

## 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*

Day of Pentecost

5.28.23

**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: Nick Manley & Scott Sartor

A/V Assistant: Chris Tingle

Communion & Coffee: Chas & Jennifer Emerson

Hosts: Catherine Sartor

Nursery Helpers:

Church hour- Rebecca Fyfe & Sassy Mauldin

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—May 28th**

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

**Monday – May 29th**

Office closed—Happy Memorial Day!

**Tuesday – May 30th**

6:00pm—Men's bible study

**Wednesday—May 31st**

6:30am—Men's morning bible study  
5:00pm—Children's ministry team meeting  
6:00pm—VBS volunteer meeting

**Thursday– June 1st**

No activities planned

**Friday– June 2nd**

7:00pm—Peru Mission team departs

**Saturday– June 3rd**

No activities planned

**Looking Ahead**

- VBS—6.5-9, "Summer Sea Quest"
- Peru Mission Trip Dates—6.2-9, Mission Trip
- General Assembly—6.12-16, Renasant Convention Complex
- Youth resumes—6.11, will NOT meet 6.14
- RYM—7.10-15, payment due
- Sunday School—resumes in the fall

**PRAYER NEEDS**

**Praying for the families of Christ Covenant 5.27-6.3**

Don & Ann Plunk • Hunter Ray

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

**Prayer Requests:** Michael Emerson, recovering from surgery in CO • Olivia McNeely, having surgery 6.13 to repair a torn ACL • Christa Chapman has a follow up appointment 6.21

**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   | 5.28.23 | X               | X              |
| Mon   | 5.29.23 | 1 Chronicles 28 | Ephesians 3    |
| Tues  | 5.30.23 | 1 Chronicles 29 | Ephesians 4    |
| Wed   | 5.31.23 | 2 Chronicles 1  | Ephesians 5    |
| Thurs | 6.1.23  | 2 Chronicles 2  | Ephesians 6    |
| Fri   | 6.2.23  | 2 Chronicles 3  | Phillippians 1 |
| Sat   | 6.3.23  | Psalms 75       | 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 Chas Emerson

**LEADER:** Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

**PEOPLE:** **Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.**

**LEADER:** Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever. *Psalms 111:1-3*

**\*Song of Adoration** *How Great Is Our God*

**\*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

**Out of Town:** Pastor Jim will be out of the country 5.22-6.7. Please reach out to an elder if you have a need. The church office will be closed Friday, 5.26 and Monday, 5.29

**Guest Teaching Elder:** Joining us this morning to serve communion and deliver the benediction is Rev. Don Riley. He is an ordained PCA minister who serves as Executive Director of Discipling men, Inc, a men's ministry that involves meeting with men, ministering to men, and mobilizing men in evangelism and teaching through more than 40 missions trips all over the world. Don is married to Susan and they have a grown son, Daniel. He currently co-teaches a Sunday morning Sunday School Class of 65 adults at Second Presbyterian Church, has 3 weekly Bible Studies for men, and serves in Emergency Services as well as chaplain for the Shelby County Sheriffs Office.

**VBS Volunteer Meeting:** will meet on Wednesday, May 31, at 6, to discuss VBS schedules and details for the week. We will have childcare. Thank you for your willingness to help with such a special event for our children!

**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. In the coming weeks, we'll launch a new, user-friendly app. Online giving will also be upgraded. If you currently have a recurring gift set up, Jamie will contact you to make sure your giving is carried over as soon as the new platform is ready. For additional questions about online giving, please contact Jamie. For any other questions about Subsplash, talk to Heath.

**Youth:** Youth meetings will resume Sunday afternoon, 6.11 (will not meet 6.14) 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>

**VBS:** Will be held for children entering 4k-5th grade on June 5-9, 2023, from 9-12. Please contact Rebecca at 901-490-4094, if you are interested in helping. Use this link on our website to register your child or family member. We could still use some volunteers, see Rebecca if you can help!

**General Assembly Volunteering:** Look for a card in the lobby w/ specific needs requested.

### 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:** O Father, we are gathered before you, the maker of heaven and earth, whose chosen dwelling place is with the broken and contrite, to confess that we have sinned in thought and word and deed; we have not loved you with our heart and soul, we have not loved you with all our mind and strength; we have not even loved our neighbor as ourselves. In your mercy, deepen our sorrow for the wrong we have done and for the good we have left undone, so that we may hate our sin with a holy hatred. But, please, Father, do not leave us in sorrow. With you, O Lord, there is forgiveness. In your mercy, restore the joy of our salvation; so that we may love you with a holy love. Amen.

*From the Valley of Vision*

### Silent Confession

#### Assurance of Pardon and Comfort

**LEADER:** The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

*Psalms 145:8-9*

**ALL:** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation! The old has passed away, behold, the new has come!

*2 Corinthians 5:17*

#### \*Song of Renewal

*Wonderful, Merciful Savior*

### 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.

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."

Offering 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**

LEADER: What do we believe concerning the Holy Spirit?

