

## **Preparing Your Heart for Worship**

February 8, 2026

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“Christ came chiefly for this reason: that we might learn how much God loves us, and might learn this to the end that we begin to glow with love of him by whom we were first loved, and so might love our neighbor at the bidding and after the example of him who made himself our neighbor by loving us.”

— Augustine

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Psalm 29*

Pastor: Give unto the LORD, O ye mighty, give unto the LORD glory and strength.

**Congregation: Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

Pastor: The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders.

**Congregation: The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

Pastor: The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars; yeah, the LORD breaks the dealers of Lebanon.

**Congregation: The LORD sits upon the flood; yeah, the LORD sits as King forever.**

**Together: The LORD will give strength unto his people; the LORD will bless his people with Peace.**

## HYMNS OF PRAISE

### *“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”*

A mighty fortress is our God  
A bulwark never failing  
Our helper He amid the flood  
Of mortal ills prevailing  
For still our ancient foe  
Doth seek to work us woe  
His craft and pow'r are great  
And armed with cruel hate  
On earth is not his equal

Did we in our own strength confide  
Our striving would be losing  
Were not the right Man on our side  
The Man of God's own choosing  
Dost ask who that may be  
Christ Jesus it is He  
Lord Sabaoth His name  
From age to age the same  
And He must win the battle

And tho' this world with devils filled  
Should threaten to undo us  
We will not fear for God hath willed  
His truth to triumph thru us  
The prince of darkness grim  
We tremble not for him  
His rage we can endure  
For lo his doom is sure  
One little word shall fell him

That word above all earthly pow'rs  
No thanks to them abideth  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours  
Thru Him who with us sideth  
Let goods and kindred go  
This mortal life also  
The body they may kill  
God's truth abideth still  
His kingdom is forever

*“The Lord is My Light (Psalm 27)”*

The Lord is my light  
And my salvation  
Whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the strength  
Of my life  
Whom shall I fear?

Even when trouble finds me  
My heart will not fear  
You hide me in Your sanctuary  
Your beauty draws me near

The Lord is my light  
And my salvation  
Whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the strength  
Of my life  
Whom shall I fear?

Even when I'm forsaken  
I know where I belong  
I dwell within Your house forever  
To worship You my God

I will sing Your praise  
All the days of my life  
I will seek Your face  
All the days of my life (Repeat)

Lord use my life

The Lord is my light  
And my salvation  
Whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the strength  
Of my life

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (9:00)****ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

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

**People: Hallelujah! Praise God!**

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11:00)**

*Titus Mark Thibodeaux*

*Son of Kyle & Rachel Thibodeaux*

**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

*“Before the Throne of God Above”*

Before the throne of God above  
I have a strong and perfect plea  
A great High Priest whose name is Love  
Who ever lives and pleads for me  
My name is graven on His hands  
My name is written on His heart  
I know that while in heav’n He stands  
No tongue can bid me thence depart  
No tongue can bid me thence depart

When Satan tempts me to despair  
And tells me of the guilt within  
Upward I look and see Him there  
Who made an end to all my sin  
Because the sinless Savior died  
My sinful soul is counted free  
For God the Just is satisfied  
To look on Him and pardon me  
To look on Him and pardon me

Behold Him there the risen Lamb  
My perfect spotless righteousness  
The great unchangeable I Am  
The King of glory and of grace  
One with Himself I cannot die  
My soul is purchased by His blood  
My life is hid with Christ on high  
With Christ my Savior and my God  
With Christ my Savior and my God

## SERMON TEXT

### **Genesis 4:1-16**

1 Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, “I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord.” 2 And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. 3 In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, 4 and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, 5 but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. 6 The Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? 7 If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, and you must rule over it.”

8 Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. 9 Then the Lord said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” He said, “I do not know; am I my brother’s keeper?” 10 And the Lord said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to me from the ground. 11 And now you

are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. 12 When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth.” 13 Cain said to the Lord, “My punishment is greater than I can bear. 14 Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me.” 15 Then the Lord said to him, “Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold.” And the Lord put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him. 16 Then Cain went away from the presence of the Lord and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

## **SERMON: “It’s Time to Be Broken”**

*Genesis 4:1-16*

*Rev. Dr. Alec Flynt*

### **Numbers 8:12**

“All the best of the oil and all the best of the wine and of the grain, the firstfruits of what they give to the LORD, I give to you.”

### **Numbers 8:17**

“But the firstborn of a cow, or the firstborn of a sheep, or the firstborn of a goat, you shall not redeem; they are holy. You shall sprinkle their blood on the altar and shall burn their fat as a food offering.”

### **Hebrews 11:4**

“By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commanding him by accepting his gifts.”

### **Psalm 38:3-8**

“There is no soundness in my flesh because of your indignation; there is no health in my bones because of my sin. For my iniquities have gone over my head; like a heavy burden, they are too heavy for me. My wounds stink and fester because of my foolishness, I am utterly bowed down and prostrate; all the day I go about mourning. For my sides are filled with burning, and there is no soundness in my flesh. I am feeble and crushed; I groan because of the tumult of my heart.”

**Isaiah 57:15**

“For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: ‘I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.’”

**Joel 2:12-13**

“Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.” Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love...”

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Non-alcoholic wine will be served during communion. For those who need it, gluten free bread is available on the small table as you come up. Take a piece and continue through the line.*

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Heidelberg Catechism*

Q1. What is your only comfort in life and death?

