

# Contact Us

## Church Staff

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## Session

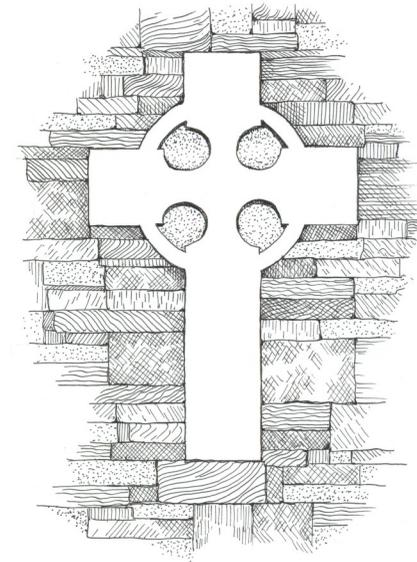
The elders are elected by the congregation to be servant leaders and shepherds of God's people. They guide the direction and outreach of the church, oversee its teaching and worship, and care for the spiritual needs of the members. Please contact them if you need counsel or prayer.

<b>Mike Burton</b> 256-709-4642 <i>meburton@computerservicesnet.com</i>	<b>Jonathan Haynes</b> 256-339-2856 <i>jonathan.a.haynes@gmail.com</i>
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## Diaconate

The deacons are elected by the congregation to care for the material needs of church members, promote generosity, and oversee the church facility. They also extend the love and generosity of Christ to those outside the church. Please contact them if you or someone you are concerned about has a physical or material need.

<b>Blake Bright</b> 256-507-1942 <i>bright2018@gmail.com</i>	<b>Caleb Bright</b> 256-339-0292 <i>cbright00@gmail.com</i>
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# CHRIST COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 22, 2020 | Livestream Worship 9:00 a.m. | Facebook page

# The Lord's Day

## CALL TO WORSHIP

### Deuteronomy 20:1-4

Leader: When you go to war against your enemies and see horses and chariots and an army greater than yours, do not be afraid of them, because the LORD your God, who brought you up out of Egypt, will be with you. When you are about to go into battle, the priest shall come forward and address the army. He shall say:

“Hear, O Israel, today you are going into battle against your enemies. Do not be fainthearted or afraid; do not be terrified or give way to panic before them. For the LORD your God is the One who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies to give you victory.”

**All: Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!**

## SONGS OF PRAISE

### *Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

TEXT & MUSIC: Martin Luther, 1529

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;  
Our helper He amid the flood, of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;  
His craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate—  
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,  
Were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.  
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He;  
Lord Sabaoth His name, from age to age the same—  
And He must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,  
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us.  
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;  
His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure—  
One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them abideth;  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;  
The body they may kill, God's truth abideth still—  
His kingdom is forever.

# “Love . . . Reaching”

**Charles and Julie Garland planted a church in Tucson, Arizona—Midtown Presbyterian—and Christ Covenant contributed to their start-up expenses. The church is a couple years old and growing. This is a recent update from Julie.**

Hello friends, March 16, 2020

Not too long ago, amid political frustrations, Charles cleverly quipped on a family text thread: “I’m considering giving up my trust in princes altogether.” The lighthearted reminder that God is on his throne no matter what, was just what we needed to hear. And now, Corona virus has me turning to Psalm 146:3 again. Just like everyone else, we’re having to filter life through the lens of the Covid 19. After a week of corroborating with other pastors, ordering new, individual communion supplies, and researching how to and then making his own hand sanitizer, Charles ended up cancelling church anyway! He uploaded a link to his video sermon, in lieu of our Midtown worship service. All the cancellations seem surreal. I feel like I’m living in a science fiction movie. You do know that the zombies in Walking Dead are the fruit of a rogue virus, don’t you?

As Christians, we know that we have to look beyond our visible circumstances and put our hope in our unseen Father. This is required in serious trials, and in daily minutia. So, we take physical precautions to stop the spread of disease, but pray for protection from the Great Physician. Or maybe you host a Superbowl Party, while praying for a deeper connection with our neighbors who don’t know Jesus. Or read books that you normally wouldn’t so that you can have conversations you otherwise wouldn’t.

