



Covenants in Scripture

TRACING THE PROMISES OF GOD

*2022 Women's Fall Retreat
November 4-6, 2022
Paradise Point, San Diego*

Welcome

Dear Redeemer women and friends,

Women wear many different hats in this lifetime: We may be any combination of aunties, sisters, daughters, friends, mothers, wives, students, employees or neighbors. We create, comfort, cook, shop, fix, drive, clean, listen, empathize, travel, learn, lead, and solve problems. Sometimes we plan parties. But do we really rest? And do we remember how to play?

And then there are the trials and tribulations of this at-times difficult journey. The cares of this world can zap our souls. We mourn, weep, struggle, worry, slump over, and try to recover. Maybe we pause and pray. But do we remember who God is and what He's done for us?

Our prayer is that this retreat would be a time of rest and renewal for you! Not the kind that merely restores the body, but the sort of renewal that rebuilds hope and trust in God's promises and His faithfulness to us. The kind that seeps deep into our souls, giving comfort and peace. And what better way is there to do so than by studying God's covenants?! We are so grateful to have Margarita Diaz Lutz here to show us in Scripture how God has been faithful to His promises and His people and why He will continue to do so.

It is good news that we are not our own, but belong body and soul, in life and death, to our faithful Savior Jesus Christ. May your soul find encouragement and true rest in Christ this weekend, and may this body of believers be a reminder that you are not alone on your journey.

Yours in Christ,

The Redeemer Women's Ministry Team

"Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water...but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.'" John 4:10,14

Schedule of Events

*All sessions will take place in the Bay View Room

FRIDAY

4:00 - 6:00PM - Check In

6:00 - Dinner in the Bay View Room

7:00 - Session 1 and Discussion Groups

8:30 - Games

SATURDAY

Breakfast on your own

9:30 - Session 2 and Discussion Groups

12:00 - Lunch at Pine Hill Lawn

1:00 - 4:00 - Free Time

4:30 - Session 3 and Discussion Groups

7:00 - Dinner at Pine Hill Lawn

SUNDAY

Breakfast on your own

9:45 - Worship Service

11:00 - Check Out

FREE TIME SUGGESTIONS

Enjoy the 5 swimming pools

Visit the spa

Play basketball, tennis or ping pong (complimentary but must be reserved)

Rent a beach cruiser, quadricycle, paddle board or kayak

Reserve a lawn game

Walk the waterfront path or beach

Rent a fire pit

Personal Reflection

BEFORE THE RETREAT:

- As you come to this weekend what expectations do you have?
- What do you hope Jesus will do for you?
- Write a prayer below asking Jesus to provide for you in one of the things you are hoping for from this weekend.

Personal Reflection

AFTER THE RETREAT:

- Reflect on how Jesus provided for you and met you specifically this weekend.
- Use the following questions to assist you in applying the concepts from this weekend to a particular issue or situation you are facing:
 - a) Describe the issue or situation you are facing in your life that feels particularly heavy and difficult.
 - b) What about this issue is rooted in the way you are created by God, made in His image, to live in relationship with Him, others, and creation?
 - c) What about this issue is rooted in the fall? Where is there sin?
 - d) Where do you need to remember that in Jesus you already hold the gift of the power over sin in this situation?
 - e) Where are you waiting for God to bring life out of death in this situation?
 - f) How have you seen God's presence, power and persistence in this situation already?
 - g) Where are you acting like your relationship with God is a contract in this situation (i.e., if I just do x then God will have to reward me with y)?
 - h) How can you be a righteous representative of God in this situation?
 - i) How does remembering that God is going to restore all things put this issue in perspective?

Session 1 - Notes

SESSION 1: *The Promise of the Gift of Life: The Covenant of Works and the Covenant of Grace*

Session 1

To Discuss:

- 1) Who in your life do you look to as someone who has deep assurance in their relationship with God? What makes you think that? What things in life can cause you to doubt your relationship with God?

- 2) As a table, make a list of what is true about us because we are created. Which of these do you most quickly forget? What happens when you do?

- 3) What are some reasons why we so quickly believe the lie that God is stingy with His love towards us? If you are comfortable sharing, where in your life are you currently believing the lie that God is stingy with His love towards you?

- 4) What are some ways we see alienation and death in our following relationships:
 - a) Creation (i.e., the natural world, your body, your vocation)
 - b) Others (i.e., spouse, friends, children, coworkers)
 - c) God

- 5) In God's covenant of grace, God promises to judge finally and fully the serpent who deceived Adam and Jesus fulfilled this promise. Where in your life do you need to remember that you already hold the gift of Jesus' victory over sin in your hands?

