



# CHRIST COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

July 7, 2024 | **Worship 9:00 a.m.** | Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

# The Lord's Day

## PRELUDE & TIME OF MEDITATION

“Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation. GOD, the Lord, is my strength; He makes my feet like the deer's; He makes me tread on my high places.”

~ Habakkuk 3:17-19

## WELCOME

## CALL TO WORSHIP

### Psalm 34:2-3

Minister: My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

**All: Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!**

## SONGS OF PRAISE

### *Awake My Soul*

WORDS & MUSIC Laura Story, Matt Maher, 2017, Charles Wesley, 1739

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace.

A thousand songs are not enough to say how great you are,  
The glories of your majesty, the triumphs of your love.

*Awake my soul to sing the glories of my God and King,  
Arise and praise the One worthy of the songs  
Of a thousand tongues.*

You break the power of all our sin, you set the captives free,  
You make the broken heart rejoice, new life the dead receive.

Forever you are, Forever you are worthy.  
Forever you are, Forever you are worthy.

### *Glory Be To God The Father*

WORDS: Horatius Bonar, 1866 MUSIC: Blake Mundell, 2012

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,  
Glory be to God the Spirit, Great Jehovah three in One.  
Singing glory, singing glory, Glory while eternal ages run.

Glory be to Him who loved us, Washed us from each spot and stain.  
Glory be to Him who bought us, Made us kings with Him to reign.  
Singing glory, singing glory, Glory to the Lamb who once was slain.

Glory to the King of Angels, Glory to the Church's King.  
Glory to the King of nations, Heaven and earth your praises bring.  
Singing glory, singing glory, Glory to the King of nations bring.

## 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 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](http://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.

**7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

"Glory, blessing, praise eternal," Thus the choir of angels sings;  
"Honor, riches, power, dominion," Thus its praise creation brings.  
Singing glory, Singing glory, Glory, glory to the King of kings.

## INVOCATION

## SCRIPTURE READING

## Psalm 84

## CONFESSION OF SIN

O Lord, Your chosen dwelling is the heart that longs for Your presence and humbly seeks Your love. We come to You to admit and confess that we have sinned in thought and word and deed; We have not loved You with all our heart and soul, with all our mind and strength; We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done and for the good we have left undone. But You, O Lord, are full of compassion and grace, You are slow to anger and full of mercy; there is forgiveness with You. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation; bind up that which is broken in our lives, give light to our minds, strength to our wills, and rest to our souls. Speak to each of us the word that we need, and let Your word abide with us until it bends us to Your will. Amen.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## SONG OF ASSURANCE

## *Holy Spirit Living Breath of God*

Lyrics: Keith & Kristyn Getty

Holy Spirit, living breath of God,  
Breathe new life into my willing soul.  
Let the presence of the risen Lord,  
Come renew my heart and make me whole.  
Cause Your Word to come alive in me;  
Give me faith for what I cannot see,  
Give me passion for Your purity;  
Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, come abide within,  
May Your joy be seen in all I do.  
Love enough to cover every sin,  
In each thought and deed and attitude.  
Kindness to the greatest and the least,  
Gentleness that sows the path of peace.  
Turn my strivings into works of grace;  
Breath of God show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,  
Giving life to all that God has made,  
Show Your power once again on earth,  
Cause Your church to hunger for your ways.  
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise;  
Lead us on the road of sacrifice,  
That in unity the face of Christ  
May be clear for all the world to see.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTERCESSORY PRAYER**

**OFFERING**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**James 1:16-18**

**SERMON**

**“Sin’s Solution”**

**COMMUNION SONG**

***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.

**CONFESSION OF FAITH**

**Westminster Larger Catechism Q. 152**

Minister: What does every sin deserve at the hands of God?

**All: Every sin, even the least, being against the sovereignty, goodness, and holiness of God and against His righteous law, deserves His wrath and curse both in this life and in that which is to come, and cannot be expiated except by the blood of Christ.**

**COMMUNION**

**BENEDICTION**

James 1:16-18  
“Sin’s Solution ”

SERMON NOTES

# “Love . . . Reaching”

**Anthony Odtohan serves as a Japan-based mission team member of the MTW Chiba AO (Academics & Outreach) Team, as well as deacon and ministry assistant for Oyumino Christ Church's bilingual worship (Alive International). Anthony and his wife, Sayo, have three children—Aika, Daiki, and Sakina. The updates below are excerpted from the Ask and Receive Prayer Requests-April 2024 from MTW Church Planting near Tokyo, Japan whose vision is a Biblical, grace-based, indigenous church planting movement in the east Tokyo area and throughout Japan. Because this newsletter contains sensitive information, please DO NOT POST on a website. For more information see <https://www.mtwjapan.org> or contact: [mtw.ask.receive@gmail.com](mailto:mtw.ask.receive@gmail.com)**

As we watch the population of Japan aging and beginning to dwindle, and as we see the same things happening in the church in Japan, we yearn to see a fresh infusion of God's Spirit in this land and in the church here. Please join us in prayer that God would do a new work in this land. Ask Him to give new life to the people of this land – to those who name His name and to those who barely know of His name.

## **Anthony & Sayo Odtohan**

1. Please pray for Anthony's spiritual healing and recovery from burnout, as well as for the whole family.
2. Please pray for their cross-cultural marriage and also their children: Aika (10, 5th grade), Daiki (6, 1st grade at CCSI), and Sakina (4) in Preschool
3. Pray for efforts to contact new churches and increase monthly support.

