



CHRIST COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

June 16, 2024 | **Worship 9:00 a.m.** | Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

The Lord's Day

PRELUDE & TIME OF MEDITATION

“Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes; and I will keep it to the end. Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart. Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it. Incline my heart to your testimonies, and not to selfish gain! Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways. Confirm to your servant your promise, that you may be feared. Turn away the reproach that I dread, for your rules are good. Behold, I long for your precepts; in your righteousness give me life!”

~ Psalm 119:33-40 ~

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 135:1-3

Minister: Praise the LORD! Praise the name of the LORD, give praise, O servants of the LORD, who stand in the house of the LORD, in the courts of the house of our God!

All: Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; sing to His name, for it is pleasant!

SONGS OF PRAISE

Oh Give Thanks (Psalm 107)

WORDS & MUSIC: Wendell Kimbrough, 2014

We were wand'ring in the desert with our souls so starved and weak
We were hungry for a homeland we did not know how to seek
But we lifted up our voices to the only One who hears;
And the God of mercy came and brought us near.

We were locked out of the garden, and our backs bent down with pain.
In the shadow of death's darkness, we were slaves to sin and blame.
Then we cried out in our labor to the only One who hears,
And the God of mercy wiped away our tears.

*Oh give thanks to the LORD for His love endures forever!
We were wandering and lost, and our Father brought us home,
To a safe dwelling place, to a feast of joy and laughter.
Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!*

We were fools in our rebellion, with our hunger strike of pride.
We were sick and growing closer to the death we should have died.
Then he heard of our condition, and he called us by our names;
And the God of glory took away our shame.

We were far out on the ocean, making wealth and chasing dreams,
But the waves of great destruction brought us tremb'ling to our knees.
Then we cried like drunken sailors to the only One who hears,
And the God of comfort took away our fears.

Women of all ages

Ashley Wilbanks

Room 10

Join us for a profound exploration of faith and resilience starting the first week of May in our Sunday School class. Inspired by Romans 12:2 and James 1:2, we'll embark on a journey of understanding the transformative power of embracing pain to grasp the depth of Jesus' nature. Together, we'll dive into the timeless wisdom of not conforming to the world's patterns but being renewed in mind and spirit. Through interactive discussions and heartfelt reflection, we'll learn to count it all joy when facing trials, recognizing them as opportunities for growth and spiritual maturity. As we navigate life's challenges, we'll uncover the profound joy and strength that come from a deepened understanding of Jesus' character. All are invited to join us on this journey of discovery and transformation. See you there!

Church Membership—Pastor's Inquirers Class

We will have a Pastor's Inquirers Class for those who are considering church membership or who simply want to know more about Christ Covenant. This 4-week class is currently meeting in the Sanctuary during the Sunday School hour. If you are interested in attending, please come join us!

Covenant Groups

Covenant Groups are cross-generational groups intended to allow participation of all Christ Covenant members plus regularly participating non-members for the purposes of belonging, serving, encouraging, and nurturing. You may contact any of the elders on the back of the bulletin to get connected with a Covenant Group.

Women for Christ

The CCPC Women's Committee was developed to serve the women in our church body based on Romans 12:2. We are committed to teaching women to be transformed by the renewing of their minds through Scripture so that the women of our church will be able to test and approve God's good, pleasing, and perfect will. Our desire is that every woman at CCPC has an opportunity to serve and connect. We are focused on outreach, prayer, mercy ministry, and spiritual growth. If you are interested in helping in any of these areas of service to our church family, please contact Tina (256) 347-3593 or Diane (256) 709-2642.

Church Directory Updates

Our church directory is available to view on your mobile device. Instant Church Directory - the program we use to build our church directory - has a free app for church members to download on their Apple and Android devices. Download the Instant Church Directory app from the App Store on your device. You will be asked to enter your email address as it's listed in our directory. If your email address isn't listed in the directory, let Jonathan Haynes know so it can be added. Once you enter your email address, follow the directions on screen to complete the login process. After you login, the directory will be downloaded to your device. Anytime updates are made, they will update on your device too. In the app you will be able to search for families and members and call, email, and text right from the app. More information can be found at www.InstantChurchDirectory.com/app.

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 - John/Audrey Nyquist—Room 14

PreK-Kindergarten - Elizabeth Ellerbee—Room 15

1st Grade - Jessie/Justin Robinson—Room 6

2nd Grade - David/Patricia Branscomb—Room 8

3rd Grade - Siusan Peek—Room 9

4th - 5th Grade - Denise Peek—Downstairs

6th Grade— Youth House

Youth Sunday School

The youth will meet on The Hill and will all be studying Eschatology.

7th - 12th Grades Jonathan & Amanda Knappenberger The Hill (Big 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. During the Summer Months we combine our Adult Classes for a time of fellowship and teaching for all ages and stages.