We did host a Superbowl Party and had neighbors, college students and church friends all grabbing chips from the same bowl (pre CV). The next week these neighbors gave us a book called The Universal Christ. A couple of weeks later we got together and enjoyed catching up about normal life, as well as discussing the book. Though pretty heretical, Charles was able to find common ground in the book, ask thoughtful questions and raise some of his own. It was a great conversation and an enjoyable time together. I mentioned having wanted to visit their church, as it is right down the street from our house. They said they would like to visit Midtown as well. So far, this has been thwarted by sickness, but I think it will still happen. Please pray that it does.

I was walking Dooley the other day and came across their church’s slogan. It was printed on a car sunshade, early March notwithstanding. It is “a safe place to connect your spirit without disconnecting your mind.” My mind immediately jumped to 2 Corinthians 10:5 “we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.” The image of a seminary speaker holding a Bible over her head to drive home the point that we submit our minds to God’s Word, and not the other way around, also jumped to mind. Please pray that God will open a door for our neighbors to hear the gospel and soften their hearts to receive it.

Charles is preaching through Habakkuk for Lent. As he laments, Habakkuk asks God why he allows suffering and injustice. God tells him to watch and be utterly amazed! Though we can’t control God or understand his ways, we know that he loves us in Jesus, our Covenant Keeper. God has gifted Charles to preach about severe truths, while at the same time comforting you with God’s unfailing love. You will be encouraged if you listen. He embarks on Romans after Easter!

I will end by quoting Charles, quoting David Brooks ‘David Brooks said in his column this week, "It wouldn't be a bad idea to take steps to fight the moral disease that accompanies the physical one," referring to the tendency in pandemics for people to become extremely selfish and fearful. Remember, please, that we are those who have been freed from fear of death by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and are therefore free to risk ourselves in service and care for people in need.’ Thank you for your prayers and support for us and our Midtown Church plant. Please pray that we will watch God at work and be utterly amazed to see what He does during this emotionally fraught time! What better time to introduce people to our Deliverer and Comforter?!

Watching and waiting,  
Julie

# Christ Covenant News

1310 St. Joseph Dr . NW · Cullman, Alabama 35055

www.christcovenantcullman.org

*A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)*

## ***Lead Me To The Rock***

WORDS: Gadsby Hymnbook, 1858 MUSIC: Red Mountain Church, 2007

Convinced as a sinner, to Jesus I come;  
Informed by the gospel for such there is room;  
O'erwhelmed with sorrows for sin I will cry—  
Lead me to the Rock that is higher than I.

Blessed be Jesus for answering prayer,  
And raising my soul from the pit of despair.  
In every new trial to him will I cry—  
Lead me to the Rock that is higher than I.

When sorely afflicted and ready to faint,  
Before my Redeemer I'll spread my complaint;  
'Midst storms and distresses my soul shall rely  
On Jesus, the Rock that is higher than I.

## **This Week's Activities**

Check Christ Covenant Facebook for information

Thursday or Friday

Come by the church to pick up

1. Bulletin for home worship
2. Communion kit if you don't have one
3. Children's Sunday school material

## **Birthday; This Week**

March 23..... Dorothy Dotson

27..... Jacob Mahler

*If we miss your birthday, please send an email to Tracie, [tracierakes@gmail.com](mailto:tracierakes@gmail.com)*

## **Summer Fellowship Events**

Anniversary Dinner & Celebration

Wednesday, May 6

After Church Picnic

Sunday, June 8

Ice Cream Social

Sunday, July 19

End of the Summer Party

Sunday, August 16

## **Giving**

You may give your tithes and offerings through *easyTithe*, a secure online app. Go to the church website and click on "Give." You may also mail your offerings or drop them off at the church office during business hours.

## **Holy Week Service**

Wednesday, April 8, 7:00 p.m.

