

## **Preparing Your Heart for Worship**

May 21, 2023

---

“If I have sinned, yet my Christ, in whom I believe, has not sinned, and all his is mine, and all mine is his.”

– Martin Luther

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*From Psalm 46*

Pastor: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**Congregation: Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,**

Pastor: Though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

**Congregation: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God.**

Pastor: God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.

**Congregation: The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.**

Pastor: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

**Congregation: Come, behold the works of the LORD, how He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.**

Pastor: “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

**Together: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

## **HYMNS OF PRAISE**

*“Be Thou My Vision”*

*Trinity Hymnal #642*

Be Thou my vision  
O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me  
Save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought  
By day or by night  
Waking or sleeping  
Thy presence my light

Be Thou my wisdom  
and Thou my true Word  
I ever with Thee  
And Thou with me Lord  
Thou my great Father  
And I Thy true son  
Thou in me dwelling  
And I with Thee one

*continued on the next page*

Riches I heed not  
Nor man's empty praise  
Thou mine inheritance  
Now and always  
Thou and Thou only  
Be first in my heart  
High King of heaven  
My treasure Thou art

High King of heaven  
My victory won  
May I reach heaven's joys  
O bright heaven's Sun  
Heart of my own heart  
Whatever befall  
Still be my vision  
O Ruler of all

*“Gentle and Lowly”*

Lord, make us servants in your house  
And consider others better than ourselves Lord,  
make us humble, make us meek  
Quick to hear, slow to speak

Chorus:  
Make us gentle and lowly in heart  
That we might demonstrate who you are  
For your yoke is easy, and your burden's not hard  
Make us gentle and lowly as you are

Lord, take our burdens, and give us rest  
That we might know the poor in spirit shall be blessed  
Take our ambitions, take our dreams  
Make us still enough for you to wash our feet

Chorus

Bridge:

Make us lovers of the truth  
while loving others who do not trust in you  
Give us courage not to be proud,  
to do the work that goes unnoticed by the crowds  
Hide our right hand from our left,  
do not give us over to self-righteousness  
If love is patient, if love is kind,  
if there's no greater love than laying down our lives

Chorus:

Then make us gentle and lowly in heart  
That we might demonstrate who you are  
For your yoke is easy, and your burden's not hard  
Make us gentle and lowly as you are  
Make us gentle and lowly as you are

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: Because Jesus Christ died in your place,  
for your sins, you are forgiven.

**People: Hallelujah! Praise God!**

## **CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL**

*Children ages 3 through 4th grade dismiss with their teachers for Sunday school. They will return at the end of the service.*

## **OFFERTORY**

## **HYMN OF ASSURANCE**

*“God So Loved”*

Come all you weary  
Come all you thirsty  
Come to the well  
That never runs dry  
Drink of the water  
Come and thirst no more

Come all you sinners  
Come find His mercy  
Come to the table  
He will satisfy  
Taste of His goodness  
Find what you’re looking for

Chorus:  
For God so loved  
The world that He gave us  
His one and only  
Son to save us  
Whoever believes in Him  
Will live forever

Bring all your failures  
Bring your addictions  
Come lay them down  
At the foot of the cross  
Jesus is waiting there  
With open arms

Chorus

The power of hell  
Forever defeated  
Now it is well  
I'm walking in freedom  
For God so loved  
God so loved the world

Praise God  
Praise God  
From whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him  
Praise Him  
For the wonders of His love (2x)

*continued on the next page*

For God so loved  
The world that He gave us  
His one and only  
Son to save  
For God so loved  
The world that He gave us  
His one and only  
Son to save us  
Whoever believes in Him  
Will live forever  
the power of hell  
Forever defeated  
Now it is well  
I'm walking in freedom  
For God so loved  
God so loved the world

Bring all your failures  
Bring your addictions  
Come lay them down  
At the foot of the cross  
Jesus is waiting  
God so loved the world



## SERMON TEXT

### Hebrews 8

Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, 2 a minister in the holy places, in the true tent that the Lord set up, not man. 3 For every high priest is appointed to offer gifts and sacrifices; thus it is necessary for this priest also to have something to offer. 4 Now if he were on earth, he would not be a priest at all, since there are priests who offer gifts according to the law. 5 They serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things. For when Moses was about to erect the tent, he was instructed by God, saying, “See that you make everything according to the pattern that was shown you on the mountain.” 6 But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises. 7 For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion to look for a second.

*continued on the next page*

- 8 For he finds fault with them when he says:  
“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord,  
when I will establish a new covenant with the  
house of Israel  
and with the house of Judah,  
9 not like the covenant that I made with their  
fathers  
on the day when I took them by the hand to  
bring them out of the land of Egypt.  
For they did not continue in my covenant,  
and so I showed no concern for them, declares  
the Lord.
- 10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the  
house of Israel  
after those days, declares the Lord:  
I will put my laws into their minds,  
and write them on their hearts,  
and I will be their God,  
and they shall be my people.
- 11 And they shall not teach, each one his neighbor  
and each one his brother, saying, ‘Know the  
Lord,’  
for they shall all know me,  
from the least of them to the greatest.
- 12 For I will be merciful toward their iniquities,  
and I will remember their sins no more.”
- 13 In speaking of a new covenant, he makes the  
first one obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete  
and growing old is ready to vanish away.

Leader: This is the word of the LORD.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **SERMON: “The More Excellent Way”**

*Rev. Dr. Alec Flynt*

*Hebrews 8*

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Heidelberg Catechism*

Q31. Why is Jesus called “Christ,” that is, Anointed?