## **Oyumino Christ Church** (3 sites, 5 worshiping congregations totaling about 260 in an area of 140,000)

1. Pray for the leadership of OCC. Pray especially for pastors Nagata, Dedachi, and Kondo as well as the elders, deacons, and church staff that they would be spiritually strengthened.
2. Pray that the church locations can continue to do God's will. Shin Hirohashi will retire this month replacing the current president of Tokyo Christian University (TCU) who has medical issues and Mashi Kondo is now pastoring Oyumino Church in Oyumino. Pray for those transitions to continue to be smooth.
3. Pray for Oyumino church pastors and staff that God will protect their financial situation and their spiritual health. Some of them need to get another part-time job because of Oyumino church's financial shortage and some are stepping back from ministries due to spiritual burn out. Pray that God will heal and protect them.

## **Covenant Community School International (CCSI):**

1. Pray for our interim principal and provision of a principal for CCSI who has a heart and vision for the future of the school. Please be praying for the Lord to provide more long-term staff for CCSI, especially teachers and administrators.
2. Please pray for the school as we are in this "sustainability crisis". Pray for the leadership, teachers and parents to be able to be in unity as we move forward together. Pray for God to raise up workers with hearts for education to teach and care for many MK's, international kids, and Japanese kids that are a part of our community. Please be praying for our community to grow in grace and fellowship.
3. Pray for the two new families that have come to Japan recently to work at the school. Pray for their adjustment to Japan and settling into their new life. Pray also for the spiritual growth of our students.
4. Please pray about coming to teach yourself, recruiting someone eligible, or giving financially to an intern teacher. Visit <https://www.ccsijapan.com/teach> to find out more.

## CLOSING SONG

### *Day After Day, Jesus Reigns*

Words and Music: James Ferguson and Ian Lewis

In the morning as I pray, For the day that You have made  
I have hope and I have peace, For Your presence is with me

So whatever comes my way, Lord remind me of this grace  
I can face it with this hope, Jesus won't forget His own

*Jesus holds me safely in His hands*

*Ever close he leads me in His plans*

*When I can't see the way, I have hope and I have faith*

*Day after day, Jesus reigns*

In the evening as I rest, I recall Your faithfulness  
How You never left my side From the morning to the night  
Now until the dawning sun, Be the light that leads me on  
I can face it with this hope, Jesus won't forget His own

### **Chorus**

Always before me And always beside me  
My shepherd is always close  
Morning to evening, Each day that I'm given  
My shepherd is always close  
(Repeat)

For tomorrow this I pray, Father help me live Your way  
Every breath and every word, For the glory of the Lord

If the day should test my faith, Or fill my heart with songs of praise  
I can face it with this hope, Jesus won't forget His own

### **Chorus**

Day after day, Jesus reigns

## **A Thank You to Christ Covenant Youth,**

**Thank you so much for coming to serve at First Source for Women. Your hearts of service are providing hope and love to our clients that may have lost hope. You are showing them the love of Jesus through your practice. Pray that God will bless and multiply your group.**

**Thank you,**  
Janet Davis  
Executive Director.

# Christ Covenant News

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A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

## This Week's Activities

### Monday

9:00 a.m. Tennis Golf (Youth)  
10:00 a.m. Ladies' Prayer Time  
12:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting in the Sanctuary  
6:00 p.m. Ladies' Night

### Wednesday

12:00 p.m. Ladies' Lunch  
6:30 p.m. Youth Groups, Women's Bible Study

### Thursday

6:30 p.m. Grad 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/New Members Class  
4:00 p.m. Trash Panda Game (Youth)

## Nursery Volunteers Schedule

### July 7

Church Service— Mary Rogers, Denise Peek  
Sunday School— Braden Cook

### July 14

Church Service— Rebekah Taylor, Sue Roberts  
Sunday School— Caleb Bright

## 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!

## Birthdays This Week

July 7.....Brooke Skinner  
Denise Knappenberger  
John David Bagley  
8.....Cohen White  
10.....Faith Elaine Peek  
12.....Janine Lee  
Mae Haynes  
13.....Suzanne Agnew  
Madison McCoy  
*Did we miss a birthday? Email Madison.*

## Art Fellowship

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

## 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.

## Opportunity to Show Christ's

### Compassion

*"He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"*

– Micah 6:8

Each month, our deacons will be gathering items to assist in serving the needs of our community. This month, they will be receiving Peanut Butter for The Link of Cullman County's food pantry. Please drop of some peanut butter in the "Mercy Bin" located in the Narthex before July 14<sup>th</sup>. Thanks so much!

## 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, July 15th @ 6 p.m. location– Andy Starnes' Barn.

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

## CCPC Youth Summer Fellowship

**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: July 11<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

## CCPC Night at WildWater

Mark your calendars and invite your friends for our fellowship night at WildWater! Wednesday July 24th, 6:30-8:30 pm. Please RSVP below for the pizza dinner. Enter through the "new side".

<https://forms.gle/Yu3rWrEPdCaFzsD58>



## 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, Monday July 8th at 6:00 p.m. at Rumors/Hanks.

**Pottery Night: The date has changed.** We will meet at the church on July 22nd, where Vanessa Rakestraw (justmudpottery) will be working with us on making a piece of pottery. Cost will be \$50 per person and there will be limited slots. Nursery will be provided upon request. Hope you can join us to eat, make pottery and fellowship.

**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.*