Prepare to celebrate Christ's resurrection by remembering his words and actions in the Upper Room on the night he was betrayed. Singing, Gospel readings, and the Lord's Table take us back in time to that most holy night. Please join us, you'll be glad you did. Nursery provided.

If we're unable to meet for the Holy Week Service, then you will receive information about livestreamng.

## **Fourth Annual Men's Hike**

Our annual men's hiking trip will be to Len Foote Hike Inn in North Georgia. We will drive over and hike up on May 15 and return the following day. We have 24 slots available and the cost will be \$107 per person. If you would like to attend please let Lee Haynes know.

## **Rummage Sale in May**

Are you clearing out your old stuff as the New Year begins? If so, consider donating your unwanted household items to the CCPC Rummage Sale. We have a storage unit available right now. Goldstar Self Storage, 1298, Co Rd 715. Come by the church office to get the key, pass code, and unit number. Proceeds will benefit CCPC short term missions. Call or text Karena Haynes (256) 636-0999 for more information.

## INVOCATION

## SCRIPTURE READING

## Psalm 1

## CONFESSION OF SIN

O God of grace, you have imputed my sin to my substitute Jesus Christ,  
and have imputed his righteousness to my soul,  
clothing me with his white robe, decking me with jewels of his holiness.  
But in my Christian walk I am sometimes still in rags:  
my best prayers are stained with sin, my penitential tears are impure.  
I am often standing clothed in filthy garments,  
and by your grace I am always receiving a change of clothes,  
for you always justify the ungodly.  
I am often going into the far country, often returning home as a prodigal,  
and often saying, "Father, forgive me." And you are always bringing out the best robe.  
Every morning let me wear the robe of Christ's righteousness,  
go out to the day's work in it, and every evening return in it.  
Let me be covered with it in death, stand before the Great White Throne in it,  
and enter heaven wearing it and shining like the sun.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## SONG OF ASSURANCE

### *Lord, From Sorrows Deep I Call*

WORDS & MUSIC: Matt Papa and Matt Boswell, 2018

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.

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,  
Till my faith is turned to sight, Lord, my heart will praise You.

And, 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.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## INTERCESSORY PRAYER

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Matthew 6:9-13**

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.

## OFFERING

## SCRIPTURE READING

**John 18:12-27**

## SERMON

**Christ's Passion in John: Trial & Denial**

## COMMUNION SONG

### *Grace*

WORDS & MUSIC: Niki Sheperd, Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, 2016

Your grace that leads this sinner home From death to life forever,  
And sings the song of righteousness, By blood and not by merit.

Your grace that reaches far and wide, To every tribe and nation,  
Has called my heart to enter in The joy of Your salvation.

*By grace I am redeemed, By grace I am restored;  
And now I freely walk Into the arms of Christ my Lord.*

Your grace that I cannot explain, Not by my earthly wisdom.  
The prince of life, without a stain, Was traded for this sinner!

Let praise rise up and overflow, My song resound forever.  
For grace will see me welcomed home To walk beside my Savior.

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

### **Heidelberg Catechism**

Leader: Why do we call Jesus "our Lord"?

All: **Because, not with gold or silver, but at the cost of His blood,  
He has redeemed us body and soul from sin and all dominion of the devil,  
and has bought us for His very own.**

## COMMUNION

## CLOSING SONG

### *I'll Not Be Shaken*

WORDS & MUSIC: Wendell Kimbrough, 2015

For God alone, I wait in silence; My soul is still before the Lord.  
He is my rock and my salvation, My fortress strong; I trust in Him.

*I'll not be shaken! I'll not be shaken, For all my hope is in His love.  
From God alone comes my salvation; I wait and trust His steadfast love!*

Put not your hope in gain of riches; Seek not your rest in empty wealth.  
The rich are weak; the poor are mighty, Who turn to God alone for help.

Pour out your heart to God our refuge And trust in Him to hear you cry.  
No other hope will never fail you No other love will not run dry.

## BENEDICTION

The Heidelberg Catechism was written in Germany in 1563. It is the doctrinal confession of many Reformed churches.