

FAITH 
COVENANT

C H U R C H

Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

January 19, 2020

*“The Lord is close to the brokenhearted;
he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.”*

Psalm 34:18

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

***CALL TO WORSHIP: 1 Chronicles 16:8-11**

Leader: Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

All: **Sing to him; sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!**

Leader: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

All: **Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually!**

***CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS - Hymn #295**

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own
Awake my soul and sing of Him who died for thee
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity

Crown Him the Lord of love behold His hands and side
Rich wounds yet visible above in beauty glorified
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight
But downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright

Crown Him the Lord of peace whose power a sceptre sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise
his reign shall know no end and round His pierced feet
fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet

Crown Him the Lord of years the Potentate of time
Creator of the rolling spheres ineffably sublime
All hail! Redeemer hail! for Thou hast died for me
Thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity

***PRAYER OF PRAISE**

***REVELATION SONG**

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain; holy, holy is he.
Sing a new song to him who sits on heaven's mercy seat.

(Repeat)

(Chorus)

*Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,
who was and is and is to come.*

*With all creation I sing praise to the King of kings;
you are my ev'rything and I will adore you.*

*Clothed in rainbows of living color,
flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder;
blessing and honor, strength and glory and power be to you,
the only wise King.*

(Chorus)

*Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder
at the mention of your name.
Jesus, your name is power, breath and living water,
such a marv'lous mystery!*

(Chorus 2x)

**Call to
Worship**

Worship begins with God who invites us and welcomes us into his presence. Because of Christ, we can approach God with boldness even though we are sinful and weak.

**Indicates
when to stand.
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COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *2 John 1:6, 8-9*

And this is love, that we walk according to his commandments...
Watch yourselves, so that you may not lose what we have worked
for, but may win a full reward. Everyone who goes on ahead and
does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God. Whoev-
er abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son.

**Call to
Confession**

We all sin daily,
in thought and
word and deed.

As we come
into God's
presence, we
acknowledge
how we have
rebelled against
our King and
seek his
forgiveness.

LORD HAVE MERCY

For what we have done and left undone
We fall on Your countless mercies
For sins that are known and those unknown
We call on Your name so holy
For envy and pride, for closing our eyes
For scorning our very neighbor
In thought, word, and deed, we've failed You, our King
How deeply we need a Savior

(Chorus)

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy

Lord have mercy on us (2x)

continued above

LORD HAVE MERCY, *continued*

For what You have done, Your life of love
You perfectly lived, we praise You
Though tempted and tried, You fixed Your eyes
You finished the work God gave You
And there on the tree, a King among thieves
You bled for a world's betrayal
You loved to the end, our merciful friend
How pure and forever faithful
(*Chorus*)

For hearts that are cold for seizing control
For scorning our very Maker
In thought, word, and deed, we've failed You, our King
How deeply we need a Savior
(*Chorus 2x*)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

DECLARATION OF GRACE: *Colossians 1:13-14*

God has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

***WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS - Hymn #261**

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM -
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
while millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on.

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.)

OFFERTORY & RESPONSE

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

Children ages 4-6 excused for Children's Church both services (downstairs in the Corner Classroom)

BE STILL MY SOUL - Hymn #689

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side;
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide;
In ev'ry change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heav'nly Friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: your God will undertake
To guide the future as he has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart,
And all is darkened in the vale of tears,
Then shall you better know his love, his heart,
Who comes to soothe your sorrow and your fears.
Be still, my soul: your Jesus can repay
From his own fullness all he takes away.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hast'ning on
When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

Life Sunday
Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.
Escaping the Darkness — Psalm 34:18 (ESV)

Psalm 25:15-18

- ¹⁵ My eyes are ever toward the LORD, for he will pluck my feet out of the net.
¹⁶ Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.
¹⁷ The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me out of my distresses.
¹⁸ Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.

Psalm 34:18

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.

Psalm 44:23-26

- ²³ Awake! Why are you sleeping, O Lord? Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever!
²⁴ Why do you hide your face? Why do you forget our affliction and oppression?
²⁵ For our soul is bowed down to the dust; our belly clings to the ground.
²⁶ Rise up; come to our help! Redeem us for the sake of your steadfast love!

Psalm 56:3-4

- ³ When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.
⁴ In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?

Psalm 88:13-15

- ¹³ But I, O LORD, cry to you; in the morning my prayer comes before you.
¹⁴ O LORD, why do you cast my soul away? Why do you hide your face from me?
¹⁵ Afflicted and close to death from my youth up, I suffer your terrors; I am helpless.

Sermon Outline

I. Circling the Abyss

II. The Dawn of a New Day in Christ

Sermon

God addresses and speaks to us by the reading and preaching of his Word. Both Christians and non-Christians need to hear the good news of salvation and grow in it.

Sermon Questions

1. Remember that any conversation on suicide is highly personal, it is not simply an academic question. Compassion and sensitivity should always be present.
2. “Helpless, hopeless, and worthless are three words frequently used to describe the feelings of those who are suicidal.” How do we bring power, hope, and value to others through the gospel?
3. Suicide is a sin, but is it an unforgivable sin? How does the good news of Jesus Christ help answer this question?
4. What does it mean to “renounce the blasphemy of total darkness”? How do we use the truth of Scripture to overcome our immediate emotions? Recognize this is not simply about modifying behavior or a quick fix.
5. The Bible presents our emotions in full array, but many Christians avoid this. How do we train ourselves to lament and grieve together?
6. Resources:
 - TGC (The Gospel Coalition) resource article: “Suicide, Mental Illness, Depression, and the Church” by Justin Taylor
 - Christian Counseling and Education Foundation (ccef.org — search for “suicide”)
 - Nate Chute Foundation (Montana suicide prevention organization)

Children’s Question

*When you are feeling overwhelmed with dark thoughts,
how does Jesus give you hope and light?*

**The Lord's
Supper**
The gospel is
not only heard,
but visibly seen
as God invites
us to commune
with him at his
table. In the
Lord's Supper
we remember
and experience
Jesus' saving
work.

