

LEADERSHIP

Session

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

Diaconate

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

*Sabbatical

**Emeritus

***Deacon on duty

Dick Brankstone**

Christ Covenant Church (PCA)

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*"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 after Pentecost

6.18.23

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 congregation 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: Matt Walden

Communion & Coffee: Chas & Jennifer Emerson

Hosts: The Plunk Family

Nursery Helpers:

Church hour- Rebecca Emerson & Erin Funderburk

Sunday School—No Sunday school

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—June 18th

9:15am—Coffee & Conversation
9:30am – Sunday Worship w/ Holy Communion; also via live stream

Monday – June 19th

No activities planned

Tuesday – June 20th

6:00pm—Men's bible study, Women's summer study

Wednesday–June 21st

6:30am—Men's morning bible study
6:00pm—Youth

Thursday– June 22nd

No activities planned

Friday– June 23rd

10:00am—Fun Friday

Saturday– June 24th

No activities planned

Looking Ahead

- Women's summer book club—6.20, 6.27, 7.11, 7.18 & 7.25
- Fun Fridays—details in the announcements
- RYM—7.10-15, payment due
- Sunday School—resumes in the fall

PRAYER NEEDS

Praying for the families of Christ Covenant 6.10-6.17

Steven, Mary Esther, Anne Rowan, Harvey, Simon & Adaline Slater • Charlie, Jamie, Ruthie & Francie Smith

Illness/Medical Prayer Needs: Hull Emerson • Valerie Walden • Helen & Monte Morgan • Henry Johnson • Christa Chapman • Oliver Plunk • Betty Walter • Dick & Emily Brankstone • Olivia McNeely • Tom & Jean Marie Harrison • The Slater Family

Prayer Requests: Olivia McNeely, recovering from surgery 6.13, to repair a torn ACL • Christa Chapman, surgery 6.21 • Helen Morgan, knee surgery 7.11 • Valerie Walden, surgery 7.7 • The Slater family, mourning the loss of Steven’s father, Scott

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 | 6.18.23 | X | X |
| Mon | 6.19.23 | 2 Chronicles 14 | 1 Thess 4 |
| Tues | 6.20.23 | 2 Chronicles 15 | 1 Thess 5 |
| Wed | 6.21.23 | 2 Chronicles 16 | 2 Thess 1 |
| Thurs | 6.22.23 | 2 Chronicles 17 | 2 Thess 2 |
| Fri | 6.23.23 | 2 Chronicles 18 | 2 Thess 3 |
| Sat | 6.24.23 | Psalm 78 | X |

ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC WORSHIP

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 lives. 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.

Prelude

***Call to Worship**

Elder Bob Barber

LEADER: For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind.

PEOPLE: Be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness.

LEADER: I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress.

Isaiah 65:17-19

***Song of Adoration**

All Must Be Well

***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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Guest Preacher: Ro Taylor & his wife, Anna, have been with RUF since 2011 (Georgia Southern 2011-2017; Delta State 2017-present), and love getting to share the good news of Jesus with college students! Both originally from Mississippi, they love the beauty of the MS Delta while also lamenting the brokenness of this place. They have three boys - Bo (2011), Griff (2013), and Mack (2016).

Women's Summer Book Club: Ladies, join us for a summer reading of "Holier Than Thou" by Jackie Hill Perry beginning 6.20, 6:00pm at the Wrights' home. 2785 Magnolia Drive, Hernando. Location changes each meeting. Contact Hillary Hale w/ any questions

Fun Fridays: Our children's ministry is excited to have Fun Fridays this summer! Families with children entering 4k-5th grades will come together for swimming and fellowship from 10-12 at the home of one of our members. Bring your own lunch, drinks, and towels. These are the dates for the coming weeks: June 23 - The Masseys at 1090 Lake View Drive, June 30 - The Patridges at 2805 Magnolia Drive, July 7 The Plunks at 3325 Scott Road, July 14 - The Emersons at 3200 Bolin Road. Check the bulletin and website for future dates and locations.