**A. That I am not my own,  
but belong with body and soul,  
both in life and in death,  
to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ.  
He has fully paid for all my sins  
with his precious blood,  
and has set me free  
from all the power of the devil.  
He also preserves me in such a way  
that without the will of my heavenly Father  
not a hair can fall from my head;  
indeed, all things must work together  
for my salvation.  
Therefore, by his Holy Spirit  
he also assures me  
of eternal life  
and makes me heartily willing and ready  
from now on to live for him.**

## 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

*“The Love of God”*

It's so good I almost can't believe it  
Far beyond what hearts could ever dream  
The God who set the galaxies in motion  
Would descend to give His life for me

For what could make perfection bleed for sinners  
What leads a King to pay so great a cost  
All my life, my heart will sing the answer  
Only the love of God

Singing oh, how great is the love of God  
He paid our debt on that rugged cross  
For all our days, we will sing our Savior's praise  
How great is the love of God

It's so kind, it leads us to repentance  
And it's so bright, the darkness has to flee  
Hallelujah, it cleared my guilty sentence  
For I was bound but now I stand redeemed

For what could break the chains of any prison?  
What force could rob the power from the grave?  
What would trade my rags for heaven's riches?  
Only the love of God

Singing oh, how great is the love of God  
He paid our debt on that rugged cross  
For all our days, we will sing our Savior's praise  
How great is the love of God

Though I try, my mind can't comprehend it  
It's so high, too marvelous for words  
I could sing a million songs about it  
And barely scratch the surface of Your worth

This all my life, the banner I'll be waving  
My anthem cry no matter what may come  
And when I rise to walk the streets of heaven  
I'll still be singing this song  
For everything that You've done  
How great the love of God

Singing Oh, how great is the love of God  
He paid our debt on that rugged cross  
For all our days, we will sing our Savior's praise  
How great is the love of God

Singing Oh, how great is the love of God  
He paid our debt on that rugged cross  
For all our days, we will sing our Savior's praise  
How great is the love of God  
How great is the love of God

## 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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Youth Announcements:**

**Youth SuperBowl Party TONIGHT** – Join us from 5:00-8:00 in the Youth Room!

**Time to Register for RYM** – All middle and high schoolers, it's time to register for RYM Summer camp. RYM Florida Middle School is June 22-26, and RYM Florida High School is July 7 - 12.

### **High School Glamping Trip February 27-March 1**

High schoolers, we will be glamping in Orange Beach at Gulf State Park. Registration and cost are available on our website.

### **CovKids Announcements:**

**CovGirls Bible Club** – First-Fifth grade girls, join us this Wednesday after school from 3:15-4:15 for playground time, snacks, and time in God's word.

### **Save the Date for VBS this Summer, June 8-11!**

### **Created for a Purpose Girls Camp**

Girls in grades third-eighth, join us July 13-17th. CFAP is a week-long creative arts program that teaches girls they are a unique masterpiece created by God. Registration opens March 1.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### All Church Announcements:

**Costa Rica Mission Trip Signup** – We will be traveling April 6–11 to Jaco, Costa Rica with 6:8 Ministries. We are officially opening up signups. This is a short trip, very busy, and a lot of fun! Please email [lanier@covenantpresmobile.org](mailto:lanier@covenantpresmobile.org) for more information, including costs and sign-up.

**Friday Morning Men's Study** – Lanier's Men's Bible study will meet 6:15 a. m. – 7:30 a.m. We will study Hebrews in the Crichton Table Room

**Ladies' Luncheon Save the Date** – All ladies are invited Friday, March 20th. More details to come!

**New Life Moms Group** – Moms with babies, join us Friday, Feburary 13th at 10:00 in Fellowship Hall. Babies will crawl and coo and moms will gather together.

**Serve Alongside the Deacons** – If you are interested in being a greeter or an usher or if you would like to volunteer for our ride share program, please contact Chad Cross (251-525-1414).

**Help Prepare Communion** – The Diaconate is needs help from 8 members to prepare the elements for our communion meal. If you have a little time before or after either service and are insterested in serving the church, please contact Brenda Gross (251) 405-8574 or Sue Buffkin at (251) 554-1323.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Join us for One Service Sunday, February 15th at 10:00 a.m.**

**Small Groups** – Small groups are a great way to gain community in the church while digging into God's word. If you'd like to be a part of a small group, reach out to [lanier@covenantpresmobile.org](mailto:lanier@covenantpresmobile.org)

**Midweek Lenten Lunch & Worship** – Join us Wednesdays during lent beginning February 25th through March 25th for a time of worship and reflection. Guest Preachers including Rev. Tim Smith, Dr. Mark Foley, and Mr. Matt Bolger, along with Sonny and Lanier, will lead us through a time of Lenten reflection on the Christ who bore our Grief and our Shame. Worship will be held at 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary following by a five-dollar bagged lunch at noon. Grab and go or stay and fellowship.

**Ladies' Thursday Joshua Study** – Ladies, join us on Thursday mornings at 9:30 or evenings at 6:30 as we study the book of Joshua starting January 29th. Childcare will be available at the morning study. Register on our website or through our weekly email.

**Thursday Men's Bible Study** – Alec's men's Bible study is back Thursday mornings at 6:30 a.m. Just show up!