Combined Adult Summer Sunday School

Fellowship Hall

This Summer, we will have a variety of teachers leading us through a journey of Biblical Characters. Titled, "Heroes of the Faith – The Saints of Scripture," this 15 week series will run from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. Learning from the lives of this "great cloud of witnesses," will prayerfully inspire us to walk in a manner worthy of the Gospel and teach us to live our lives looking to Jesus who is the author and perfecter of our faith. We hope you will stick around after corporate worship and join us as we continue to grow in the grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

A Thousand Hallelujahs

WORDS & MUSIC: Brooke Ligertwood, Phil Wickham, and Scott Ligertwood, 2022

Who else would rocks cry out to worship; Whose glory taught the stars to shine
Perhaps creation longs to have the words to sing; But this joy is mine.

With a thousand hallelujahs We magnify Your Name.
You alone deserve the glory The honor and the praise.
Lord Jesus, this song is forever Yours
A thousand hallelujahs And a thousand more.

Who else would die for our redemption; Whose resurrection means I'll rise
There isn't time enough to sing of all You've done; But I have eternity to try

Praise to the Lord, To the Lamb
To the King of heaven. Praise for He rose
Now He reigns. We will sing forever.

(We sing) Praise to the Lord, To the Lamb,
To the King of heaven. Praise for He rose.
Now He reigns. We will sing forever.

INVOCATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Proverbs 2

CONFESSION OF SIN from The Book of Common Worship

Eternal God, in Whom we live and move and have our being, Whose face is hidden from us by our sins, and Whose mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to You, confessing our faults, confiding in Your grace, and finding in You our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ Your Son. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SONG OF ASSURANCE

His Mercy Is More

WORDS & MUSIC: Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, 2016

What love could remember no wrongs we have done,
Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum.
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

*Praise the Lord! His mercy is more,
Stronger than darkness, new every morn,
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.*

What patience would wait as we constantly roam,
What Father, so tender, is calling us home.
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor.
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

What riches of kindness he lavished on us.
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford,
Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

James 1:2-8
“Assistance for our Persistence”

SERMON NOTES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

OFFERING

SCRIPTURE READING

James 1:2-8

SERMON

“Assistance for our Persistence”

COMMUNION SONG

Come, Ye Sinners

WORDS: Joseph Hart, 1759 MUSIC: Todd Agnew

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and pow'r.

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;
All the fitness he requireth is to feel your need of him.

*I will arise and go to Jesus. He will embrace me in his arms;
And in the arms of my dear Savior, Oh, there are ten thousand charms.*

Come, ye thirsty, come and welcome, God's free bounty glorify;
True belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh.

Come, you weary, heavy-laden, lost and ruined by the fall;
If you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all.

CONFESSION OF FAITH The Heidelberg Catechism Q. 117

Minister: What belongs to a prayer which pleases God and is heard by Him?

All: First, we must from the heart call upon the one true God only, who has revealed Himself in His Word, for all that He has commanded us to pray. Second, we must thoroughly know our need and misery, so that we may humble ourselves before God. Third, we must rest on this firm foundation that, although we do not deserve it, God will certainly hear our prayer for the sake of Christ our Lord, as He has promised us in His Word.

COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

“Love . . . Reaching”

Tim and Laura Love are missionaries with Mission to the World in Ethiopia. They and their three children live on the compound of Soddo Christian Hospital where Tim is a surgeon within the Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons (PAACS). Send them a note of encouragement or subscribe to their newsletter at timandlauralove@gmail.com The following is excerpted from their May 24th newsletter:

Because of the nature of our ministry here in Ethiopia (e.g., PAACS annual academic calendar, hospital call schedules, etc.), we have opted to take shorter but more frequent visits to the U.S. That means we have a lot to pack into a short period of time...This time we will be back for a little over two months and we will be moving around quite a bit, mostly between Tennessee, Georgia, and Florida with a little Alabama and North Carolina mixed in. There aren't enough Sundays to speak at all the churches who support this work in Ethiopia...So each trip, we do as much as we can.

I've been living in and studying Ethiopia for some years now and yet I am still confronted with experiences almost daily that leave me so confused, and often broken-hearted. [A 10 year-old girl and her 2 year-old brother came to the clinic with their mother, Lochilia (Name changed for privacy).] Lochilia is one of the hundreds of thousands South Sudanese refugees living in southern Ethiopia. Refugees' living conditions and access to medical care are dire. Lochilia had been having crampy abdominal pain worsening over the past two years with associated nausea, vomiting, and significant weight loss. We took her to the operating room a couple days ago where we found a very large, near obstructing mass on her small intestines... Pathology results will not be back for a few weeks, but this is almost certainly a terminal diagnosis despite our team's removal of the tumor to alleviate the blockage. Cancer is always bad, especially in a low resource environment like where we live...But thoughts of cancer were not running through my mind as I looked at these two sweet kids...What trauma did [they] experience back in South Sudan that made fleeing on foot to hopefully reach a refugee camp sound better?...Why aren't they at home or in school rather than being here as the assistants for their hospitalized mother?...Who will care for these kids when they are soon orphaned? Some of the South Sudanese refugees identify as Catholic, but with a lack of sound teaching, the crucifixes around their necks are usually accompanied by other pagan charms... This sort of syncretism leaves them looking for any god or charm which might help in their dire situation. We do everything we can to holistically minister to the bodies and souls of these wounded people, but we do not have good translators for the Nyangatom language, so those attempts are often laborious and unsatisfying.