***I WILL PRAISE HIM STILL**

When the morning falls on the farthest hill,
I will sing his name, I will praise him, still.
When the dark trials come and my heart is filled
with the weight of doubt, I will praise him, still.

For the Lord, our God, he is strong to save
from the arms of death from the deepest grave.
And he gave us life in his perfect will;
and by his good grace I will praise him, still.

(Repeat all)

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Wine is located in the two outer rings; juice is located in the center ring.
(See FCC observance below)*

PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION

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.

***BECAUSE HE LIVES (AMEN)**

I believe in the Son, I believe in the Risen One
I believe I overcome, by the power of His blood

(Chorus)

*Amen amen, I'm alive I'm alive because He lives
Amen amen, let my song join the one that never ends
Because He lives*

I was dead in the grave, I was covered in sin and shame
I heard mercy call my name, He rolled the stone away

(Chorus)

Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives ev'ry fear is gone
I know He holds my life
My future in His hand

(Chorus)

***BENEDICTION**

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

Benediction

Just as worship begins with God's call, it ends with God sending us into the world with his word of grace. We go forth to live and serve by the power of his grace, not our own strength.

Leaders & Staff

Senior Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D. — Associate Pastor John Sackett

Youth/Refuge Director: Rev. Ben Melli Music Director: Bekah Marsh

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

Elders: Tim Anderson, Grady Bennett (*sabbatical*), Tom Jentz, Trent Neumann, Don Olmsted,

Matt Riley, Micah Tinkham 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: Hope Pregnancy Ministries

MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Jamie & Alissa Shattenberg with Eden Reforestation Projects and Sarobidy Maternity Center in Madagascar.

COLLEGE/CAREER BIBLE STUDY will meet next on Wednesday, Jan. 22 (at Sacketts') at 6:30 p.m. Contact Tim (270-4951) with questions.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS on Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2020, for our **ANNUAL MEETING**.

A 6:00 p.m. soup supper will precede the 7:00 p.m. meeting. All members are encouraged to attend but you do not need to be a member to attend. The annual report and 2020 budget information is available in the foyer: please take one per family. If you have concerns or questions about the budget, contact Tom Jentz, our treasurer, to expedite our meeting on the 29th.

SOUP SIGNUPS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING are available on the table in the foyer.

Twelve pots of soup, any kind, are needed, enough to serve 12 (or more) each. Please bring your pot of soup to the church ready to serve by 5:45 p.m. on January 29.

JUNIOR HIGH GIRLS JANUARY CAMP: Junior high girls are invited to a "January Camp In" at the church on Friday, Jan. 31, starting at 6:30 p.m. until 9:30 a.m. Saturday morning.

Bring a sleeping bag and pillow — dinner, breakfast and snacks provided. Please RSVP to Elizabeth Hanson (871-9210) or Abbey Sackett (307-287-5325) to sign up!

WOMENS' BIBLE STUDY: Susie Sullivan will begin an 8-week study on Philippians

Wednesdays at 9:30-11 a.m. at the church starting Feb. 12. Books are \$10. Sign up in the foyer by Feb. 2 if you would like to join in! Contact Susie with questions (752-3024).

FOOD, FUN & FELLOWSHIP: We invite YOU to sign up to have a monthly dinner with 7-9 other individuals from our church family. You will meet once a month, February - April and share a meal with a different group of people each month (couples stay together). A host will be assigned for each month to host in their home (or another location of their choice).

Sign up by Feb. 2 in the foyer!

HANDWORK & FELLOWSHIP: Women are invited on the second Mondays of the month starting Feb. 10 at 1-3 p.m. to Susan Sackett's studio for handwork and fellowship (800 Steel Bridge Rd.). Bring your craft/sewing projects and enjoy company while you work.

SERVING: January Deacon - Bruce Tulloch

WEEKLY/MONTHLY

Today (1st service/2nd service)

Ushers: Petersen Family/Bay Family

Children's Church: Tom Jentz/Ben Melli

Early Nursery: Hunters

Late Nursery: McManus/Olmsted

Fellowship Hosts: Becky Lund & Yvonne Hernandez

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Eileen Pierson/Theresa Paolini

Next Sunday January 26th

Ushers: Nick & Hanni Hanson/Volunteers Needed

Children's Church: Tom Jentz/Tim Anderson

Early Nursery: Lillards

Late Nursery: Buckners

Fellowship Hosts: Jenny Heyboer & Sam Hudson

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Susie Sullivan/Benni Tulloch

Worship Services

Sundays 8:15 & 11 am

Sunday School

Sept.-May 10 am

Music Practice

Tuesdays 6 pm

Elder/Deacon Meeting

3rd Tuesdays 7 pm

Youth Groups

Sept.-May Wed. 6 & 7:30 pm

Vespers

2nd Sundays 6:30 pm

Elizabeth Women Group

2nd & 4th Tuesdays