

## LEADERSHIP

### *Session*

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

\*Sabbatical

\*\*Emeritus

\*\*\*Deacon on duty

### *Diaconate*

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

Dick Brankstone\*\*

### Christ Covenant Church (PCA)

1068 Thousand Oaks ~ Phone: 662.469.9330

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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)

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

[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*

Fourth Sunday in Lent  
3.19.23

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 & Robert Massey

A/V Assistant: Matt Walden

Communion & Coffee: Donny & Ann Plunk

Church Nursery Helpers:

Church hour—Rebecca Fyfe & Katie Massey

Sunday School—Hillary Hale & Kymberliegh Riley

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 19th

9:15am—Coffee & Conversation  
9:30am – Sunday Worship w/ Holy Communion; also via live stream  
11:00am—Sunday school  
12:00pm—Peru mission trip meeting  
4:00pm—Officer training  
6:00pm—Joint session meeting

Monday – March 20th

No activities planned

Tuesday – March 21st

6:00pm—Men’s bible study

Wednesday–March 22nd

6:30am—Men’s morning bible study  
9:00am—Women’s morning bible study  
5:00pm—Church Life team meeting  
6:00pm—Kids’ Club, Youth, Women’s evening bible study

Thursday– March 23rd

No activities planned

Friday– March 24th

No activities planned

Saturday– March 25th

3:00pm—Easter egg hunt

Looking Ahead

- Small Group Dates—3.26, 4.16 & 30
- Holy Week—4.2-9; Maundy Thursday & Good Friday services, 5:30pm, Easter Breakfast
- 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  
Collins, Rebecca, Hayley & Ford Fyfe • Wes, Hillary, Forest, Mercy Paige & Foster Hale

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 Warbritton Family

Prayer Requests: Michael Emerson having surgery in CO Tuesday, which will take several weeks of appointments & follow up • 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	3.19.23	X	X
Mon	3.20.23	2 Kings 3	Romans 4
Tues	3.21.23	2 Kings 4	Romans 5
Wed	3.22.23	2 Kings 5	Romans 6
Thurs	3.23.23	2 Kings 6	Romans 7
Fri	3.24.23	2 Kings 7	Romans 8
Sat	3.25.23	Psalms 65	X

ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC WORSHIP

Prelude

\*Call to Worship Rev. Jim Plunk

PASTOR: Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall all vows be performed.

PEOPLE: O you who hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come.  
PASTOR: Blessed is the one you choose to bring near, to dwell in your courts! We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, the holiness of your temple! Psalm 65:1-2, 4

\*Song of Adoration Praise to the Lord, the Almighty #53

\*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.

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

Reading of the Law

PASTOR: What is the eighth commandment?

ALL: The eighth commandment is: You shall not steal

PASTOR: What is required in the eighth commandment?

ALL: The eighth commandment requires the lawful procuring and furthering the wealth and outward estate of ourselves and others.

PASTOR: What is forbidden in the eighth commandment?

ALL: The eighth commandment forbids whatsoever does, or may, unjustly hinder our own, or our neighbor’s wealth or outward estate.

Westminster Shorter Catechism 73-75

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.

Confession of Sin

PASTOR: Let us now confess our sins together:

ALL: O Lord, we have sinned. Therefore, we will acknowledge our sin to you and we will not cover up our iniquity. Instead, we will confess our transgression trusting that you will forgive the iniquity of our sin through your Son and our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

From Psalm 32

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

Silent Confession

Song of Confession

Trisagion

Assurance of Pardon and Comfort

PASTOR: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Psalm 32:1

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

Psalm 51:10

\*Song of Renewal

Thy Mercy, My God

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School: resumes this week w/ teaching on Church History

Leadership Training: Tonight 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.racerooster.com

Peru Mission Dates: There will be a team meeting to finalize commitments today 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. Sign up to help w/ refreshments using the link posted in Faithlife & Facebook

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.

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**

PASTOR: What is repentance unto life?

**ALL: Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin, and apprehension of mercy of God in Christ, doth, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of, and endeavor after, new obedience.** *Westminster Shorter Catechism Q/A 87*

**Kingdom Prayers of the People**

**Offertory** *He Leadeth Me #600*

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

LISTENING TO GOD’S WORD

**\*Prayer for Illumination**

**The Reading of God’s Word** *Exodus 20:15 (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 Eighth Commandment: Stealing, Greed, Generosity”

**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: 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 Be Thou My Vision #642

\*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

Resuming the series: Covenant Redemption and Relationship: The Mission of God in the Book of Exodus  
“The Eighth Commandment: Stealing, Greed, Generosity“  
Exodus 20:15 (p. 61)

What is forbidden regarding property?

What is commanded regarding property?

How can we live in a greedy world?

**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.

## #642 Be Thou My Vision

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Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art.  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleep ing, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
Thou my great Father, I thy true son;  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

## #53 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (vv. 1–3, 5)

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Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near,  
Join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been  
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;  
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;  
Ponder anew what the Almighty will do  
If with his love he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!  
Let the amen sound from his people again;  
Gladly fore'er we adore him.

## 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.

## Thy Mercy, My God

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Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,  
The joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue.  
Thy free grace alone from the first to the last  
Hath won my affections and bound my soul fast.

Without thy sweet mercy I could not live here;  
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;  
But through thy free goodness my spirits revive  
And he that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart  
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;  
Dissolved by thy goodness I fall to the ground  
And weep for the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great father of mercies thy goodness I own  
And the covenant love of thy crucified son;  
All praise to the spirit whose whisper divine  
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine.

All praise to the spirit whose whisper divine  
Seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine!

## #600 He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought!

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He leadeth me: O blessed thought!  
O words with heav'nly comfort fraught!  
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,  
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

**He leadeth me, he leadeth me;  
by his own hand he leadeth me:  
his faithful foll'wer I would be,  
for by his hand he leadeth me.**

Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom,  
sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,  
by waters calm, o'er troubled sea,  
still 'tis his hand that leadeth me.

### *Repeat Chorus*

Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,  
nor ever murmur nor repine;  
content, whatever lot I see,  
since 'tis my God that leadeth me.

### *Repeat Chorus*

And when my task on earth is done,  
when, by thy grace, the vict'ry's won,  
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee,  
since God through Jordan leadeth me.

### *Repeat Chorus*