

FAITH 
COVENANT

C H U R C H

Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

January 22, 2023

The LORD spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the tent of meeting, on the first day of the second month, in the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt.

Numbers 1:1

**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.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***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!

**Indicates
when to stand.
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*OUR GREAT GOD

Eternal God, unchanging, mysterious and unknown
Your boundless love unfailing, in grace and mercy shown
Bright seraphim in endless flight around your glorious throne
They raise their voices day and night in praise to you alone.

(Chorus)

Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!

Hallelujah! Glory be to our great God!

Lord, we are weak and frail, helpless in the storm
Surround us with your angels, hold us in your arms
Our cold and ruthless enemy, his pleasure is our harm
Rise up, oh Lord, and he will flee before our Sovereign God.

(Chorus)

Let every creature in the sea and every flying bird
Let every mountain, every field and valley of the earth
Let all the moons and all the stars in all the universe
Sing praises to the living God, who rules them by his word

(Chorus x2)

*PRAYER OF PRAISE

*O GOD BEYOND ALL PRAISING - *Hymn #660*

O God beyond all praising,
We worship you today
And sing the love amazing
That songs cannot repay;
For we can only wonder
At every gift you send,
At blessings without number
And mercies without end:
We lift our hearts before you
And wait upon your word,
We honor and adore you,
Our great and mighty Lord.

Then hear, O gracious Savior,
Accept the love we bring,
That we who know your favor
May serve you as our king;
And whether our tomorrows
Be filled with good or ill,
We'll triumph through our sorrows
And rise to bless you still:
To marvel at your beauty
And glory in your ways,
And make a joyful duty
Our sacrifice of praise.

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. Whoever abides in the teaching has both the Father and the Son.

All: Our soul is like a house, small for you to enter, but we pray that you will enlarge it. It is in ruins, but we ask you to remake it. It contains much that you will not be pleased to see; this we know and do not hide. But to whom can we cry except to you? Cleanse us from our sins, O Lord, and our secret sins. What wretches we are! In your mercy, Lord our God, tell us what you are to us. "Say to my soul, 'I am your salvation.'" Come, O Lord, and stir our hearts. Call us back to yourself. Kindle your fire in us and carry us away. Be our fire and our sweetness. Let us love you and hasten to your side.

(Adapted from St. Augustine's Confessions)

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.

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 FROM SORROWS DEEP I CALL

Lord from sorrows deep I call
When my hope is shaken
Torn and ruined from the fall
Hear my desperation
For so long I've pled and prayed
God come to my rescue
Even so the thorn remains
Still my heart will praise You

Storms within my troubled soul
Questions without answers
On my faith these billows roll
God be now my shelter
Why are you cast down my soul
Hope in Him who saves you
When the fires have all grown cold
Cause this heart to praise You

Should my life be torn from me
Every worldly pleasure
When all I possess is grief
God be then my treasure
Be my vision in the night
Be my hope and refuge
'Til my faith is turned to sight
Lord my heart will praise You

*Oh my soul put your hope in God
My help my rock I will praise Him
Sing oh sing through the raging storm
You're still my God my salvation*

PUBLIC RECEPTION OF MEMBERS:

*Neil & Sarah Elgersma
Abigail, Christina, Josiah, Malachi, & Matthew Elgersma
Dave & Ann Ingram*

OFFERTORY & RESPONSE

*Reminder: please sign and pass the Attendance Register down the pew.
Children ages 4-6 excused for Children's Church (downstairs Corner Classroom)*

MY JESUS, I LOVE THEE - Hymn #648

My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine;
for thee all the follies of sin I resign;
my gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love thee because thou hast first loved me
and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I'll love thee in life, I will love thee in death,
and praise thee as long as thou lendest me breath,
and say when the deathdew lies cold on my brow:
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow:
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

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.)

Sermon Series: Numbers: A Pilgrim People
Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.
After the Wedding: Numbers 1-2

Ch. 1: ¹The LORD spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the tent of meeting, on the first day of the second month, in the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying, ²“Take a census of all the congregation of the people of Israel, by clans, by fathers’ houses, according to the number of names, every male, head by head. ³From twenty years old and upward, all in Israel who are able to go to war, you and Aaron shall list them, company by company. ⁴And there shall be with you a man from each tribe, each man being the head of the house of his fathers... ⁴⁷But the Levites were not listed along with them by their ancestral tribe. ⁴⁸For the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ⁴⁹“Only the tribe of Levi you shall not list, and you shall not take a census of them among the people of Israel. ⁵⁰But appoint the Levites over the tabernacle of the testimony, and over all its furnishings, and over all that belongs to it. They are to carry the tabernacle and all its furnishings, and they shall take care of it and shall camp around the tabernacle.

Ch. 2: ³²These are the people of Israel as listed by their fathers’ houses. All those listed in the camps by their companies were 603,550. ³³But the Levites were not listed among the people of Israel, as the LORD commanded Moses. ³⁴Thus did the people of Israel. According to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so they camped by their standards, and so they set out, each one in his clan, according to his fathers’ house.

I. Introduction to Numbers

II. Organizing a New Nation

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.

