

## **Preparing Your Heart for Worship**

April 12, 2026

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“Jesus came the first time, and he is coming again, as the king over all kings. King of Israel, king of all the nations, king of nature and the universe. Until he comes again, there is a day of amnesty and forgiveness and patience. He still rides a donkey and not yet a white war-horse with a rod of iron. He is ready to save all who receive him as Savior and Treasure and King. Come to him. Know him. Receive him. Live your life in allegiance to him.”

– John Piper

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*From Colossians 2:3 & Revelation 5:12*

Pastor: The Lord Jesus who calls us to worship him today is the same Jesus who refused the temptation to worship the evil one. Rather than receive the glorious kingdoms of this world, he endured the shame of the cross, and today is Lord of lords and King of kings. Now are gathered in him all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, glory, and power. With the saints of all ages we say,

**Together: “Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!”**

## **HYMNS OF PRAISE**

*“Come Thou Fount (Above All Else)”*

Come Thou fount of every blessing  
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace  
Streams of mercy never ceasing  
Call for songs of loudest praise  
Teach me some melodious sonnet  
Sung by flaming tongues above  
Praise the mount I’m fixed upon it  
Mount of Thy redeeming love

Here I raise my Ebenezer  
Hither by Thy help I’m come  
And I hope by Thy good pleasure  
Safely to arrive at home  
Jesus sought me when a stranger  
Wand’ring from the fold of God  
He to rescue me from danger  
Interposed His precious blood

Oh to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I’m constrained to be  
Let Thy goodness like a fetter  
Bind my wand’ring heart to Thee  
Prone to wander Lord I feel it  
Prone to leave the God I love  
Here’s my heart Lord take and seal it  
Seal it for Thy courts above

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Bridge:

(Above) All else I adore Your name

Above all else tune my heart to sing Your praise

Above all else I adore Your name

Above all else tune my heart to sing Your praise

(Repeat)

Tag:

The highest praise

The loudest praise

To the name above every name

“Prone to wander, Lord I feel it,

Prone to leave the God I love

Here’s my heart, Lord take and seal it

Seal it for Thy courts above”

*“The King of Love My Shepherd is”*

The King of love my Shepherd is

Whose goodness faileth never

I nothing lack if I am His

And He is mine forever

Where streams of living water flow

My ransomed soul He leadeth

And where the verdant pastures grow

With food so heavily feedeth

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed  
But yet in love He sought me  
And on His shoulder gently laid  
And home rejoicing brought me

Sing praise for love that knows no end  
To Christ who died for sin  
For He will all your wrongs forgive  
The King of love my Shepherd is

In death's dark vale I fear no ill  
With Thee dear Lord beside me  
Thy rod and staff my comfort still  
Thy cross before to guide me

Thou spread'st a table in my sight  
Thy Spirit grace bestoweth  
And O what pleasures of delight  
From Thy pure cup o'erfloweth

Sing praise for love that knows no end  
To Christ who died for sin  
For He will all your wrongs forgive  
The King of love my Shepherd is

And so through all the length of days  
Thy goodness faileth never  
Good Shepherd may I sing Thy praise  
Within Thy house forever

**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)

*Benjamin Alan Berson*

**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

*“Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor”*

Christ the sure and steady anchor  
In the fury of the storm  
When the winds of doubt blow through me  
And my sails have all been torn  
In the suffering in the sorrow  
When my sinking hopes are few  
I will hold fast to the anchor  
It shall never be removed

Christ the sure and steady anchor  
While the tempest rages on  
When temptation claims the battle  
And it seems the night has won  
Deeper still then goes the anchor  
Though I justly stand accused  
I will hold fast to the anchor  
It shall never be removed

Christ the sure and steady anchor  
Through the floods of unbelief  
Hopeless somehow O my soul now  
Lift your eyes to Calvary  
This my ballast of assurance  
See His love forever proved  
I will hold fast to the anchor  
It shall never be removed

