



CHRIST COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 10, 2024 | **Worship 9:00 a.m.** | Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

The Lord's Day

PRELUDE & TIME OF MEDITATION Adapted from "The Valley of Vision"

Life giving God, quicken me to call upon Your name. I approach You as my portion forever, my exceeding joy, my strength of heart. I believe in You as the God of nature, the ordainer of providence, the sender of Jesus my savior. May the truth that is in Christ illuminate in me all that is dark, establish in me all that is wavering, accomplish in me all that is of Your goodness, and may I constantly glorify the name of Jesus through my thoughts, words, and actions. Uphold my steps by Your Word. Let no iniquity dominate me. Teach me that Christ cannot be the way if I am the end, that He cannot be redeemer if I am my own savior, that there can be no true union with Him while the creation has my heart, that faith accepts Him as redeemer and Lord or not at all.

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 95:1-3, 6-7

Minister: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise! For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

All: Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

SONGS OF PRAISE

All Creatures Of Our God And King

TEXT: St. Francis of Assisi, 1225 TUNE: Kierchengesange, 1623

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing, O praise Him, Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam, Thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in humbleness, O praise Him, Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, And praise the Spirit, Three in One,
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All the redeemed washed by His blood,
Come and rejoice in His great love, O praise Him, Alleluia!
Christ has defeated every sin, Cast all your burdens now on Him,
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Bereans

Randy Hays/Jason McCoy

Room 4

Some 2000 years ago Jesus preached one of His most famous sermons. His Sermon on the Mount as told by the Apostle Matthew details how we Christians are to live in this fallen world. Join us as we study this important message about our Lord's present and future Kingdom.

Women of all ages

Tina Hulse

Room 10

In January we will begin a study of Habakkuk, and see how the questions from this Old Testament prophet are relevant to our world today. Habakkuk shows us how to faithfully wrestle with God when we don't understand His ways.

Christ Covenant Mission's Conference

"The deepest reason why our passion for God should fuel missions is that God's passion for God fuels missions. Missions is the overflow of our delight in God because missions is the overflow of God's delight in being God. And the deepest reason why worship is the goal in missions is that worship is God's goal. We are confirmed in this goal by the biblical record of God's relentless pursuit of praise among the nations. 'Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol him, all peoples!' (Ps. 117:1). If it is God's goal, it must be our goal."

John Piper in "Let the Nations Be Glad: The Supremacy of God in Missions"

Chris Covenant Mission's Conference Schedule

Sunday, March 17th – during the worship hour we will hear from Pastor Jeff Lowman with Equipping Leaders International. In 2022, Jeff retired from pastoral ministry after 32 years as senior pastor of Evangel Church, P.C.A. in Alabaster, AL. Jeff received his B.A. from Belhaven College, his M.Div. from Reformed Theological Seminary and a D.Min. from RTS/Highlands Theological College in Dingwall, Scotland. With a heart to equip pastors who do not have ready access to Biblical and theological training, after retiring from pastoral ministry in the local church, Jeff responded to the Lord's calling to equip national pastors and leaders. Jeff's wife Sallie has a counseling degree from RTS, Jackson. Before going to seminary, she served with Campus Crusade for Christ at Texas Tech and Vanderbilt. After raising their children, she returned to counseling and is in private practice as a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist.

- During the Sunday school hour we will gather in the sanctuary and hear a report from our Greece Mission Team

Wednesday, March 20th – Did you know that with God's tithes and our offerings, CCPC supports numerous local ministries? On Wednesday, we will combine Covenant Groups and have the opportunity to hear from some of these local ministry partners. Please make every effort to join us for this special evening! Below are the joint groups and the ministries they will be hearing from:

1. Eidson & Ellerbee Group - Good Samaritan Health Clinic
2. Weatherly & Nyquist Group - The Link
3. Starnes & Haynes Groups - Cullman Christian School

Sunday, March 24th – During the worship hour we will hear a report from Rick White on how Gideon's International is fulfilling their single objective to win people for Christ by personally sharing their faith and distributing God's Word around Cullman county and the world.

Classes & Other Information

Children's Sunday School

Sunday school classes for all ages are held after the worship service. All children 3rd grade and younger go directly to Room 3 (the "chandelier room") following the service. Children 3rd grade or younger should be picked up from their class once Sunday school is over. All 4th-6th grade students should go directly to their class downstairs and will be dismissed following Sunday School. Below you will find a class list and room numbers.

