

Preparing Your Heart for Worship

February 9, 2025

“Adoption is the highest privilege of the gospel. The traitor is forgiven, brought in for supper, and given the family name. To be right with God the Judge is a great thing, but to be loved and cared for by God the Father is greater.”

– J.I. Packer

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 119:89-94

Pastor: Forever, O LORD, your word is firmly fixed in the heavens.

Congregation: Your faithfulness endures to all generations; you have established the earth, and it stands fast.

Pastor: By your appointment they stand this day, for all things are your servants.

Congregation: If your law had not been our delight, we would have perished in our affliction.

Pastor: We will never forget your precepts, for by them you have given us life.

**Together: We are yours; save us!
The wicked lie in wait to destroy us, but we consider your testimonies!**

HYMNS OF PRAISE

“Goodness of God”

I love You Lord
Oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days
I’ve been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God
(Repeat)

Chorus:
All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In darkest night
You are close like no other
I’ve known You as a father
I’ve known You as a friend
I have lived in the goodness of God

Chorus

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Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
With my life laid down
I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
(Repeat)

Chorus

“Blessed Assurance”

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine
Heir of salvation, purchase of God
Born of his Spirit, washed in His blood

This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long
This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long

Perfect submission, perfect delight
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love

This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long
This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long

Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest;
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long
This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long
Praising my Savior all the day long

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

“My Soul Will Wait (Psalm 62)”

When the enemy surrounds
And my heart grows faint within
When the darkness overwhelms
And my fears are pressing in
I will trust in You O Lord
In the silence I will wait
I will stand upon Your Word

Chorus One:

You're my solid rock and my salvation
My steadfast hope that won't be shaken
My soul will wait, my soul will wait for You

You're my stronghold and my shield
In the midst of every threat
Though the wicked never yield
They will vanish like a breath
Yes I know the outcome's sure
Satan's evil plans will fail
In Your power I'm secure

Chorus Two:

You're my solid rock and my salvation
My steadfast hope that won't be shaken
My soul will wait, my soul will wait for You
You're my comfort when I feel forsaken
My refuge and my sure foundation
My soul will wait, my soul will wait for You

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This is love I can't explain
This is mercy unreserved
Through Your sacrifice so great
I have peace that's undeserved
For the battle has been won
And I fear no shame or loss
Now the sting of death is gone

Chorus Two

Tag:
Pouring out our hearts before You
We will trust in You
Perfect Savior, strong Defender
We will trust in You
(Repeat)

SERMON TEXT

John 10:1-18

1 “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. 2 But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. 5 A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” 6 This figure of speech

Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

7 So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. 8 All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. 9 I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. 11 I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. 13 He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. 17 For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**SERMON: “Why Would I Want A Shepherd?
Does That Mean I am a...”**

John 10:1-18

Rev. Dr. Alec Flynt

THE LORD'S SUPPER

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

New City Catechism

Q7. What does the law of God require?

A. Personal, perfect, and perpetual obedience; that we love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; and love our neighbor as ourselves. What God forbids should never be done and what God commands should always be done.

Q8. What is the law of God stated in the Ten Commandments?

A. You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below—you shall not bow down to them or worship them. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Honor your father and your mother. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not give false testimony. You shall not covet.

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

“Come Unto Jesus”

Come unto Jesus, all you who are weary
Come to the mercy seat, fervently kneel
Here bring your wounded heart, broken and needy
Come unto Jesus, mighty to heal

Joy of the comfortless, light for the straying
Hope of the penitent, peace in our strife
Here speaks the Comforter, tenderly saying
“My yoke is easy, My burden is light”

Come unto Jesus, come unto Jesus
Lay down your burdens, He is enough
Come unto Jesus, rest in His love

Come, taste the Bread of Life broken for sinners
Drink from the cup of His promise made sure
Feast at His table as sons and as daughters
Grace overflowing is yours evermore

Come unto Jesus, come unto Jesus
Lay down your burdens, He is enough
Come unto Jesus, rest in His love

Come now and follow Him, this life forsaking
All that was gained count as nothing but loss
Trade all this world for His kingdom unfading
Come unto Jesus, and take up your cross
Come unto Jesus, and take up your cross
Life everlasting He offers to us

Come unto Jesus, come unto Jesus
Lay down your burdens, He is enough
And come unto Jesus, come unto Jesus
Lay down your burdens, He is enough
Come unto Jesus, rest in His love

Come unto Jesus, come unto Jesus
Lay down your burdens, He is enough
Come unto Jesus, rest in His love
Come unto Jesus, rest in His love

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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THIS WEEK AT COVENANT**Sunday, February 9**

Catechism Club, 10:20 a.m. (Youth Room)

Tuesday, February 11

Biscuits & Bibles (Boys), 6:30 a.m.

Crichton Table, 11:00-12:30

Wednesday, February 12

Biscuits & Bibles (Girls), 6:30 a.m.

Community Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.

CovBoys Bible Club, 3:15-4:15

Thursday, February 13

Alec's Men's Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.

Ladies' Bible Study, 9:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Friday, February 14

Lanier's Men's Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.

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

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.

RYM Camp for High schoolers & Middle School

If you haven't already, sign up for RYM camp! Middle schoolers will go to Texas August 2-6 and high schoolers will go to Panama City July 8-13. This will be the best week of your child's summer!

Gathering of 50 & Up – Join us Friday, February 21st for a time of fellowship and refreshments. Email kitty@covenantpresmobile.org to RSVP.