

The Bereans

Randy Hays / Jonathan Haynes

Room 4

The book of Colossians is about the incomparable Christ. Christ in whom is everything that we need, in whom is everything that we have as Christians. You are invited to study with us each Sunday this amazing epistle of the Apostle Paul.

Women of all ages

Ashley Wilbanks

Room 10

Join us for a profound exploration of faith and resilience starting September 8th 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

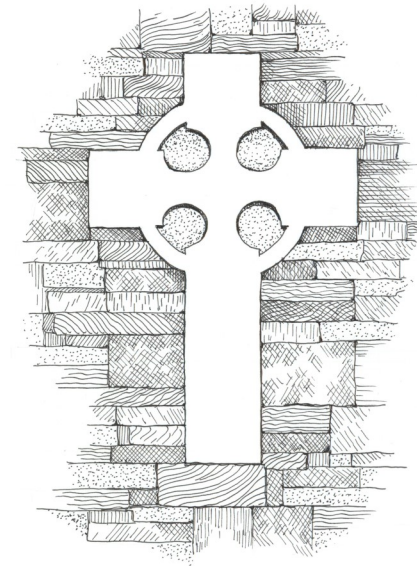
Covenant Groups are cross-generational groups intended to allow participation of all Christ Covenant members plus regularly participating non-members for the purposes of belonging, serving, encouraging, and nurturing. You may contact any of the elders on the back of the bulletin to get connected with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



CHRIST COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 15, 2024 | **Worship 9:00 a.m.** | Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

Classes & Other Information

The Lord's Day

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

O Christ, all Your ways of mercy tend to, and end in my delight. You did weep, sorrow, and suffer that I might rejoice. For my joy You have sent the Comforter, multiplied Your promises, shown me my future happiness, given me a living fountain. You are preparing joy for me and me for joy; I pray for joy, wait for joy, long for joy. Let me rest in the thought of Your love. I am an unworthy recipient of Your grace, but in repentance draw water from the wells of Your joyous forgiveness. Let my heart leap towards the eternal sabbath, where the work of redemption, sanctification, preservation, and glorification is finished, and where I will live in the fullness of Your joy forever.

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP - Psalm 30:4-5; 11-12

Minister: Sing praises to the Lord, O you His saints, and give thanks to His holy name. For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

All: You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; You have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness, that my glory may sing Your praise and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to You forever!

SONGS OF PRAISE

O Come, All Ye Faithful

By Russell Mauldin and John F. Wade.

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels!
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
O sing, all ye bright hosts of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n,
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

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-4 Yrs Class - Whitney/Braden Cook & Joyah/Wyatt Pettus—Room 15

Kindergarten-1st Grade - Audrey/John Nyquist & Allison/Blake Bright—Room 6

2nd Grade - Justin/Jesse Robinson/ 2 teachers needed—Room 8

3rd Grade - Allison/Blake Bright & Patricia/David Branscomb—Room 9

4th -6th Grade Girls - Madison McCoy—Downstairs

4th-6th Grade Boys— Rick White/Stan Kennedy/Shawn Robb/Daniel Johnson/Phillip Mahler-Downstairs

Youth Sunday School

The youth will meet in two classes at The Hill.

7th- 9th Grade	Jonathan Knappenberger - Jesus' Parables	The Hill (Big Room)
10th - 12th Grade	Jason McCoy - 1 st and 2 nd Samuel	The Hill (Green 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.

Foundations

Andy / Derek

Gloria Edwards Room

This fall the Foundations Class will take a deep dive into the 1st Century Church. We will study how the movement started. Learn about how the early church operated in the community. Discuss the relevance that caused the message to spread. We will take a look at what made it different enough to have a lasting impact for the past 2,000 years and how can we apply those lessons at CCPC to impact our surrounding community? Come join Derek Rakestraw and Andy Starnes as we discuss these topics and much more.

Salt & Light

Steve/ Kent / Chris / Jason

Fellowship Hall

Topic - **The Bigger Story: Good, Bad, Redeemed, Restored**

Today: 2 Kings

December 22 - Ezra

December 29 - Nehemiah

Isaiah 55

“Advent - A Season of Joy”

SERMON NOTES

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1739 TUNE: Felix Mendelssohn, Bartholdy, 1840

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”

Joyful, all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

Christ, by highest heav’n adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of the Virgin’s womb:

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail th’incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Ris’n with healing in His wings.

Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”

INVOCATION

ADVENT READING

Luke 2:8-16

CONFESSION OF SIN

Father in heaven, we have run after other gods, we have trusted created things to give us what You alone can give, and we have suffered the sorrows and disappointments of our idolatries. Forgive our sinful ways. Send Your Holy Spirit to show us the glory of our Redeemer who was not abandoned to the grave, but who rose to make known the path of life. Enable us to embrace Jesus Christ by faith, to be so filled with joy in His presence that we can say: “You are my Lord, apart from you I have no good thing.” Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SONG OF ASSURANCE

What Child Is This

by William Chatterton Dix

What Child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?

*This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.*

Why lies He in such mean estate where ox and lamb are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him.

This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,, The babe, the son of Mary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

OFFERING

SERMON TEXT

Isaiah 55

SERMON

“Advent – A Season of Joy”

COMMUNION SONG

“Away in a Manger”

By Martin Luther, John Thomas McFarland , and James Ramsey

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle til morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,

And fit us to heaven, to live with Thee there.

CONFESSION OF FAITH - The Westminster Larger Catechism Q. 55

Minister: How is Christ exalted in his sitting at the right hand of God?

All: Christ is exalted in His sitting at the right hand of God in that, as the God-man, He is advanced to the highest favor with God the Father, with all fullness of joy, glory, and power over all things in heaven and earth. He gathers and defends His church and subdues their enemies, furnishes His servants and people with gifts and graces, and makes intercession for them.

COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

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 at 6:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall - Proverbs

3M Men’s Fellowship– No Men’s Fellowship in December.

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

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. In December/January they will be receiving peanut butter, pasta and pasta sauce, for The Link. No specific brands are requested. Please drop off some of the items listed above in the “Mercy Bin” located in the Narthex. Thanks so much!

Roots 10th Annual Retreat

Providence Presbytery Youth Retreat. January 24th-26th. The cost is \$145. To register and any additional info will be in the Narthex or you can visit <https://www.providencepresbytery.com/roots>

Rummage Sale 2025

Our storage unit is ready to receive your boxed items. Please bring your items in sturdy boxes with lids so they can be stacked. If you need tubs, please let Judie Hubbard know and she can get you some to use. Also, DO NOT bring any clothes which also includes shoes, hats, scarves, belts, socks and gloves. Those items will be collected in the Spring. If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to call Judie, 256-708-7877.

Women’s Ministry Events

Women’s Bible Studies: Our Tuesday morning Bible Study will resume January 14, 2025.

Our Thursday night Bible Study will resume January 9th 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

Ladies Night: We will not be meeting the month of December. We will resume in January.

Ladies Lunch: We will not be meeting the month of December. We will resume in January.

Ladies Prayer Time: No Ladies prayer time the rest of December. Prayer time will resume January 6, 2025.

Christ Covenant News

1310 St. Joseph Dr. NW · Cullman, Alabama 35055
www.christcovenantcullman.org · (256) 739-0505
A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

This Week's Activities

Monday
10:00 a.m. No ladies prayer time
The rest of Dec.

Tuesday
6:15 a.m. Men's Bible Study

Wednesday
6:00 p.m. CCPC Christmas Caroling
No Covenant Kids

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

Sunday
9:00 a.m. Worship Service & Communion
10:30 a.m. Sunday School

Nursery Volunteers Schedule

December 15
Church Service— Dana Starnes
Sunday School— Cathy Oroz

December 22
Church Service— Anthony Taylor
Sunday School— Marion Frey

Covenant Kids Corner

No Kids Corner until January 8th.

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.

CCPC Christmas Caroling

Wednesday, December 18th at, 6:00 p.m. at CCPC.
We will bring joy to those who need a little extra this time of year! After caroling gather at CCPC Youth house.

Christmas Eve Service

Our Candlelight service will be December, 24, at 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Christmas carols, reading the story of Christ's birth, Communion, and candlelight singing of *Silent Night*. Nothing could be better for this special night of the year! No nursery provided, but babies are welcome.

Birthdays This Week

Dec.16..... Amanda Rakestraw
Cathy Tew
Jack Nyquist
Mary Haynes
18..... Jimmy Springer
Terry Bagley
Tim Kornegay
19..... Westen Rakestraw

Did we miss a birthday? Email Angie

Roots 10th Annual Retreat

Providence Presbytery Youth Retreat. January 24th-26th. The cost is \$145. To register and any additional info will be in the Narthex or you can visit <https://www.providencepresbytery.com/roots>

CLOSING SONG

Angels We Have Heard On High

by Ed Cash and Chris Tomlin

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply Echo back their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heav'nly song?

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Greetings From Our Pastor

Welcome to Christ Covenant! We are honored and delighted to have you worshipping 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