Questions for Further Reflection:

1. “After a wedding, there’s a marriage.” The new couple learns to live with one another. The miraculous deliverance of the Exodus now gives way to the forming of a new nation. In what ways do we see that the Lord is a living God and not simply an abstract principle?
2. Israel struggles to live by faith. We see here on a small scale what plagues the whole world. Our fears and doubts cause us to question God’s faithfulness. How would you describe your “wanderings” with the Lord over a timeline?
3. What was the importance of the census and the ordering of the camp? What does the tabernacle in the center of camp tell us about Israel and her God?
4. Numbers tells us that God’s people are to be all in. There are no half measures in the life of faith. Numbers also tells us that God is gracious to half-hearted people. How is this both an encouragement and an exhortation to you?

Children’s Question

Following Jesus means that we belong to him and to all of his people. What are responsibilities and privileges of belonging?

***THERE IS ONE GOSPEL**

There is one Gospel on which I stand for all eternity
It is my story my Father's plan the Son has rescued me
Oh what a Gospel oh what a peace, my highest joy and my deepest need
Now and forever He is my light
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

There is one Gospel to which I cling all I else I count as loss
For there where justice and mercy meet; He saved me on the cross
No more I boast in what I can bring; no more I carry the weight of sin
For He has brought me from death to life
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

There is one Gospel where hope is found the empty tomb still speaks
For death could not keep my Savior down; He lives and I am free
Now on my Savior I fix my eyes; my life is His and His hope is mine
For he has promised I too will rise
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

And in this Gospel the church is one; we do not walk alone
We have His Spirit as we press on; to lead us safely home

*And when in glory still I will sing of this old story that rescued me
Praise to my Savior the King of life; I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ*

Praise to my Savior the King of life
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ

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)*

**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.

We observe the Lord's Supper 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. Visiting children who have not been examined by their church's leadership, we ask to refrain. By sharing in the Supper, you are acknowledging to our church that you are in covenant with our Triune God through the person and work of Jesus Christ. If you are in doubt about your participation, please refrain. 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.

PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION

8:15 Pastor— 11 Elder Micah Tinkham

*I WILL SING OF MY REDEEMER - Hymn #650

I will sing of my Redeemer,
and his wondrous love to me;
on the cruel cross he suffered,
from the curse to set me free.

(Chorus)

*Sing, O sing of my Redeemer!
With his blood he purchased me;
on the cross he sealed my pardon,
paid the debt and made me free.*

I will tell the wondrous story,
how my lost estate to save,
in his boundless love and mercy,
he the ransom freely gave.

(Chorus)

I will praise my dear Redeemer,
his triumphant pow'r I'll tell,
how the victory he giveth
over sin and death and hell.

(Chorus)

I will sing of my Redeemer
and his heav'nly love to me;
he from death to life has brought me,
Son of God, with him to be.

(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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOCAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR: Alethia Christian Fellowship, Pastor Scott Keller
MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Jamie and Alissa Shattenberg, serving in Madagascar

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Will be this Wednesday, Jan. 25. A 6:00 p.m. soup supper will precede the 7:00 p.m. meeting. A sign-up sheet is in the foyer if you're able to bring soup, bread, or dessert to share. The annual report and 2023 budget is available in the foyer: please take one per family. If you have questions about the budget, please contact Tom Jentz, our treasurer, prior to the meeting.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: Many hands make light work and a few more hands would help contribute here at Faith Covenant. Consider helping with the coffee hour, ushering, nursery, communion preparation, or children's church and sign up in the foyer. If you are already on a volunteer schedule, no need to sign up again.

YOUTH GROUP WINTER CAMP: Will be held at Dickey Lake Bible Camp Feb. 17-19. Cost is \$70/student. Scholarships are available, so please don't let cost be a factor in not going. Contact Ben Melli if you are in need of financial assistance for this event. Check your Friday eNewsletter for a link to register.

BIBLE READING PLANS: If your New Year's resolutions included more Bible reading, there are three different plans printed out in the Fellowship hall (south side table) to help you get started.

SERVING: January Deacon - Mike Stahlberg

Today (1st service/2nd service)

Ushers: Stahlbergs/Heyboers
Children's Church: T&T Jentz/Sharon Salyer
Nursery: Hunters
Fellowship Hosts: Laura Pierson & Traci Carroll
Communion Prep/Cleanup: Carolyn Duncan/Niam Moody

Next Sunday January 29

Ushers: Stahlbergs/T&K Anderson
Children's Church: H. Hanson/Pastor John
Nursery: K. Brown & Y. Hernandez
Fellowship Hosts: Janis Orndorff & Kim Hansen
Communion Prep/Cleanup: Fenners/Jeanie Brenneman

WEEKLY/MONTHLY

Sunday Worship Services

8:15 & 11 am

Sunday School

10am

Vespers

2nd Sunday @ 6:30 pm

Elder/Deacon Meeting

3rd Tuesdays 7 pm

Wednesdays

Men's Breakfast 6:30 am

Jr High Youth @ 5 pm

Sr. High Youth @ 6:30 pm

Career Group 7 pm