

FAITH 
COVENANT

C H U R C H

Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

November 12, 2017

*“But the tax collector, standing far off,
would not even lift up his eyes to heaven,
but beat his breast, saying,
‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’”
Luke 18:13*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Our worship is
a response to
God's initiative.
The pattern of
our worship
reflects the
gospel.*

MOMENT FOR MISSIONS: *The Persecuted Church*

***CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 47:1-4**

Leader: Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy!

All: For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared, a great king over all the earth. He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet.

Leader: He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves.

***GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS - Hymn #32**

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my father,
There is no shadow of turning with thee:
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
As thou hast been thou for ever wilt be.

(Chorus)

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see:
All I have needed thy hand hath provided—
"Great is thy faithfulness," Lord unto me!*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

(Chorus)

GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS, *continued

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside.

(Chorus)

***GLORY BE/AGNUS DEI**

Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world;
Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world;
have mercy on us (*Alleluia*), have mercy on us (*Alleluia*), have mercy on us.

(Repeat)

(Chorus)

Glory be to the Father, Amen.

Glory be to the Son, Amen.

Glory be to the Spirit, Amen, Amen.

Son of God, set me free from all that I own;
Son of God, capture me and make me your own;
have mercy on us (*Alleluia*), have mercy on us (*Alleluia*), have mercy on us.

(Chorus 2x)

***PRAYER OF PRAISE**

God Calls Us

The Lord summons his people to worship and we respond in obedience.

The Lord's call is a call to action. We gather, praise, adore, give thanks, etc.

The Call to Worship is a joyful summons and a clear reminder that worship is our coming into God's presence by his command, and not our command that he come into our presence.

**Indicates when to stand.*

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***MY FAITH HAS FOUND A RESTING PLACE**

My faith has found a resting place
From guilt my soul is free
I trust the Ever-living One
His wounds shall plead for me.

(Chorus)

*I need no other argument, I need no other plea
It is enough that Jesus died and that He died for me*

My great physician heals the sick
The lost He came to save
For me His precious blood He shed
For me His life He gave

(Chorus)

My heart is leaning on the Word
The written Word of God
Salvation by my Savior's name
Salvation through His blood

(Chorus)

COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *Mark 12:30-31*

And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.

continued above

All: Almighty God, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; we have not loved you with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone. Lord, you are full of compassion and gracious, slow to anger, and great in mercy. Restore to us the joy of our salvation; bind that which is broken, give light to our minds, strength to our wills, and rest for our souls for the sake of your Son, our Savior-Jesus. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

DECLARATION OF GRACE: *Zephaniah 3:17*

The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

*SCRIPTURAL CONFESSION OF FAITH: *Colossians 1:15-20*

All: Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

God Cleanses Us

The biblical response to God's call to be in his presence is confessing our sins. We humble ourselves when we approach our God. This is a corporate prayer of all God's people. It is a great privilege of the gospel that we can stand forgiven before the Lord of glory.

***MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS - Hymn #521**

My hope is built on nothing less, than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name

(Chorus)

*On Christ the solid rock I stand; all other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand*

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.

(Chorus)

His oath, his covenant, his blood, support me in the whelming flood
When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.

(Chorus)

Offering

We give back to
God a portion of
what he has
given us to use
to declare that
he is Lord of all.

(This is part of
our service as a
church family,
and visitors
should not feel
obligated to
participate.)

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found
Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne

(Chorus)

OFFERTORY & RESPONSE

Reminder: please sign and pass the Attendance Register down the pew.

11 a.m. Service: Children ages 4-6 excused for Children's Church (downstairs in the Corner Classroom)

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 of 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.*

Back to Basics: The Heart of Reformed Theology
Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.
A Humbled Heart - Luke 18:9-14 (ESV)

⁹ He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: ¹⁰ "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' ¹³ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

Sermon Outline

I. Contrition before God—Tenderness given to others

Sermon Outline, continued

II. Gratitude in response to God—Joyfulness expressed to others

God Consecrates Us
Consecrate means to make holy, to set apart. The Word of God does that for the lives of believers. Through the sermon, confessions of faith, and the offering we are sanctified for service to our Lord to joyfully offer up our lives to him.

Sermon Questions

1. To affirm the Reformed doctrines of grace is to affirm our own inability to save ourselves. Why can some be large-minded in their doctrine yet small hearted in how they deal with others who differ? Consider: John Newton—“Of all people who engage in controversy, we, who are called Calvinists, are most expressly bound by our own principles to the exercise of gentleness and moderation. ... The Scriptural maximum, that “The wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God,” is verified by daily observation. If our zeal is embittered by expressions of anger, invective, or scorn, we may think we are doing service to the cause of truth, when in reality we shall only bring it into discredit.”
2. King Uzziah started well but ended with a proud heart that was judged by the Lord (2 Chronicles 26). What helps us to maintain a contrite heart throughout our lives?
3. How does comparing ourselves to others blind us to our own hearts?
4. A grateful and glad heart is an excellent indicator of our own understanding of God’s grace. How do you do in this area? If it is a struggle, why?

*ROCK OF AGES, CLEFT FOR ME

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood, from thy wounded side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfil thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears for ever flow,
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to thee for dress, helpless, look to thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Saviour, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eye shall close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Wine is located in the two outer rings; juice is located in the center ring.

PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION

God Communes with Us

The Lord strengthens and nourishes our faith through a sacramental meal. Through Jesus, communion with God has been reestablished. The covenant has been renewed. The Lord's Supper is the gospel made visible for us and we share in it as the full community of God's people.

