



COVENANT GRACE
C O L U M B I A

April 7th 2024

Liturgy

Call to Worship

God gathers his people to care for them and receive their worship.

1 Peter 2:4–5, 9 - As you come to him, a living stone—rejected by people but chosen and honored by God— you yourselves, as living stones, a spiritual house, are being built to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ... You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his possession, so that you may proclaim the praises of the one who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

O For A Thousand Tongues

O, for a thousand tongues to sing	He breaks the power of cancelled sin
My great Redeemer's praise	He sets the prisoners free
The glories of my God and King	His blood can make the foulest clean
The triumphs of His grace	His blood availed for me
My gracious Master and my God	
Assist me to proclaim	He speaks and listening to His voice
To spread through all the earth abroad	New life the dead receive
The honors of Thy name	The mournful broken hearts rejoice
Jesus, the name that charms our fears	The humble poor believe
That bids our sorrows cease	Glory to God and praise and love
'Tis music in the sinner's ears	Be ever, ever giv'n
'Tis life and health and peace	By saints below and saints above The church in earth and Heav'n

The Law of God

God requires righteousness of all people.

Ephesians 4:25–32 - ²⁵ Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. ²⁶ Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil. ²⁸ Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. ²⁹ Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Confession of Sin

God's people acknowledge their sin before Him.

Our Father, forgive our sins. Forgive the sins that we remember, and the sins we have forgotten. Forgive our many failures in the face of temptation, and those times when we have been stubborn in the face of correction. Forgive the times we have been proud of our own achievements and those when we have failed to boast in your works. Forgive the harsh judgments we have made of others, and the leniency we have shown to ourselves. Forgive the lies we have told to others, and the truths we have avoided. Forgive us the pain we have caused others and the indulgence we have shown ourselves. Lord God, have mercy on us and make us whole. In Jesus Christ, our Savior's name, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

God shows his people mercy and grace in Jesus Christ

1 John 2:1–2 - My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ² He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Lord From Sorrows Deep I Call

Lord, from sorrows deep I call
When my hope is shaken;
Torn and ruined from the fall,
Hear my desperation.
For so long I've pled and prayed.
"God come to my rescue!"
Even so, the thorn remains;
Still my heart will praise You.

Storms within my troubled soul,
Questions without answers;
On my faith these billows roll—
God be now my shelter.
Why are you cast down, my soul?
Hope in Him who saves you.
When the fires have all grown
cold,
Cause this heart to praise You.

*Oh, my soul,
put your hope in God;
My help, my rock,
I will praise Him.
Sing, oh sing
through the raging storm;
You're still my God, my salvation.*

Should my life be torn from me,
Every worldly pleasure;
When all I possess is grief,
God be then my treasure.
Be my vision in the night,
Be my hope and refuge;
'Til my faith is turned to sight,
Lord, my heart will praise You.

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Great is Thy faithfulness
O God my Father
There is no shadow
Of turning with Thee
Thou changest not
Thy compassions they fail not
As Thou hast been
Thou forever wilt be

*Great is Thy faithfulness
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning
New mercies I see
All I have needed
Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness
Lord unto me*

Summer and winter
And springtime and harvest
Sun moon and stars
In their courses above
Join with all nature
In manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness
Mercy and love

Pardon for sin
And a peace that endureth
Thy own dear presence
To cheer and to guide
Strength for today
And bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine
With ten thousand beside

Prayer

After the Pastor leads us in prayer for our church and community, pray together as Jesus taught us:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.
Amen.

Sermon - Matthew 10:16-25

God proclaims His word to His people.

Nicene Creed

God's people confess the faith once for all delivered to the saints.

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, begotten from the Father before all ages, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and was made human. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried. The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. He proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic church. We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and to life in the world to come. Amen.

Before The Throne Of God

Before the throne of God above	Because a sinless Savior died
I have a strong and perfect plea	My sinful soul is counted free
A great High Priest	For God the Just is satisfied
whose name is Love	To look on Him and pardon me
Who ever lives and pleads for me	To look on Him and pardon me

My name is graven on His hands	Behold Him there
My name is written on His heart	the risen Lamb
I know that while	My perfect spotless
in heaven He stands	righteousness
No tongue can bid me	The great unchangeable I am
thence depart	The King of glory and of grace
No tongue can bid me	
thence depart	

When Satan tempts me	One in Himself I cannot die
to despair	My soul is purchased
And tells me of the guilt within	by His blood
Upward I look and see Him there	My life is hid with Christ on high
Who made an end of all my sin	With Christ my Savior and my God
	With Christ my Savior and my God

The Lord's Supper

God gives his people the sign of their New Covenant union with Christ.

Doxology

God's people praise Him in light of all they have received.

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heav'nly host
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost

Benediction

God sends His people out with His blessing.

2 Thessalonians 2:16–17

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal encouragement and good hope by grace, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good work and word.