

FAITH   
COVENANT  

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C H U R C H

*Spreading A Love for God and His Glory*

*September 12, 2021*

*“And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,  
‘Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man.  
He will dwell with them, and they will be his people,  
and God himself will be with them as their God.’”*

*Revelation 21:3*

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 99:1-5**

Leader: The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake! The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.

**All: Let them praise your great and awesome name! Holy is he!**

Leader: The King in his might loves justice. You have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

**All: Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his footstool!  
Holy is he!**

### **\*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**

**\*HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD**

The splendor of the King clothed in majesty.  
Let all the earth rejoice, let all the earth rejoice.  
He wraps himself in light and darkness tries to hide  
and trembles at his voice, and trembles at his voice.

*(Chorus)*

*How great is our God, sing with me.  
How great is our God, and all will see  
how great, how great is our God.*

Age to age he stands and time is in his hands.  
Beginning and the end, beginning and the end;  
the Godhead three in one: Father, Spirit, Son.  
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.

*(Chorus)*

*(Bridge 2x)*

Name above all names, you are worthy of our praise  
and my heart will sing how great is our God.  
*(Chorus)*

**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: *James 2:10*

For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

Leader: You shall have no other gods before me.

**All: But I often place other things on the throne of my heart above you.**

Leader: You shall not make for yourself a carved image...You shall not bow down to them or serve them.

**All: But I make you into who I want you to be.**

Leader: You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.

**All: But I treat your name lightly and do not bring honor to you.**

Leader: Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work.

**All: But I make excuses for spending the day pursuing my own pleasures with little thought on how I can set apart the Sabbath to you.**

Leader: Honor your father and your mother.

**All: But I spurn authority and set my own rules.**

Leader: You shall not murder.

**All: But I often hate my brother in my heart.**

Leader: You shall not commit adultery.

**All: But my thought life is often x-rated and my heart filled with lust.**

*continued above*

### **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.

Leader: You shall not steal.

All: But I devote my life to pursue convenience and consumption.

Leader: You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

All: But I often speak against my neighbors and run them down to others.

Leader: You shall not covet.

All: But I desire and chase after far more than I need and I am not content with what I have.

All: Forgive us, O God. Put to death our sinful inclinations and practices through the power of your Holy Spirit. Renew us in the image of your Son, our Savior—Jesus Christ. Amen.

*(Adapted from the Ten Commandments – Exodus 20)*

## SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

### DECLARATION OF GRACE: *1 John 2:1-2*

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the atonement for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

**JESUS! WHAT A FRIEND FOR SINNERS!** - Hymn #498, vs. 1-3, 5  
Jesus what a friend for sinners, Jesus lover of my soul  
Friends may fail me foes assail me, he my Savior makes me whole

*(Chorus)*

*Hallelujah what a Savior! Hallelujah what a friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end*

Jesus what a strength in weakness, let me hide myself in Him  
Tempted tried and sometimes failing, he my strength my victory wins

*(Chorus)*

Jesus what a help in sorrow, while the billows o'er me roll  
Even when my heart is breaking, he my comfort helps my soul

*(Chorus)*

Jesus I do now receive Him, more than all in Him I find  
He hath granted me forgiveness, I am His and He is mine

*(Chorus 2x)*

## **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)*

**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.)

**\*CHRIST IS MINE FOREVERMORE**

Mine are days that God has numbered, I was made to walk with Him  
Yet I look for worldly treasure and forsake the King of kings  
But mine is hope in my Redeemer though I fall, his love is sure  
For Christ has paid for every failing, I am His forevermore

Mine are tears in times of sorrow, darkness not yet understood  
Through the valley I must travel where I see no earthly good  
But mine is peace that flows from heaven and the strength in times of need  
I know my pain will not be wasted, Christ completes his work in me

Mine are days here as a stranger, pilgrim on a narrow way  
One with Christ I will encounter harm and hatred for his name  
But mine is armor for this battle, strong enough to last the war  
And he has said he will deliver safely to the golden shore

And mine are keys to Zion city, where beside the King I walk  
For there my heart has found its treasure  
Christ is mine forevermore

*Come rejoice now, O my soul, for his love is my reward  
Fear is gone and hope is sure, Christ is mine forevermore! (3x)*

And mine are keys to Zion city, where beside the King I walk  
For there my heart has found its treasure  
*Christ is mine forevermore (3x)*

*Sermon Series: Heaven*  
Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.  
*Almost Heaven — John 5, Revelation 21 (ESV)*

**John 5**

<sup>25</sup> “Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. <sup>26</sup> For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. <sup>27</sup> And he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the Son of Man. <sup>28</sup> Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice <sup>29</sup> and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.

**Philippians 3:20-21**

<sup>20</sup> But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup> who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

**Revelation 21:1-4**

<sup>1</sup> Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. <sup>4</sup> He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”



## Sermon Outline

### I. The End Game

### II. Living in Light of the End

#### **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. The return of Jesus is to bring renewal to heaven and earth. We are not “whisked” away to heaven, rather Jesus returns to bring heaven on earth. How does this perspective help us to not to retreat or escape from the problems we currently face?
2. The New Testament speaks about a bodily resurrection repeatedly yet many only think about a continuing spiritual existence. What might be some ways to correct this?
3. Consider: “History will not simply run its course, but under the guidance of God will come to a consummation. His purposes will be fulfilled in the end.” — M. Erickson. How is this a source of encouragement to you?
4. How might you respond to someone who fears heaven will be “boring”?