At Faith Covenant, the Lord's Supper is observed each Lord's Day as the climax of our worship service. We invite to the Lord's Table all those who are baptized disciples of Jesus Christ, under the authority of Christ and His body, the Church. By eating the bread and drinking the cup with us as a visitor, you are acknowledging to our church that you are in covenant with God. You also acknowledge that you are a sinner, without hope except in the sovereign mercy of God, and that you are trusting in Jesus Christ alone for your salvation. If you have any doubts about your participation, please speak to the pastor or one of the elders after the service. Wine and bread are the elements of the supper as instituted by Jesus Christ. We recommend the use of wine; however we offer both juice and wine in the tray to allow true liberty of conscience.

***'TIS SO SWEET TO TRUST IN JESUS - Hymn #679**

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take Him at His word;
just to rest upon His promise, just to know, "Thus saith the Lord!"

(Chorus)

*Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him!
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
O for grace to trust Him more!*

O how sweet to trust in Jesus, just to trust His cleansing blood;
and in simple faith to plunge me 'neath the healing, cleansing flood!

(Chorus)

Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus, just from sin and self to cease;
just from Jesus simply taking life and rest, and joy and peace.

(Chorus)

I'm so glad I learned to trust Him, precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;
and I know that Thou art with me, will be with me to the end.

(Chorus)

***BENEDICTION**

If you are in need of personal prayer, an elder is available up front after the service.

**God
Commissions
Us**

Having been richly blessed by the Lord in our worship, we are sent forth as his ambassadors of reconciliation into the world. Our worship of God as his people now extends into our lives throughout the week. We are to offer ourselves as living sacrifices to him in all areas of our lives.

Leaders & Staff

Senior Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D. & Associate Pastor Taylor Clark

Staff: Kristin Bay, Hanni Hanson, Carlynn Stahlberg, Kelly Brown, Sara Motley (*Nursery*)

Elders: Tim Anderson Grady Bennett, Tom Jentz, Trent Neumann, Don Olmsted, Matt Riley, Micah Tinkham, Steve Thompson *Deacons:* Terry Falk, Kyle Hanson, Micah Hill, Ryan Petersen, Mike Stahlberg, Bruce Tulloch, Phil Van Duyne

To be added to church enews, and prayer lists, please contact us at office@faithcov.com.
For more about Faith Covenant and the Presbyterian Church in America, go to faithcov.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOCAL OR REGIONAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR: Rocky Mountain Community Church, PCA, Billings, Pastors Jason Barrie, Rolfe Meintjes, and Alfred Poirier

MISSION PROJECT OR MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Jim & Jill Hadlock with Cru Jesus Film Project in Orlando, Florida.

COMMUNICANT'S CLASS: If you are interested in your child attending Communicant's Class, please sign up on in the foyer. The class will meet four days Nov. 13-16 at the church at 3:45-4:30 p.m. Contact the office with questions (752-2400).

CHOIR: Attention Singers! Your church choir is looking for a few good men and women to help us sing God's praises! Practices are Tuesdays at 7 p.m. with the next one Tuesday, Nov. 14. If you are interested, come to practice or call or text Terri Miller (270-7958). If we can gather enough singers, we hope to sing several times during the Christmas season.

VESPERS SERVICE: Join us for a new evening service in the long tradition of the church's "Evening Prayer," Friday, Nov. 17, at 7 p.m. at the church. This brief service makes use of silence and symbol, prayer and song. Come unplug yourself from the constant distraction of modern life and recharge in reflective quiet as we follow this beautiful liturgy of worship.

YOU ARE ALL INVITED to our **ANNUAL THANKS DINNER** Sunday, Nov. 19, at 4 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Our Thanksgiving Dinner is served family-style, and is a great time of fellowship and thanksgiving for all God has provided for us. Turkey provided—**please sign up in the foyer** to bring sides and dessert to round out our meal.

MISSION MEAL: Join us for lunch with Kevin and Sarah Johnson on Sunday, Dec. 3, to learn about their mission work in Guatemala. We will share a lasagna lunch immediately following the second service. Please sign up in the foyer so we can plan for food.

GENERAL OFFERING SUMMARY:

Targeted Budget = \$324,872.75; Offerings received = \$293,568.98

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOXES: Today is the day! Leave shoeboxes in the foyer under the tables. Remember new for this year: no toothpaste, candy, or any other food, and the shipping cost is now \$9/box. Contact the office for details (752-2400).

SALVATION ARMY COUNTING: Alan & Joyce Schmautz coordinate volunteers to count the money collected by Salvation Army bell ringers during the holidays. They are still in need of volunteers particularly for Tuesday nights. Contact Joyce if you can help (249-6370).

SERVING: November Deacons are Bruce Tulloch & Kyle Hanson

WEEKLY/MONTHLY

Today (1st service/2nd service)

Ushers: Rik & Audrey Goodell/Ken & Terri Miller
Children's Church: Carol Van Duyne
Nursery 8:15 a.m.: H. Hanson
Nursery 11 a.m.: Longeneckers
Fellowship Hosts: Audrey Goodell & Tamie Jentz
Communion Prep/Cleanup: Carolyn Duncan/Mark Rice

Next Sunday - November 19th

Ushers: Rik & Audrey Goodell/Ken & Terri Miller
Children's Church: Sharon Salyer
Nursery 8:15 a.m.: Motleys
Nursery 11 a.m.: Turners/Hunters
Fellowship Hosts: Terri Miller & Kate Anderson
Communion Prep/Cleanup: Fenners/Benni Tulloch

Worship Services

Sundays 8:15 & 11 am

Sunday School

Sept.-May 10 am

Music Practice

Tuesdays 5:30 pm

Trustees

1st Tuesdays 5:30 pm

Elder/Deacon Meeting

3rd Tuesdays 7 pm

Elizabeth Women

2nd & 4th Tuesdays noon

Sr. & Jr. Youth Groups

Sept.-May Wednesdays 7 pm