Toddler Class - Scott/Becky Lewis—Room 14

PreK-Kindergarten - Braden & Whitney Cook/Kristi Nyquist & Ginger Pettus—Room 15

1st Grade - Anthony & Rebecca Taylor/Chris & Merrill Dotson—Room 6

2nd Grade - Shawn & Nicole Robb/Madison McCoy/Sara Haynes—Room 8

3rd Grade - Sheena Johnson/Laura Reeder—Room 9

4th - 6th Girls - Caroline Lunsford/Siusan Peek—Downstairs

4th - 6th Boys - Bo Shirey/Daniel Johnson/Dennis Porter—Downstairs

Youth Sunday School

The youth will meet in three classes at The Hill and will all be studying the book of Joshua.

7th and 8th Grades	Jonathan & Amanda Knappenberger	The Hill (Big Room)
9th and 10th Grades	Hayes & Jessi Eidson	The Hill (Green Room)
11th and 12th Grades	Benjamin & Mary Rogers	The Hill (Orange Room)

Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday school classes are divided roughly along the lines of age and stage of life. Each Sunday provides an opportunity for fellowship, Bible study, and prayer with others experiencing similar circumstances according to the particular age and stage of life. These classes are for both men and women unless indicated otherwise.

Foundations Andy / Derek / Jason Gloria Edwards Room
Blessed: Experiencing the Promise of the Book of Revelation – Come join us as we dive into the book of Revelation and discover how Revelation is less about when Jesus will return and more about who we are to be, what we are to do, and what we can expect to endure as we wait for Jesus to return to establish his kingdom in the new creation. We will be using Nancy Guthrie's theologically robust guide to help us in our understanding.

Salt & Light Steve Nyquist Fellowship Hall
Current series - *Encouraging the 'Counter-Culture' Family*
Today: Encourage One Another (Part 1)

He shall return in pow'r to reign,
Heaven and earth will join to say, O praise Him, Alleluia!
Then who shall fall on bended knee? All creatures of our God and King,
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia,
O praise Him, O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

King Of Love

WORDS & MUSIC: Steven Curtin Chapman, 2016

With the hands that formed the world you washed our feet.
Kneeling down, you laid aside your majesty

And you said for us to go and do the same.
So we serve for the glory of our King.

You left heaven's throne to rescue what was lost,
Stretching out Your mighty arms to bear the cross.
Then you rolled away the stone, the victory won,
And you said, go and tell the world what love has done.

*King of love, let your Kingdom come—
Reign in us, your daughters and your sons.
Fill us up, till we overflow
With your love until the whole world knows
You are the King of Love.*

Give us hearts that long to see your justice done;
Let the river of Your mercy flow through us;
Let compassion be the loudest song we sing
Till the day when every tongue declares you King.

INVOCATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 119:1-16

CONFESSION OF SIN

Men look at our outward appearance, O God, but you look on our hearts. Your eye peers into the innermost secrets of our souls discovering our sin at its roots. You see our pride, our lust, our blasphemy rising up from within. We confess, O Lord, that sin abounds within our wandering hearts. We are indeed prone to leave the One we proclaim to love. So, we plead once again the tender mercy of your forgiving grace. We ask for hearts made pure by the cleansing blood of Christ, made constant by the regenerating grace of the Spirit, and made grateful by the goodness of our heavenly Father. Then our hearts will overflow with joy and gratitude, as we give praise to your holy name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SONG OF ASSURANCE

He Will Hold Me Fast

WORDS: Ada Habershon, 1861-1918, Matt Merker, 2013 MUSIC: Matt Merker, 2013

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold Through life's fearful path

For my love is often cold, He must hold me fast.

*He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast,
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.*

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost, His promises shall last,
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied, He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast,
Till our faith is turned to sight When he comes at last.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

OFFERING

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 6:10-20

SERMON

“Spiritual Warfare - The Belt of Truth ”

COMMUNION SONG

Lead Me To The Cross

TEXT & MUSIC: Brook Fraser/Hillsong, 2007

Savior, I come, quiet my soul. Remember
Redemption's hill, where Your blood was spilled for my ransom.
Everything I once held dear, I count it all as loss.
Lead me to the cross, where Your love poured out.
Bring me to my knees, Lord, I lay me down.
Rid me of myself, I belong to You. Lead me, lead me to the cross.

Ephesians 6:10-20

“Spiritual Warfare - The Belt of Truth”

SERMON NOTES

“Love . . . Reaching”

Argyris and Dina Petrou are natives of Athens, Greece. Argyris is a pastor and professor at the Greek Bible College. Dina is the director of Community House Damaris (CHD), a Christian ministry for victims of sex trafficking. The excerpts below are from the CHD newsletter for March.