*continued on the next page*

Christ the sure and steady anchor  
As we face the wave of death  
When these trials give way to glory  
As we draw our final breath  
We will cross that great horizon  
Clouds behind and life secured  
And the calm will be the better  
For the storms that we endured

Christ the shore of our salvation  
Ever faithful ever true  
We will hold fast to the anchor  
It shall never be removed

## SERMON TEXT

### Genesis 20

1 From there Abraham journeyed toward the territory of the Negeb and lived between Kadesh and Shur; and he sojourned in Gerar. 2 And Abraham said of Sarah his wife, "She is my sister." And Abimelech king of Gerar sent and took Sarah. 3 But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night and said to him, "Behold, you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is a man's wife." 4 Now Abimelech had not approached her. So he said, "Lord, will you kill an innocent people? 5 Did he not himself say to me, 'She is my sister'? And she herself said, 'He is my brother.' In the integrity of my heart and the innocence of my hands I have done this."

6 Then God said to him in the dream, “Yes, I know that you have done this in the integrity of your heart, and it was I who kept you from sinning against me. Therefore I did not let you touch her.

7 Now then, return the man’s wife, for he is a prophet, so that he will pray for you, and you shall live. But if you do not return her, know that you shall surely die, you and all who are yours.”

8 So Abimelech rose early in the morning and called all his servants and told them all these things. And the men were very much afraid.

9 Then Abimelech called Abraham and said to him, “What have you done to us? And how have I sinned against you, that you have brought on me and my kingdom a great sin? You have done to me things that ought not to be done.”

10 And Abimelech said to Abraham, “What did you see, that you did this thing?”

11 Abraham said, “I did it because I thought, ‘There is no fear of God at all in this place, and they will kill me because of my wife.’

12 Besides, she is indeed my sister, the daughter of my father though not the daughter of my mother, and she became my wife.

13 And when God caused me to wander from my father’s house, I said to her, ‘This is the kindness you must do me: at every place to which we come, say of me, “He is my brother.”’”

14 Then Abimelech took sheep and oxen, and male servants and female servants, and gave them to Abraham, and returned Sarah his wife to him.

15 And Abimelech said, “Behold, my land is before you; dwell where it pleases you.” 16 To Sarah he said, “Behold, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of silver. It is a sign of your innocence in the eyes of all who are with you, and before everyone you are vindicated.” 17 Then Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech, and also healed his wife and female slaves so that they bore children. 18 For the Lord had closed all the wombs of the house of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham’s wife.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON: “Rascals and Scoundrels”***Genesis 20**Rev. Sonny Walker*

## **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.*

## **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.

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## 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

*“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.

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)

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! (Chorus)

We 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  
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

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**ELDERS**

Bobby Crow, David Wilhelm, Forrest Crabtree, Mark Spivey, Brad Hoffman, Chris Estis, Stephen Fitts, Wes Pipes, & Foster Veazy

**DEACONS**

Kenneth Taylor, Chad Cross, Dana Renta, Brenda Gross, Sue Buffkin, Mack Outlaw, Erin Baldwin, Jeffrey Kintz, & Laura Warren

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Youth Group Today!** Join us from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Dinner will be provided.

**CovGirls meets Wednesday this week!** Join us from 3:15-4:15 for playground time, snacks, and time in God's Word!

**Taste and see what Covenant is cooking up!** It's time to submit your favorite family recipes for our church cookbook. You can submit your recipes by emailing [covcooks@covenantpresmobile.org](mailto:covcooks@covenantpresmobile.org) Printed forms are also available at the back of church and can be dropped off at the church office.

**Save the Date for VBS this Summer, June 8-11!** This is a great week for kids to hear the Gospel! Invite your friends, neighbors, and grandchildren!

**RYM Summer Camp** – Middle school still has spots available. High school is waitlist only! RYM Florida Middle School is June 22-26, and RYM Florida High School is July 7-12.