

Preparing Your Heart for Worship

January 26, 2025

“The glory that God has in himself, is his intrinsic glory. Glory is essential to the Godhead, as light is to the sun: he is called the “God of Glory.” Glory is the sparkling of the Deity; it is so co-natural to the Godhead, that God cannot be God without it.”

– Thomas Watson

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 139

Pastor: Where shall we go from your Spirit?
Where shall we flee from your presence?

**Congregation: If we ascend to heaven,
you are there! If we make our bed in
Sheol, you are there!**

Pastor: If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

**Congregation: Even there your hand shall
lead me, and your right hand shall hold
me.**

Pastor: If I say, “Surely the darkness shall cover
me, and the light about me by night,”

**Together: Even the darkness is not dark
to you; the night is bright as the day,
for darkness is as light with you!**

HYMNS OF PRAISE

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all praise we would render, O help us to see
‘tis only the splendor of light hideth thee

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

What a friend we have in Jesus
All our sins and griefs to bear
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer
O what peace we often forfeit
O what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer

Have we trials and temptations
Is there trouble anywhere
We should never be discouraged
Take it to the Lord in prayer
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share
Jesus knows our every weakness
Take it to the Lord in prayer

Are we weak and heavy laden
Cumbered with a load of care
Precious Savior still our refuge
Take it to the Lord in prayer
Do thy friends despise forsake thee
Take it to the Lord in prayer
In His arms He'll take and shield thee
Thou wilt find a solace there

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

*Prayer cards are located in the pews. If you'd like our
prayer team to pray for you, please fill out a card and
drop it in the offering plate.*

HYMN OF ASSURANCE

“I Am Not My Own”

The One who made the heavens,
made my heart and soul
Before I drew a breath, I was loved and known
I am His creation, the Maker’s masterpiece
And all that He designs will be done in me

My body is a temple of the living God
I’ll worship in this house that His blood has bought
As I bear His image, oh, may I not profane
The holiness I hold in this earthly frame

I belong to the Lord, oh, I am not my own
I belong to the Lord, I am not my own
I will honor Him for this I know
I belong to the Lord, I am not my own

And if He has redeemed me, I am not my own
The measure of my worth is His love alone
He declares my standing, and He declares my state
So I will know myself by the name He gave

I belong to the Lord, oh, I am not my own
I belong to the Lord, I am not my own
I will honor Him for this I know
I belong to the Lord, I am not my own

I am not my own and now my heart is free
O Maker, come and make what You will of me
There is nothing broken that You cannot repair
So Lord, I leave my life in Your loving care

I belong to the Lord, oh, I am not my own
I belong to the Lord, I am not my own
I will honor Him for this I know
I belong to the Lord, I am not my own
I will honor Him for this I know
I belong to the Lord, I am not my own

SERMON TEXT

John 8:38-59

38 I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father.”

39 They answered him, “Abraham is our father.” Jesus said to them, “If you were Abraham’s children, you would be doing the works Abraham did, 40 but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did. 41 You are doing the works your father did.” They said to him, “We were not born of sexual immorality. We have one Father—even God.” 42 Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. 43 Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. 44 You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. 45 But because I tell the truth, you do not believe me. 46 Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? 47 Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God.”

48 The Jews answered him, “Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?” 49 Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. 50 Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. 51 Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.” 52 The Jews said to him, “Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, ‘If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.’ 53 Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?” 54 Jesus answered, “If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, ‘He is our God.’ 55 But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. 56 Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad.” 57 So the Jews said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?” 58 Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” 59 So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: “The Supremacy of Christ and the Reality of the Devil”

John 8:38-59

Rev. Dr. Alec Flynt

THE LORD'S SUPPER

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

New City Catechism

Q5. What else did God create?

A. God created all things by his powerful Word, and all his creation was very good; everything flourished under his loving rule.

Q6. How can we glorify God?

A. We glorify God by enjoying him, loving him, trusting him, and by obeying his will, commands, and law.

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

“Doxology (God Be Praised)”

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.

Chorus:

Praise the Father, praise the Son,
Praise the Spirit now with us.
Every moment, all our days,
God be praised, oh, God be praised

Praise God with morning’s breaking light;
Praise Him through darkness of the night,
Praise Him with every breath of life.
Praise Him, my soul, with all your might.

Chorus 2x

Praise God, when face to face we see
The One who died to set us free;
The One who rose in victory.
Praise now forever Christ our King!

Final Chorus:

Praise You, Father, we praise You, Son
Praise You, Spirit now with us
Every moment, all our days,
God be praised, oh, God be praised
God be praised, oh God be praised

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*
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ELDERS

Bubba O’Gwynn, Forrest Crabtree, Joe Currier, Joe Hastings, Chris Estis, Wes Pipes, Bobby Crow, & David Wilhelm

DEACONS

Don Breter, Kelley Lamberth, Victor Streed, Kenneth Taylor, Linda Turnipseed, Foster Veazey, Kim Padgett, Chad Cross, & Dana Renta

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Life Moms Group – Moms with babies, join us Friday, January 31 at 10:00 in Fellowship Hall. Moms will hang out and babies will crawl and coo. Questions? Email rachelthibodeaux@gmail.com

Biscuits and Bibles – High schoolers in Grades 10-12, join us at Chick-Fil-A for Bible study. Boys meet Tuesday mornings at 6:30 with Sonny and girls meet Wednesday mornings at 6:30 with Lexi.

Greeters/Ushers – If you are interested in serving the church as a greeter or usher, please email lanier@covenantpresmobile.org.

Gathering of 50 & Up – Join us Friday, February 21st for a time of fellowship, refreshments, and hearing from our own Bobby Crow and David McKean on the importance of financial planning and looking toward the future. Email kitty@covenantpresmobile.org to RSVP.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Member Class – Interested in learning more about what it means to be a member at Covenant? Join us for our New Member Class Sunday, February 2 from 3:00-5:00. Email arden@covenantpresmobile.org to RSVP. Nursery will be provided if needed, please email whitneybarnett@covenantpresmobile.org.

J-Term Classes are Tonight – Bring the whole family and join us for our second J-term class TONIGHT from 5:15-7:00 p.m. The program includes dinner for families followed by teaching from 6:00-7:00. More information is on the website.

Youth Membership Class Dates – We will have our youth membership classes this Spring. Dates are March 12, 19, & 26 as well as April 2, 9, 13 (**Notice date to join has been changed to Palm Sunday**). These classes are mandatory and will be targeted toward our 6th and 7th graders but those in older grades who haven't yet become a member are welcome as well. Please reach out to sonny@covenantpresmobile.org to sign up or with any questions.

High School Retreat – Save the date for a glamping trip at Lake Martin February 21-23. Cost is \$175. Register on the website. Email sonny@covenantpresmobile.org with any questions.

Ladies' Thursday Study Back in February – Join us on Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. starting February 6th as we continue our study of the book of Acts. Email kitty@covenantpresmobile.org with questions.