**A. Because He has been ordained by God the Father, and anointed with the Holy Spirit, to be our chief Prophet and Teacher, who has fully revealed to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our redemption; our only High Priest, who by the one sacrifice of His body has redeemed us, and who continually intercedes for us before the Father; and our eternal King, who governs us by His Word and Spirit, and who defends and preserves us in the redemption obtained for us.**

Q32. But why are you called a Christian?

**A. Because I am a member of Christ by faith and thus share in His anointing, so that I may as prophet confess His Name, as priest present myself a living sacrifice of thankfulness to Him, and as king fight with a free and good conscience against sin and the devil in this life, and hereafter reign with Him eternally over all creatures.**

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **Prayer of Belief**

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared to hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my savior. Amen.

### **Prayer of Humble Access**

I do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in my own goodness, but only in your righteousness credited to me. I am not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose manner is always to show mercy. Grant me, therefore, O Lord, the grace to commune now with Christ by faith, that I may evermore live with him and he in me. Amen.

**COMMUNION MUSIC**

*“All Sufficient Merit”*

All sufficient merit shining like the sun  
A fortune I inherit by no work I have done  
My righteousness I forfeit at my Savior’s cross  
Where all sufficient merit did what I could not

In love He condescended eternal now in time  
A life without a blemish the Maker made to die  
The law could never save us, our lawlessness had won  
Until the pure and spotless Lamb had finally come

Chorus:

It is done, it is finished  
No more debt I owe  
Paid in full, all sufficient  
Merit now my own

I lay down my garments any empty boast  
Good works now all corrupted by the sinful host  
Dressed in my Lord Jesus a crimson robe made white  
No more fear of judgment His righteousness is mine

Chorus:

It is done, it is finished  
No more debt I owe  
Paid in full, all sufficient  
Merit now my own  
It is done, it is finished  
No more debt I owe  
Paid in full, all sufficient  
Merit now my own

All sufficient merit firm in life and death  
The joy of my salvation shall be my final breath  
When I stand accepted before the throne of God  
I'll gaze upon my Jesus and thank Him for the cross  
Yes, I'll thank You for the cross

Chorus:

It is done, it is finished, no more debt I owe  
Paid in full, all sufficient merit now my own  
It is done, it is finished, no more debt I owe  
Paid in full, all sufficient merit now my own  
Merit now my own  
Merit now my own

Tag:

Oh, your merit now my own  
Oh, your merit now my own

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

### *The Lord's Prayer*

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.



**DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen. Amen. Amen.

**BENEDICTION**

## **STAFF**

Rev. Dr. Alec Flynt, *Senior Pastor*  
alec@covenantpresmobile.org

Rev. Lanier Wood, *Executive Pastor*  
lanier@covenantpresmobile.org

Rev. Sonny Walker, *Assistant Pastor of Youth & Family*  
sonny@covenantpresmobile.org

Marty O’Gwynn, *Director of Children’s Ministry/ Pastoral Assistant*  
marty@covenantpresmobile.org

Whitney Rajkovic, *Director of Music*  
whitney@covenantpresmobile.org

Kitty York, *Director of Women’s Ministry*  
kitty@covenantpresmobile.org

Brynn Outlaw, *Assistant Director of Youth Ministry*  
bbenak0001@gmail.com

Whitney Hornbuckle, *Assistant Director of Children’s Ministry*  
wshornbuckle@gmail.com

Cameron McFatter, *Director of Community Ministries/Facilities Mgr.*  
cameron@covenantpresmobile.org

Bobby Crow, *Accountant/Business Administrator*  
bobby@covenantpresmobile.org

Karen Curry, *Receptionist*  
karen@covenantpresmobile.org

Arden Flynt, *Director of Communications*  
arden@covenantpresmobile.org

## THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

**Tuesday, May 23** –  
Crichton Table, 11:00 a.m.

**Thursday, May 25** –  
Men's Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CovKids Crichton Table** – June 27, July 11 and 18 from 11:00-12:30. Come love and serve our Crichton neighbors! All kids 3rd through 8th grade are welcome. Email [marty@covenantpresmobile.org](mailto:marty@covenantpresmobile.org) if your child is coming!

**VBS Craft Prep and Décor Days** – June 8 from 9:00-2:00 (lunch provided) and June 9 from 9:00-11:00. We need lots of helpers!!

*continued on the next page*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS CONT.

**One Service May 28** – Join us for one service at 10:00 a.m.

**Ladies Summer Study** – Ladies, please join us this summer for our “It Is Well” study on four Wednesdays (June 21 & 28 and July 12 & 19). We will meet from 9:30-11:00 and 6:30-8:00. Childcare will be offered for ages 3 and under. Children ages 4 to rising 3rd graders can attend Late Breakfast Bible Club during this time. Email [karen@covenantpresmobile.org](mailto:karen@covenantpresmobile.org) to register.

**Late Breakfast Bible Club** – Four year olds – rising 3rd graders, join us on June 21 & 28 as well as July 12 & 19 from 9:15-11:00 in the Crichton Table room. We will have a late breakfast, Bible study and lots of games and playground time. Email [marty@covenantpresmobile.org](mailto:marty@covenantpresmobile.org) to reserve your child’s spot.

**VBS Registration is Live!** Visit [www.covenantpresmobile.org](http://www.covenantpresmobile.org) to sign up. VBS is June 12-15 for kids ages 3 (potty-trained) through rising 4th graders. If you have any questions, email [marty@covenantpresmobile.org](mailto:marty@covenantpresmobile.org).

**VBS Volunteers** – Adult and youth volunteers needed for VBS, June 12-15 from 9:00-noon. Please contact [marty@covenantpresmobile.org](mailto:marty@covenantpresmobile.org) if you can help!

**Follow us on Social Media!** Follow us on Facebook and Instagram ([@covenantpresmobile](https://www.instagram.com/covenantpresmobile)) to keep up with all that is going on at our church.