My dear friends,

February came to an end, and we are grateful to God for his overall protection and safety He faithfully provided for us. Here at Damaris, February is also the month of love. The mission team that we welcomed in February, among other projects, made a lovely decoration with this theme, preparing some cards, and love boxes, with which our girls expressed their appreciation and love to each other. It's very important for them as they may never have heard that they are loved, or received a warm hug, or heard some good news about themselves. As you know, we are always striving to create a sense of family for them, as well as a safe haven for their recovery and growth.

This past month our family also grew as one of our girls from Somalia gave birth to a healthy baby boy! We celebrated his arrival with a baby shower, and will be helping the new mother by providing parenting classes for her.

Our Bible studies continue with Mrs. Evangelia and her husband every Saturday and Tuesday afternoon in each of our safe houses. We also have seen God working in the heart of one of our Muslim girls who attends these studies, as she now hugs both of them every time she sees them. In the beginning, she was reluctant and suspicious of them, and never came close, but now she feels that they are like family. Our girls speak different languages, but are able to communicate through the language of love. They sing, hymns together, read, scripture, play games, and have a wonderful time. Praise the Lord! Please pray for our Bible studies that these young women may be touched and come to Faith in Christ.

As I wrote in my previous letter, sustainability is very important for this ministry, and we cannot achieve it without you. If 50 supporters can be found with a monthly donation of \$60 each, this will cover the needs of the ministry, which now has been multiplied due to rising inflation here in Greece. I would like for you to prayerfully consider becoming one of these supporters and to contribute to Damaris House's financial viability. If you are already a supporter, please consider increasing your support by 10%, as this would help us immensely! One of our current needs is oil and wood, which is the fuel we purchase each winter in order to warm our safe houses. The cost of purchasing this fuel is \$10,000 per year and we need your contribution in order to cover this expense.

Thank you for your prayers and your continued support.

Please, join us in prayer:

- For our optional Bible studies every Saturday and Tuesday.
- For the continuation of our safe house's construction, that the Lord will keep providing according to our needs.
- As we give thanks for our beneficiary, S. from Somalia, who just gave birth.

Love in Christ,

Dina

You were as I, tempted and tried, human.
The Word became flesh, bore my sin and death, now You're risen.

Everything I once held dear, I count it all as lost.
Lead me to the cross, where Your love poured out.
Bring me to my knees, Lord, I lay me down.
Rid me of myself, I belong to You. Lead me, lead me to the cross

CONFESSION OF FAITH The Westminster Confession of Faith – Larger Catechism Q 154

Minister: What are the outward means by which Christ communicates to us the benefits of His mediation?

All: The outward and ordinary means by which Christ communicates to His church the benefits of His mediation, are all His ordinances; especially the word, sacraments, and prayer; all which are made effectual to the elect for their salvation.

COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG

Inhabit the Land

TEXT & MUSIC: Mike Lunsford, 2009

I cried to the Lord. I called out to Him.
Is He listening?
My troubles are deep; I'm down on my knees.
Is He listening?
Then I hear that still small voice again,
“Child my love for you will never end.”

*I will never leave you, I will not forsake you.
I will be with you wherever you go.
I will be your God and you will be my people
Though there are giants, inhabit the land. Inhabit the land.*

Thinking 'bout the past, all the joy I had.
Is He listening?
Where's His kindness gone? Where's the love I've known?
Is He listening?
Then I hear that still small voice again,
“Child my love for you will never end.”

Christ Covenant News

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A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

This Week's Activities

Monday
9:30 am Ladies Prayer Time
12:00 pm Prayer Meeting in the Sanctuary

Tuesday
6:15 a.m. Men's Breakfast Bible Study
9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study

Wednesday
6:15 p.m. Covenant Kids, Covenant Groups
Youth Groups

Thursday
6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study

Friday
7:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Group

Sunday
9:00 a.m. Worship Service & Communion
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
2:00 p.m. Art Fellowship
6:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study—Guys
7:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study—Girls

Nursery Volunteers Schedule

March 10
Church Service— Tara Quinn, Anthony Taylor
Sunday School— Jessi Eidson

March 17
Church Service— Siusan Peek, Caleb Bright
Sunday School— Adelaide Reeder

Nursery Help Needed

Moms and grandmoms of Christ Covenant, if you would enjoy playing with and caring for our youngest covenant children for a couple of hours on a Sunday morning, the church nursery may be the place for you! We are in need of two adults who would be willing to work one Sunday morning per month in the nursery. Contact Karena Haynes (256) 636-0999 for more information.