#### **Children’s Question**

*How are you encouraged knowing the Jesus has promised to fix all things when He returns?*

**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.

**\*TO HIM WHO IS ABLE**

*(Women)* To Him Who is able, *(Men)* To Him Who is Able  
*(Women)* To keep you from falling, *(Men)* To keep you from falling

*(Together)* To Him, to Him, to Him  
To Him, to Him, to Him. *(Repeat first time)*

We are standing in His presence  
With our garments clean and white  
All glory, honor, power, majesty  
To Jesus Christ. *(Repeat All)*

*(Women)* To Him Who is able, *(Men)* To Him Who is Able  
*(Women)* To keep you from falling, *(Men)* To keep you from falling

*(Together)* To Him, to Him, to Him  
To Him, to Him, to Him.

**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.

**\*ON JORDAN'S STORMY BANKS I STAND**

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand, and cast a wishful eye  
to Canaan's fair and happy land, where my possessions lie.

All o'er those wide extended plains shines one eternal day.  
There God, the Son forever reigns and scatters night away.

*(Chorus)*

*I am bound, I am bound,  
I am bound for the Promised Land.*

*(Repeat)*

No chilling winds nor poisonous breath can reach that healthful shore;  
sickness, sorrow, pain, and death are felt and feared no more.

*(Chorus)*

When shall I reach that happy place and be forever blessed?  
When shall I see my Father's face, and in his bosom rest?

*(Chorus 2x)*

**\*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: Asst. Pastor Ben Melli Music Director/Assistant: Lisa Iddings/Laura Sackett

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

Elders: Tim Anderson, 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](mailto:office@faithcov.com).  
For more about Faith Covenant and the Presbyterian Church in America, go to [faithcov.com](http://faithcov.com).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**LOCAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR:** Great Plains Gathering, Billings PCA church plant,  
Pastor Josh Charette

**MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR:** Tim & Emily Herset, Young Life

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Sunday school classes for all ages begin TODAY at 10-10:45 a.m. Classrooms for youth are posted around the church. Classes for adults include a the **Holy Spirit** with Pastor Lloyd in the sanctuary and a 6-week **Introducing Faith Covenant** class with Pastor John for those considering church membership or just interested in learning more about our church and denomination. *Sign up for the Introducing class in the foyer; it will start Sunday, Sept. 19.*

**MISSION MEAL:** Join us for lunch on Sept. 19 after second service for a Mission Meal with Steve & Amy Haymond who will report on their trip to Nicaragua and the work being done there. Sign up in the foyer.

**VESPERS:** Monthly Vespers services resume Sunday, Sept. 19, at 6:30 p.m. Regular evening services will begin Sunday, Sept. 26, at 6:30 p.m.

**FALL 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, October-December 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 Sept. 19 in the foyer!

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES** begin Wednesday, Sept. 15, with classes on Hebrews at 9:30 a.m. (with childcare) and 4:30-6 p.m. There will also be a study Wednesdays at 1 p.m. on Ephesians. **Pick up books in the foyer and do the first lesson for all studies.** Payment for the books (\$5 each) will be collected at each study.

**LADIES' FALL FAVORITE POTLUCK** Come join us Sunday, Oct. 3, after second service, as we kick off another year of women's ministry! Come for fellowship and learn more how you can be involved. Bring your favorite fall food with a recipe card. Sign up in the foyer. Contact Kim Hansen for details (850-291-5103).

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** meets Wednesday mornings at 6:30 a.m. Join the other men of Faith Covenant for a full breakfast, devotional challenge and small group prayer.

**NEWSLETTER:** If you would like to be added to the email list for our Friday newsletter, contact the office at [office@faithcov.com](mailto:office@faithcov.com).

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**SERVING:** September Deacon – Kyle Hanson

**Today (1st service/2nd service)**

Ushers: N. Hansons/Sandi & Gloria Johnson

Children's Church: Tom Jentz

Nursery: K. Neumann

Fellowship Hosts: Laura Moody & Carlynn Stahlberg

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Traci Carroll & Jessica Brown

**Next Sunday September 19th**

Ushers: N. Hansons/ Sandi & Gloria Johnson

Children's Church: Don Olmsted

Nursery: Motleys

Fellowship Hosts: Debbie Corder & Vicky Creamer

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Eileen Pierson/Jeanie Brenneman

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**WEEKLY/MONTHLY**

**Sunday Worship Services**

8:15 & 11 am

**Sunday School**

Sept.-May 10 am

**Elder/Deacon Meeting**

3rd Tuesdays 7 pm

**Wednesdays**

Men's Breakfast 6:30 am

Youth Groups

Jr High @ 4:30 pm

Sr. High @ 7 pm

Career Group 7 pm