HYMN: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness - Page 10*

Session 2 - Notes

SESSION 2: *Faith in the LORD of the Promise: The Abrahamic Covenant*

Session 2

To Discuss:

- 1) How does it encourage you that God is always the one who moves towards us first?

- 2) If you are in Christ, you are part of God's people which means that He promises you His presence, His power, and His persistence. What are some reasons it is hard to believe these promises? How does remembering that God has bound Himself to dwell with us in eternity put our day-to-day life in perspective?

- 3) Abraham and Sarah tried to "help" God out in fulfilling his promise to them. What is your go-to "helpful solution" when you are waiting for God to fulfill His promises to you? What are some ways we can actively turn our faces to God, to behold Him, in faith rather than go to our "helpful solutions"?

- 4) How have you seen God bring life out of death in your life already? Where are you waiting to see God bring life out of death in your life currently?

HYMN: *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus - Page 11*

Session 3 - Notes

SESSION 3: *The Promise Fulfilled in Love: The Mosaic Covenant*

Session 3

To Discuss:

- 1) We can treat our relationship with God more like a contract by believing that a) God loves me because I offer him something and b) If I check these boxes, then God must reward me. What are some behaviors/thought patterns/emotions that signal to you that you are treating the relationship this way? What practical step can you take in those moments to remember that your relationship with God is not a contract but a covenant?

- 2) In what sphere in your life is God using you as His righteous representative? In this sphere, how can you lean more upon
 - a) God's love for you?
 - b) Jesus' forgiveness?
 - c) The Spirit's indwelling?

- 3) As a table give a definition of "covenant". What are some things you might point to when talking to a friend who doubts her relationship with God?

- 4) What is one takeaway you want to hold on to from this weekend?

HYMN: *What Wondrous Love Is This - Page 12*

HYMNS

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

WORDS: THOMAS CHISHOLM; MUSIC: WILLIAM RUNYAN

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

Chorus

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

Chorus

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

Chorus

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

WORDS: CHARLES WESLEY; MUSIC: ROWLAND PRICHARD

Come Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in Thee
Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth Thou art
Dear desire of ev'ry nation
Joy of ev'ry longing heart

Joy to those who long to see thee
Day-spring from on high appear
come, thou promised Rod of Jesse
Of the birth we long to hear!
O'er the hills angels singing news
Glad tidings of a birth
"Go to him your praises bringing
Christ the Lord has come to earth"

Come to earth to taste our sadness
He whose glories knew no end
By His life He brings us gladness
Our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend
Leaving riches without number
Born within a cattle stall
This the everlasting wonder
Christ was born the Lord of all

Born thy people to deliver
Born a child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring
By thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to thy glorious throne

What Wondrous Love Is This
WORDS AND MUSIC: AMERICAN FOLK HYMN

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down, sinking down,
When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb Who is the great "I Am";
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
And thro' eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And thro' eternity I'll sing on.

Notes

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Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost : OCTOBER 30TH, 2022

WELCOME

Before the service, there is a time for prayer and reflection. Please remember to silence cell phones.

Calling

Please stand.

CALL TO WORSHIP - PSALM 100

In the call to worship God begins the dialogue that occurs in worship and graciously invites his people to draw near to him.

Minister: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

People: Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

Minister: Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us and we are his;

People: we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Minister: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.

People: For the LORD is good and his steadfast love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Bold text is read together by the congregation. Plain text is read by the leader.

PASTORAL PRAYER OF ADORATION

Prayer concludes by praying in unison:

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.

OPENING SONG

Holy, Holy, Holy

WORDS: REGINALD HEBER; MUSIC: JOHN DYKES

Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy!
All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who was, and is, and evermore shall be.

Holy, holy, holy!
Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,
Only thou art holy; there is none beside Thee
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Cleansing

Please be seated.

CONFESSION OF SIN

In the prayer of
repentance we
speak honestly
with God about
ourselves by
confessing our
sins and
shortcomings
and seeking
forgiveness in
Christ.

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and apart from your grace, there is no health in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare all those who confess their faults. Restore all those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

SONG OF COMFORT

Before the Throne of God Above

WORDS BY CHARITIE LEES BANCROFT (1863), MUSIC BY VIKKI COOK (1997)

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heaven He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

Please stand.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON - 1 JOHN 1:9

Having been
forgiven by
God, we greet
one another
with joy and
speak peace to
each other.

Minister: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

PASSING THE PEACE

Minister: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: And also with you.

Constitution

Please be seated **GOSPEL READING**

Luke 11:27-28

²⁷ As he said these things, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, “Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts at which you nursed!” ²⁸ But he said, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

Prayer Requests?
Let us know
how we can
pray for you.
Fill out the
Prayer Request
form on our
church app
or website by
scanning the
QR Code.



The Spirit uses
the reading and
preaching of
God's Word
to impart new
Spiritual life as
well as to nourish
and comfort
God's people in
their faith.