Variety Show

Thanks to all who came to the Variety Show to support our Short Term Missions! Our offering totaled \$2510.00

Covenant Kids Corner

3/13 Menu—Chicken Fingers (Guthrie's)
This Week—God Made Saul King (1 Sam 11)

Birthday's This Week

March 10Dale Bright
Jordan Hooks Miner
11.....John Knappenberger
12.....Hayes Eidson
Maggie Lunsford
13.....Gloria Dotson
14.....Nathan Kornegay
15.....Zachery Benson
Did we miss a birthday? Email Madison.

Rummage Sale Fundraiser 2024

Now Accepting Donations! Bags and small boxes can be brought to the church basement. Big boxes and small furniture can be taken to our storage unit located on Sportsman Lake Road. Large furniture can be stored in Judie Hubbard's basement, once arrangements have been made. Clothing -including shoes, belts, and purses - will be taken for 1 month only from March 16- April 14. Items should be free of holes, broken zippers, and stains. Our public sale is May 17-18. Please call or text Judie Hubbard (256) 708-7877 if you have questions. Thank you for supporting Short Term Missions with your donations.

Rummage Sale Roundup Week 3

Spring is in the air. While you are putting out your Spring decorations consider donating the things you don't just LOVE to the Rummage Sale. Our shoppers love all types of decorations. Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter - all types are welcome.

Men's Ministry Events

"Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love."
1 Corinthians 16:13-14

Men's Breakfast Bible Study – Tuesday mornings @ 6:15 am. Studying 2nd Timothy.

3M Men's Fellowship— Monday, March 18th.

Men's Prayer Time – Friday mornings, 7:00 am in the church session room.

VBS Announcement

Save the date

On June 8th our church will have a one day VBS. It will be for children that have just completed 4 yr. preschool– 4th grades. We are super excited about this, but we will need your help to make it a success. We are in need of volunteers to assist with various activities such as crafts, games, storytelling, snacks/lunch and more. More details to come about VBS, but if you would like to volunteer or would like more information, please see anyone on the VBS team.

Anna Bright Emily Haynes
Merrill Dotson Siusan Peek
Jessi Eidson Tracie Rakestraw

Youth Service Camp

When: June 5th- 9th **Where:** Cullman, AL

What: This year, our young people will actively serve our local community by collaborating with local ministries. Throughout the week, they will engage in various service projects aimed at benefiting the community. Alongside their service activities, the youth will come together to explore and reflect on God's teachings, emphasizing the importance of serving others. Each evening, the youth will stay at the homes of generous church members who have volunteered to host them for the week.

Graduate Bible Study

When: June 13th, 27th July 11th, 25th at 6:30- 8pm

Where: The Lunsford's Back Porch

Attention all recent graduates! You are invited to join our Summer Graduate Small Group on the cozy back porch of the Lunsford's residence. This is a great opportunity to enjoy food, fellowship, and Bible study with like-minded peers. Join us as we dive deeper into the Word, and discover how it can help us grow in faith and community.

Prayer Meeting

Every Monday, the Sanctuary will be open throughout the lunch hour (12:00-1:00) for a time of prayer. Please consider coming to join us as we lift up our families, our church, our city, our country, and our world to the throne room of God. All are welcome!

Women's Ministry Events

Women's Bible Studies: Tuesday Morning Bible study will be held on Tuesday's at 9:30 at the church. Please join us as we study the book of 1 & 2 Peter.

Thursday night Bible Study will be 6:30-8:00 pm at the church. Nursery available upon request.

Ladies Night: March 11th at 6:00 pm. This month, we will meet at Urban Cookhouse. Nursery available upon request.

Made For More: The PCA Women's Ministry is having one of their 2024 conferences at Briarwood on Friday & Saturday, September 13th & 14th. We plan to take a group from CCPC. Here is a link where you can find out more information and register -https://women.pcacdm.org/events/ Please let Tina know if you register or have questions. We can reimburse you the \$75 early registration cost! Registration starts March 15th!

Ladies Prayer Time: Ladies' Prayer Time will be meeting Monday, March 11th, at 9:30 am in the Bride's Room at the church. Women of all ages are invited. This is a great way to serve the Lord through intercession for our church. Ephesians 6:18: *"Pray at all times in the Spirit with every prayer and request, and stay alert with all perseverance and intercession for all the saints."*

Easter Fellowship

Join us during the Sunday School hour on Easter morning for a time of fellowship and an Easter Egg Hunt! If you would like to help set up, please reach out to Merrill Dotson or Beth Moultrie.

For more announcements and information, please refer to our weekly email and website.