Technology Update: Faithlife has made the decision to sunset many of their services on June 30th. We are in the final steps of transferring those services over to our new provider, Subsplash. We have completed the upgrade to our website and have launched our new live stream, now available via our website, Facebook page, and YouTube channel. A new, user-friendly app is now available by searching in your device app store for, CCC Hernando. Online giving has also been upgraded! If you currently have a recurring gift set up, you have been contacted w/ instructions on how to make the change. For additional questions about online giving, please contact Jamie. For any other questions about Subsplash, talk to Heath. <https://christcovenantms.org/app>

Youth: Will meet this Wednesday, 6pm, at home of Bailey & Merrel Patridge, 2805 Magnolia Dr, Hernando. RYM payments are now due. Please make out your check for \$717 [\$545 + \$172 (transportation)] and mark it RYM in the memo section. Register your youth here: <https://christcovenantms.org/rym>

Newcomers Lunch: if you're new to the church, please let Jim know of interest in a newcomers lunch to be held in the next month at the Plunk's home.

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

LEADER: Let us now humbly confess our sins together:

ALL: And we were dead in our trespasses and sins in which we once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. *Ephesians 2:1-3*

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon and Comfort

LEADER: But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved. *Ephesians 2:4-5*

ALL: I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself up for me. *Galatians 2:20*

*Song of Renewal

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Assurance of Pardon and Comfort

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

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.

COMMITTING TO GOD'S KINGDOM

***Confession of Faith**

LEADER: What do you understand by the providence of God?

ALL: **God's providence is his almighty and ever present power, whereby, as with his hand, he still upholds heaven and earth and all creatures, and so governs them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and barren years, food and drink, health and sickness, riches and poverty, indeed, all things come to us not by chance but by his fatherly hand.**

LEADER: What does it benefit us to know that God has created all things and still upholds them by his providence?

ALL: **We can be patient in adversity, thankful in prosperity, and with a view to the future we can have a firm confidence in our faithful God and Father that nothing in creation shall separate us from his love; for all creatures are so completely in his hand that without his will they cannot so much as move.**

Heidelberg Catechism 27, 28

Kingdom Moment

Rev. Ro Taylor

RUF Delta State Update

Kingdom Prayers of the People

Offertory

This Is My Father's World

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

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

***Prayer for Illumination**

The Reading of God's Word

Exodus 14:5-31 (p. 56)

READER: The grass withers, the flowers fade

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

The Sermon

Rev. Ro Taylor

"God Makes A Way"

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.

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: You formed the universe in your wisdom, and created all things by your power. You set us in families on the earth to live with you in faith.

We praise you for good gifts of bread and wine, and for the table you spread in the world as a sign of your love for all people in Christ. 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: Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

PEOPLE: **Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.**

Lord Jesus, come in glory. Hallelujah!

PASTOR: The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving.

Holy Communion

Prayer of Dedication

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

GOING OUT WITH GOD'S BLESSING

***Song of Sending**

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

***Benediction**

PASTOR: Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. *Hebrews 13:20-21*

ALL: Amen!

***Gloria Patri**

SERMON NOTES

“God Makes A Way”

Exodus 14:5-31 (p. 56)

God overcomes your past

God frees you from your present

God invests in your future.

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.

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

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**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.

Repeat Chorus

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

Repeat Chorus

Every vow we broken and betrayed
You are the faithful one
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together, bring shalom!

We will feast in the house of Zion.
We will sing with our hearts restored.
“You have done great things,”
We will say together.
We will feast and weep no more.

All Must Be Well

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Through the love of God our Savior,
All will be well.
Free and changeless is His favor,
All is well.
Precious is the blood that healed us,
Perfect is the grace that sealed us,
Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us,
All must be well.

Though we pass through tribulation,
All will be well.
Ours is such a full salvation,
All is well.
Happy, still in God confiding,
Fruitful, if in Christ abiding,
Steadfast, through the Spirit's guiding,
All must be well.

We expect a bright tomorrow,
All will be well.
Faith can sing through days of sorrow,
"All is well."
On our Father's love relying,
Jesus every need supplying,
Yes, in living or in dying,
All must be well.

On our Father's love relying,
Jesus every need supplying,
Yes, in living or in dying,
All must be well.

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

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O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O Light that follow'st all my way,
I yield my flick'ring torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground
there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

This Is My Father's World

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This is my Father's world,
and to my list'ning ears,
All nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world,
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world,
the birds their carols raise;
The morning light, the lily white
declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world,
He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass,
He speaks to me ev'rywhere.

**Oh, this world belongs to Him
from beginning to the end.
All creation groans,
"Lord, bring us home,
and make us new again."**

This is my Father's world,
O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong
seems oft so strong,
God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world,
the battle is not done;
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
and earth and heav'n be one.

Repeat Chorus 2x