Please pray for: 1) Efforts to care for Lochilia and other patients like her; 2) Recent PAACS graduate, Jacques, and his family who are living amidst violence in their city...for perseverance in trusting God and serving Him there; 3) The PAACS program which welcomed two new general surgery residents and one orthopedic resident who started in January - Yodahe, Habtamu, and Nahusenay; 4) Tim & Laura and their children - Sam (13), Pip (10), and Ruthie (5)

Laura wrote a blog post a couple months ago about the way a field day for our kids showed her God's love for our family. Check it out here (<https://www.loveethiopia.org/blog/field-days>).

With love,
Tim & Laura

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.”

Greetings From Our Pastor

Welcome to Christ Covenant! We are honored and delighted to have you worshiping with us this Lord's Day. The entire CCPC family is eager to meet you, answer any questions you may have, and serve you best we can. After the service my wife and I will be in the lobby where we would love to personally greet and welcome you. I pray that our time together has been a source of encouragement to your soul, and that you have been refreshed by the Lord's Word and His people. Please let us know how we can serve you! Grace and peace, Jason Ellerbee, Sr. Pastor

Christ Covenant News

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www.christcovenantcullman.org · (256) 739-0505
A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

This Week's Activities

<u>Monday</u> 12:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Prayer Meeting in the Sanctuary Men's Fellowship
<u>Tuesday</u> 9:00 a.m.	Pickleball (Youth)
<u>Wednesday</u> 6:30 p.m.	Youth Groups
<u>Friday</u> 7:00 a.m.	Men's Prayer Group
<u>Sunday</u> 9:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Worship Service & Communion Sunday School/New Members Class

Nursery Volunteers Schedule

<u>June 16</u>	Church Service— Audrey Nyquist, Laura Reeder Sunday School— Wanda Quick
<u>June 23</u>	Church Service— Holly Powell, Tamara Sheffield Sunday School— Katie Shirey

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.

Birthdays This Week

June 16.....	Olivia Knappenberger William Haynes Diane Burton
17.....	Evelina Holmes Jim Loyd
20.....	Kristi Nyquist
22.....	Steele Rogers

Did we miss a birthday? Email Madison.

Children's Summer Sunday School

Summer Sunday school has started. All classes will be in the same locations. (For a list of class locations, see the back of the bulletin.) *Remember these classes are based on the grade your child just completed. Below is a list of the Sunday School teachers for the summer, please take the time to thank them for their commitment to our children. For any questions, please call or text Tracie Rakestraw (205-527-4238).

Toddler class (3 years)-	John/Audrey Nyquist
PreK-K class-	Elizabeth Ellerbee
1st Grade -	Jessie/Justin Robinson
2nd Grade -	Patricia/David Branscomb
3rd Grade -	Siusan Peek
4th-5th Grades-	Denise Peek
6th Grade-	Youth House

Art Fellowship

The Art Fellowship will be meeting on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month from 2-4 p.m. Contact Marion Frey if you have any questions. 256-347-4201

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 – We have finished 2 Timothy and will start a new study at a later date.
3M Men's Fellowship– Monday, June 17th @ 6 p.m. - CCPC Youth House.
Men's Prayer Time – Friday mornings, 7:00 am in the church session room.

CCPC Youth Summer Fellowship

June 18th:	Pickleball 9-11 am (Ingle Park)
June 26th:	Game Night 2-8 pm (Youth House)
June 27th:	Recent Grad Bible Study 6:30-8 pm (Lunsfords)
July 8th:	Tennis Golf 9-11 am (Eastside Park)
July 11th:	Recent Grad Bible Study 6:30-8 pm (Lunsfords)
July 14th:	Trash Panda Game 4 pm (HSV)
July 24th:	Pool Party 6-8 pm (Wild Water Cullman)
July 25th:	Recent Grad Bible Study 6:30-8 pm (Lunsfords)

Graduate Bible Study

When: June 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: Our night-time Bible study started June 12th, at 6:30 p.m. at the church. We will meet for a five-week study on how to love God above everything else the world has to offer. Each week we will look at Scripture that addresses the things that pull us away from God. Jeremiah 17:9 tells us the heart is deceitful above all things. We will learn together how to reorient our heart back towards God and worshipping Him. Nursery will be provided first two weeks and then the remainder three weeks by request. Contact Karena Haynes.

Ladies Night: July Ladies' Night, Pottery Night. More info next week.

Ladies Lunch: July Ladies' Lunch will be Wednesday, July 10th at 12:00 p.m. at Rumors.

Made For More: The PCA Women's Ministry is having one of their 2024 conferences at Covenant Presbyterian in Birmingham 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, July 8th, at 10:00 am in the Bride's Room at the church. Women of all ages are invited. No one will be expected or pressured to pray aloud. 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."*

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