SERMON

REV. JOSH HAHNE

True Blessedness

Communion

Our communion liturgy is adapted from Scripture as well as the earliest traditions of the church. The liturgy begins with *The Sursum Corda* which is Latin for “lift up your hearts,” and calls us to be heavenly minded in the Lord’s presence (cf. Psalm 25:1; 2 Thessalonians 3:16).

The Sanctus is a prayer that has been used by the church since the first century to respond to the mystery of Christ’s presence in the sacrament (cf. Psalm 118:26; Isaiah 6:3; Revelation 4:8).

The Memorial Acclamation is a triumphant declaration of the gospel of Christ as portrayed in this holy meal (cf. 1 Corinthians 5:7, 11:26; 1 Timothy 3:16).

INTRODUCTION TO THE SACRAMENT

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Minister: It is right, our duty and privilege, to at all times, and in all places, give thanks to you, O Lord God almighty. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we praise and magnify your glorious name; saying together:

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 & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Minister: Therefore, let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

ALL: Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

Minister: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Minister: These are the Gifts of God, for the People of God. Feed on him in your hearts by faith, and with thanksgiving.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

Communion (i.e. the Lord’s Supper or Eucharist) is a holy meal in which we remember Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection. In the sacrament, God comes near to his church and we experience his grace anew.

Who should participate? We invite all Christians—those who confess Christ and have been baptized into his church—to join with us in this sacred meal. If this does not describe you, instead of partaking, we encourage you to consider the things you have seen and heard today, including the love of God, as portrayed in this meal. You may come forward to receive prayer (simply cross your arms over your chest as you pass the servers) or, if you prefer, simply remain in your seat.

Parents: If your children are not yet participating, please instruct them to cross their arms over their chest. As soon as they understand the meaning of this meal in an age-appropriate way and are ready to confess their faith, our leaders would love to meet with them and admit them to the table.

How should I participate? Starting with the front rows, come forward. As you are served, partake of the bread and wine then return to your seat.

Note: We use bread and red wine, but gluten free wafers (containing organic brown and white rice flour only) and white grape juice are also available.

COMMUNION SONG

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

WORDS & MUSIC: SANDRA MCCRAKEN AND JOSHUA MOORE

Chorus

We will feast in the house of Zion

We will sing with our hearts restored

He has done great things, we will say together

We will feast and weep no more.

We will not be burned by the fire;

He is the Lord our God.

We are not consumed, by the flood

Upheld, protected, gathered up

Chorus

In the dark of night, before the dawn,
my soul, be not afraid.
For the promised morning, oh how long?
Oh God of Jacob, be my strength

Chorus

Ev’ry vow we’ve broken and betrayed,
You are the faithful one.
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together, bring shalom.

Chorus

Please stand

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Eternal God, Heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. You have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Commission

SONG OF DEPARTURE

Doxology

WORDS BY THOMAS KEN, MUSIC BY LOUIS BOURGEOIS

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

Just as we
begin with
God's gracious
invitation, so
we end with
God's promise
to always be
with us.

BLESSING - 2 CORINTHIANS 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

THE DISMISSAL

Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord and our neighbors.

People: Thanks be to God.

In the C.S. Lewis novel *The Silver Chair*, a young girl named Jill Pole stumbles into a wooded expanse in the land of Narnia. She finds herself separated from her friend Eustace and extremely thirsty. Eventually, she encounters a stream, but her delight turns to fear when she notices the lion guarding the stream. Lewis writes,

And the thirst became so bad that she almost felt she would not mind being eaten by the lion if only she could be sure of getting a mouthful of water first.

If you're thirsty, you may drink."

...For a second she stared here and there, wondering who had spoken. Then the voice said again, "If you are thirsty, come and drink."...It was deeper, wilder, and stronger; a sort of heavy, golden voice. It did not make her any less frightened than she had been before, but it made her frightened in rather a different way.

"Are you not thirsty?" said the Lion.

"I'm dying of thirst," said Jill.

"Then drink," said the Lion.

"May I — could I — would you mind going away while I do?" said Jill.

The Lion answered this only by a look and a very low growl.

...The delicious rippling noise of the stream was driving her nearly frantic.

"Will you promise not to — do anything to me, if I do come?" said Jill.

"I make no promise," said the Lion.

..."I daren't come and drink," said Jill.

"Then you will die of thirst," said the Lion.

"Oh dear!" said Jill, coming another step nearer. "I suppose I must go and look for another stream then."

"There is no other stream," said the Lion.

SAVE THE DATE:

Women's Retreat 2023 will be October 20-22

Location: TBD

FOLLOWING THE SERVICE

Sermons can be streamed and downloaded by scanning the QR code.



