promised land.**

No chilling winds nor poisonous breath  
Can reach that healthful shore;  
Sickness, sorrow, pain and death  
Are felt and feared no more.

***Repeat Chorus***

When shall I reach that happy place  
And be forever blessed?  
When shall I see my Father's face  
And in His bosom rest?

***Repeat Chorus 2x***

# Steadfast

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I will build my house, whether storm or drought,  
on the rock that does not move.  
I will set my hope in Your love, O Lord,  
and Your faithfulness will prove:

**You are steadfast,  
steadfast.**

By the word You spoke all the starry host  
are called out by name each night.  
In Your watchful care, I will rest secure  
as You lead us with Your light.

***Repeat Chorus 2x***

I will not trust in the strength of kings;  
on Your promise I will stand.  
I will shout for joy, I will raise my voice,  
“Hallelujah to the Lamb!”

***Repeat Chorus 2x***

In the moment of emptiness, all was fulfilled.  
In the hour of darkness, Your light was revealed.  
In the presence of death, Your life was affirmed.  
In the absence of holiness, You are still God.

***Repeat Chorus 4x***

## Trisagion

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Holy God, Holy and mighty,  
Holy Immortal One, have mercy, have mercy on us.

Holy God, Holy and mighty,  
Holy Immortal One, have mercy, have mercy,  
have mercy, have mercy on us.

## Jesus, I Come

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Out of my bondage, sorrow and night, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.  
Into Thy freedom, gladness, and light, Jesus, I come to Thee.  
Out of my sickness into Thy health, Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,  
Out of my sin and into Thyself, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.  
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross, Jesus, I come to Thee.  
Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm, Out of life's storms and into Thy calm,  
Out of distress into jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.  
Into Thy blessed will to abide, Jesus, I come to Thee.  
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love, Out of despair into raptures above,  
Upward forever on wings like a dove. Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.  
Into the joy and light of Thy home, Jesus, I come to Thee.  
Out of the depths of ruin untold, Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,  
Ever Thy glorious face to behold. Jesus, I come to Thee.

## Across the Lands

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You're the Word of God the Father  
From before the world began.  
Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet  
Has been fashioned by Your hand.  
All creation holds together  
By the power of Your voice.  
Let the skies declare Your glory;  
Let the land and seas rejoice!

**You're the author of creation;  
You're the Lord of ev'ry man;  
And Your cry of love rings out across the lands.**

Yet You left the gaze of angels,  
Came to seek and save the lost,  
And exchanged the joy of heaven  
For the anguish of a cross.  
With a prayer You fed the hungry;  
With a word You calmed the sea;  
Yet how silently You suffered  
That the guilty may go free!

### *Repeat Chorus*

With a shout You rose victorious,  
Wrestling vict'ry from the grave,  
And ascended into heaven  
Leading captives in Your way.  
Now You stand before the Father,  
Interceding for Your own;  
From each tribe and tongue and nation,  
You are leading sinners home!

### *Repeat Chorus*