**ALL: First, that he is true and coeternal God with the Father and the Son; secondly, that he is also given to me to make me by a true faith, partaker of Christ and all his benefits, that he may comfort me and abide with me forever.**

*Heidelberg Catechism Q/A 53*

### **Kingdom Prayers of the People**

#### **Offering**

*Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken*

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

## LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

### **\*Prayer for Illumination**

#### **The Reading of God's Word**

*Exodus 26 & 27 (p.66)*

READER: The grass withers, the flowers fade

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

#### **The Sermon**

Elder Bob Barber

"Place Prescribed"

## COMMUNING WITH GOD

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

Rev. Don Riley

#### **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

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: In fulfillment of Christ's promise, you poured out the Holy Spirit upon the chosen disciples and filled the church with power. We thank you for sending your Spirit to us today to kindle faith and lead us into all truth, working in the church to make us faithful disciples, and empowering us to proclaim the living Christ to every nation. 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: Christ is the bread of life:

**PEOPLE: When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.**

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**

## GOING OUT WITH GOD'S BLESSING

### **\*Song of Sending**

*How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place*

### **\*Benediction**

PASTOR: Peace be to you, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love incorruptible.

*Ephesians 6:23-24*

**ALL: Amen!**

### **\*Gloria Patri**

#### **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](http://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](mailto:office@christcovenantms.org).

## SERMON NOTES

Continuing the series: Covenant Redemption and Relationship:  
The Mission of God in the Book of Exodus  
"Place Prescribed"  
*Exodus 26 & 27 (p. 66)*

## How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place

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How sweet and awesome is the place  
with Christ within the doors,  
While everlasting love displays  
the choicest of her stores.

While all our hearts and all our songs  
join to admire the feast,  
Each of us cries, with thankful tongue,  
“Lord, why was I a guest?”

“Why was I made to hear your voice,  
and enter while there’s room,  
When thousands make a wretched choice,  
and rather starve than come?”

’Twas the same love that spread the feast  
that sweetly drew us in;  
Else we had still refused to taste,  
and perished in our sin.

Pity the nations, O our God,  
constrain the earth to come;  
Send your victorious Word abroad,  
and bring the strangers home.

We long to see your churches full,  
that all the chosen race  
May, with one voice and heart and soul,  
sing your redeeming grace.

May, with one voice and heart and soul,  
sing your redeeming grace.

## How Great Is Our God

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The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty;  
Let all the earth rejoice, let all the earth rejoice.  
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide;  
It trembles at His voice, it trembles at His voice.

**How great is our God!  
Sing with me,  
“How great is our God!”  
And all will see how great,  
How great is our God!**

Age to age He stands, and time is in His hands;  
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End.  
The Godhead, three in one, Father, Spirit, Son,  
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.

### *Repeat Chorus*

Name above all names, worthy of all praise.  
My heart will sing: how great is our God!  
Name above all names, worthy of all praise.  
My heart will sing: how great is our God!

### *Repeat Chorus*

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

### *Repeat Chorus*

# Wonderful, Merciful Savior

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Wonderful, merciful Savior,  
Precious Redeemer and Friend;  
Who would have thought that a Lamb could  
rescue the souls of men?  
Oh, You rescue the souls of men.

**You are the One that we praise,  
You are the One we adore.  
You give the healing and grace  
Our hearts always hunger for,  
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.**

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper,  
Spirit we long to embrace;  
You offer hope when our hearts  
have hopelessly lost the way.  
Oh, we've hopelessly lost the way.

## *Repeat Chorus*

Almighty, infinite Father,  
Faithfully loving Your own;  
Here in our weakness You find us  
Falling before Your throne.  
Oh, we're falling before Your throne.

## *Repeat Chorus 2x*

# Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

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Jesus, I my cross have taken, all to leave and follow Thee.  
Destitute, despised, forsaken, Thou from hence my all shall be.  
Perish every fond ambition, all I've sought or hoped or known.  
Yet how rich is my condition! God and heaven are still my own.

Let the world despise and leave me, they have left my Savior too.  
Human hearts and looks deceive me; Thou art not, like them, untrue.  
Oh, while Thou dost smile upon me, God of wisdom, love and might,  
Foes may hate and friends disown me, show Thy face and all is bright.

Go, then, earthly fame and treasure, come disaster, scorn and pain.  
In Thy service, pain is pleasure, with Thy favor, loss is gain.  
I have called Thee, "Abba Father;" I have stayed my heart on Thee.  
Storms may howl and clouds may gather; all must work for good to me.

Soul, then know thy full salvation; rise o'er sin and fear and care.  
Joy to find in every station, something still to do or bear.  
Think what Spirit dwells within thee, think what Father's smiles are thine,  
Think that Jesus died to win thee, child of heaven, canst thou repine?

Haste thee on from grace to glory, armed by faith and winged by prayer.  
Heaven's eternal days before thee, God's own hand shall guide us there.  
Soon shall close thy earthly mission, soon shall pass thy pilgrim days,  
Hope shall change to glad fruition, faith to sight, and prayer to praise.