

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

Third Sunday in Lent
3.12.23

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: Andrew Duff & David Wright

A/V Assistant: Steven Slater

Communion & Coffee: Matt & Valerie Walden

Church Nursery Helpers:

Church hour—Merrel Patridge & Monica Tingle

Sunday School—Rebecca Emerson & Rachel Wright

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 12th

9:15am—Coffee & Conversation

9:30am – Sunday Worship w/ Holy

Communion; also via live stream

Wednesday–March 15th

No activities planned

Thursday– March 16th

No activities planned

Monday – March 13th

No activities planned

Friday– March 17th

No activities planned

Tuesday – March 14th

6:00pm—Men’s bible study

Saturday– March 18th

No activities planned

Looking Ahead

- Small Group Dates—3.26, 4.16 & 30
- Holy Week—4.2-9; Maundy Thursday & Good Friday services, 5:30pm
- Kids’ Club sing at Wesley Meadows—4.19
- Children’s ministry volunteer appreciation dinner—5.3
- Graduate Luncheon—5.7
- VBS—6.5-9, “Summer Sea Quest”
- Peru Mission Trip Dates—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 3.11-3.18
Matthew, Jamie, Eli, Leo & Liam Frank • Drew, Erin, Mary Whitten & Lane Funderburk

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 • The Warbritton 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 • Heath Warbritton, mourning the loss of his grandmother, Minnie Conrad

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	3.12.23	X	X
Mon	3.13.23	1 Kings 20	Acts 27
Tues	3.14.23	1 Kings 21	Acts 28
Wed	3.15.23	1 Kings 22	Romans 1
Thurs	3.16.23	2 Kings 1	Romans 2
Fri	3.17.23	2 Kings 2	Romans 3
Sat	3.18.23	Psalms 64	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 Elder Shaun Sipe
LEADER: Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the godly! Let Israel be glad in his Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!
PEOPLE: Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre!
LEADER: For the Lord takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with salvation. Psalm 149:1-4

*Song of Adoration O Worship the King #2

*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.

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 now humbly confess our sins together:

ALL: Lord God, You require us to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly before You. We confess that we have not loved You or our neighbor in this way. We repent of this. Grant that Your Holy Spirit drives us to seek these things through Christ. Amen.

From Micah 6:8

Silent Confession

Song of Confession

Trisagion

Assurance of Pardon and Comfort

LEADER: If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be revered.

Psalms 130:3-4

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

Psalms 51:10

***Song of Renewal**

Nothing But the Blood #307

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School: will not meet this week

Guest Pastor: Preaching for us today is Rev. Ford Williams. He is presently serving as a Pastoral Associate with the 60+ community at Independent Presbyterian Church, Memphis, Ford has previously ministered with RUF, and churches in Cleveland and Starkville, MS, and Jackson and Germantown, TN. He and his wife, Martha, have been blessed with three children and eight grandchildren.

Leadership Training: Next Sunday from 4-6pm we will cover part 2 of the BCO, church discipline, Van Dam’s book, “The Deacon” and the first 2 chapters of “Gospel Eldership.”

Interfaith Council on Poverty's annual fundraiser to stock our local food pantry: Flock Around the Block 5K. Saturday, April 1, at 8am, begins at Trustmark Bank on the square. Volunteers needed!! CCC will also provide a water table for runners/walkers. Contact Katie Cantrell with questions or to volunteer! Register to run: www.raceroster.com

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. Also, Pastor Jim will be out of town. Please reach out to an elder if you have a need.

Peru Mission Dates: There will be a team meeting to finalize commitments, 3.19 after Sunday school

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) and RE Morgan Murphy (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.

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.

COMMITTING TO GOD’S KINGDOM

***Confession of Faith**

LEADER: What do we believe concerning Christ the Mediator?

ALL: It pleased God, in his eternal purpose, to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus, his only begotten Son, to be the Mediator between God and man, the Prophet, Priest, and King, the Head and Savior of his church, the Heir of all things, and Judge of the world: unto whom he did from all eternity give a people, to be his seed, and to be by him in time redeemed, called, justified, sanctified, and glorified.

Westminster Confession of Faith 8.1

Kingdom Prayers of the People

Offertory

Here Is Love

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

LISTENING TO GOD’S WORD

***Prayer for Illumination**

The Reading of God’s Word *Matthew 10:1-15 (p. 814)*

READER: The grass withers, the flowers fade

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

The Sermon

Rev. Ford Williams

”Come On-a My House”

COMMUNING WITH GOD

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

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: According to his commandment:

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 *O Church, Arise*

*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

“Come On-a My House “
Matthew 10:1-15 (p.814)

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.

O Church, Arise

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O church, arise and put your armor on;
Hear the call of Christ our captain;
For now the weak can say that they are strong
In the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth
We'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold whose battle cry is "Love!"
Reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul,
But to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole
We will fight with faith and valor.
When faced with trials on ev'ry side,
We know the outcome is secure,
And Christ will have the prize for which He died
An inheritance of nations.

Come, see the cross where love and mercy meet,
As the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet,
For the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away,
And Christ emerges from the grave,
This vict'ry march continues till the day
Ev'ry eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in ev'ry stride,
Give grace for ev'ry hurdle,
That we may run with faith to win the prize
Of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
Retelling triumphs of His grace,
We hear their calls and hunger for the day
When, with Christ, we stand in glory.

#2 O Worship the King (vv. 1–2, 4–6)

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O worship the King all-glorious above,
O gratefully sing his pow'r and his love;
Our shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

Your bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
It streams from the hills; it descends to the plain;
And sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
your mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

O measureless Might! Ineffable Love!
While angels delight to hymn you above,
The humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
With true adoration shall lisp to your praise.

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.

#307 Nothing but the Blood

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What can wash away my sin? nothing but the blood of Jesus
what can make me whole again? nothing but the blood of Jesus.

**O precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
no other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.**

For my cleansing this I see—nothing but the blood of Jesus;
for my pardon this my plea—nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Repeat Chorus

Nothing can for sin atone—nothing but the blood of Jesus;
naught of good that I have done—nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Repeat Chorus

This is all my hope and peace—nothing but the blood of Jesus;
this is all my righteousness—nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Repeat Chorus

Now by this I'll overcome—nothing but the blood of Jesus;
now by this I'll reach my home—nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Repeat Chorus

Here Is Love

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Here is love, vast as the ocean, loving-kindness 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,
Heaven's peace and perfect justice kissed a guilty world in love.

Let me, all Your love accepting, love You, ever all my days;
Let me seek Your kingdom only, and my life be to Your praise;
You alone shall be my glory, nothing in the world I see;
You have cleansed and sanctified me, You Yourself have set me free.

In Your truth You still direct me by Your Spirit through Your Word;
And Your grace my need is meeting, as I trust in You, my Lord.
Of Your fullness You are pouring Your great love and pow'r on me,
Without measure, full and boundless, drawing out my heart to Thee.

Of Your fullness You are pouring Your great love and pow'r on me,
Without measure, full and boundless, drawing out my heart to Thee.