

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP
THE LORD'S DAY

September 24, 2023

WELCOME TO CHRIST COVENANT CHURCH

We are glad you are here to worship the living God! This worship folder is intended to guide you through the service, as well as provide you with devotional material to take home.

IN PREPARATION

Preparing for trials and suffering can seem odd during a life of relative peace. And yet, there are not just a few passages that call us to be prepared to suffer for the sake of Christ. To our ears, martyrdom seems like a world away. Yet, the message that God is judge and that Christ is the Redeemer will, at times, be met with derision or even death. Will we look to our Lord in faith? Will we trust the Judge of all mankind?

SERVICE OF WORSHIP — 10:45 AM

Announcements and Greeting

Scripture Meditation—1 Peter 4:12–14

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

Introit

Call to Worship—Psalm 96:7–10

Leader: Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!

**ALL: Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts!**

Leader: Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth!

**ALL: Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns!
Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved;
he will judge the peoples with equity."**

Prayer of Invocation

Congregational Hymn—

#296 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (v. 1, 2, 3, 6)

Responsive Reading—Psalm 94:2-7, 21-22

Leader: Rise up, O judge of the earth; repay to the proud what they deserve! O LORD, how long shall the wicked, how long shall the wicked exult? They pour out their arrogant words; all the evildoers boast. They crush your people, O LORD, and afflict your heritage. They kill the widow and the sojourner, and murder the fatherless; and they say, “The LORD does not see; the God of Jacob does not perceive.”

ALL: They band together against the life of the righteous and condemn the innocent to death. But the LORD has become my stronghold, and my God the rock of my refuge.

Congregational Song—Only a Holy God



Who else com - mands all the hosts of heav - en?
 What oth - er beau - ty de - mands such prais - es?
 What oth - er glo - ry con - sumes like fi - re?
 Who else could res - cue me from my fail - ing?



Who else could make ev - 'ry king bow down?
 What oth - er splen - dor out - shines the sun?
 What oth - er pow - er can raise the dead?
 Who else would of - fer his on - ly Son?



Who else can whis - per and dark - ness trem - bles? On - ly a ho - ly God.
 What oth - er maj - es - ty rules with jus - tice? On - ly a ho - ly God.
 What oth - er name re - mains un - de - feat - ed? On - ly a ho - ly God.
 Who else in - vites me to call him Fath - er? On - ly a ho - ly God.



Come and be - hold him, the One and the On - ly. Cry out, sing ho - ly,



for - ev - er a ho - ly God. Come and wor - ship the ho - ly God. —

New Testament Scripture Reading—Matthew 10:16–23

“Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, and you will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Confession of Sin

Assurance of Grace—1 Peter 3:13–18

Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness’ sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will, than for doing evil. For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory—Speak and We Will Hear

Pastoral Prayer

Congregational Song—O Lord, My Rock and My Redeemer

Parents, you may escort your pre-school aged children to Children's Bible Time (B-102).

O Lord, my Rock and my Re-deem-er; Great-est
O Lord, my Rock and my Re-deem-er; Strong de-
O Lord, my Rock and my Re-deem-er; Gra-cious

treas-ure of my long-ing soul; My God, like You there is no
fend-er of my wea-ry heart; My sword to fight the cruel de-
Sav-ior of my ru-ined life; My guilt and cross laid on Your

oth-er; True de-light is found in You a-lone.
ceiv-er, and my shield a-gainst his hate-ful darts.
shoul-ders; In my place You suf-fered bled and died.

Your grace, a well too deep to fath-om; Your
My song, when en-e-mies sur-round me; My
You rose, the grave and death are con-quer-ed; You

love ex-ceeds the heav-ens' reach; Your truth, a fount of per-fect
hope, when tides of sor-row rise; My joy, when tri-als are a-
broke my bonds of sin and shame. O Lord, my Rock and my Re-

wis-dom; My high-est good and my un-end-ing need.
bound-ing; Your faith-ful-ness, my ref-uge in the night.
deem-er, may all my days bring glo-ry to Your Name.

Text and Music: Traditional African-American Spiritual, arr. Nathan Clark George, 2019

Prayer of Illumination

Preaching of the Word—Revelation 6:9–11

SOULS UNDER THE ALTAR

Kevin DeYoung

Congregational Hymn—#528 My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Benediction

Assisting in Worship: Preaching Pastor: Dr. Kevin DeYoung; Assisting Pastor: Rev. Joel May;

Pastor of Worship: Rev. Nathan George; Organist: Pam Eash; Pianist: Pamela Mullins;

Instrumental Director: Joseph Foucachon; CCC Youth Choir

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Announcements and Greeting

Call to Worship— Based on Psalm 104:1, 24, 33-34

Leader: Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God,
you are very great! You are clothed with splendor
and majesty,

**ALL: O LORD, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom have you made them all; the earth is full
of your creatures.**

Leader: Sing to the LORD as long as you live; sing praise
to your God while you still have being.

**ALL: May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice
in the LORD.**

Congregational Hymn—#38 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Congregational Hymn—#140 O Word of God, Incarnate

Prayer of Adoration

Responsive Psalter Reading—Psalm 111, T. H. p. 826

New Testament Scripture Reading—1 Corinthians 1:18–31

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. And

because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Pastoral Prayer

Congregational Psalm—

May the Lord Respond in Trouble (Psalm 20)



May the Lord re - spond in trou - ble	May the God of Ja - cob guard you
May He grant your heart's de - si - re	And ful - fill your plan's de - signs__
Now I know the Lord's sal - va - tion	By His an - swer we are blest__
Nev - er trust in earth - ly pow - ers	They will soon col - lapse and fall.__



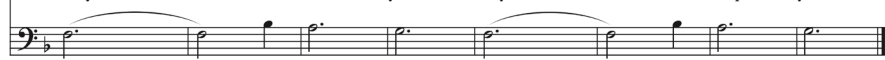
May He send you help from Zi - on	And__ sup - ply his
May our voic - es ev - er joy - ful	Shout__ sal - va - tion's
See His hand is strong and migh - ty!	In__ the Lord we
We will rise and stand be - fore him	May__ He an - swer



grace__ and truth,__	And__ sup - ply his	grace__ and...
bles - sed cry;__	Shout__ sal - va - tion's	cry__ and...
find__ our rest;__	In__ the Lord we	rest__ and...
when__ we call,__	He__ will an - swer	us__ and....



(Women) May the Lord bless you.	May the	keep you.
(Men) May_____ He bless you.	May_____	He keep you.



Text & Music: Nathan Clark George, based on Psalm 20

Preaching of the Word—1 Kings 3

THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON

Blair Smith

Congregational Hymn—#642 Be Thou My Vision

Benediction

Assisting in Worship: Preaching Pastor: Dr. Blair Smith; Assisting Pastor: Rev. Derek Wells;
Pastor of Worship: Rev. Nathan George; Organist: Pam Eash

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In humble reliance upon the word of God and prayer, Christ Covenant Church
is committed to worshiping God, making disciples, loving one another,
and serving the body of Christ.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship Services at 10:45 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

SENIOR STAFF

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NEW TO CHRIST COVENANT?

We hope you will visit the Guest Center in the main lobby so we can meet you!
Interested in knowing more about Christ Covenant Church? Please contact Michelle Gustavson,
Engagement and Connections Ministry Manager, at mgustavson@christcovenant.org.
Interested in a small group? Please contact Caleb Johnson,
Small Groups and Young Adults Ministries Coordinator, at calebjohnson@christcovenant.org.

Christ Covenant Church is part of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).