

FAITH
COVENANT

C H U R C H

Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

September 13, 2026

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness,
and all these things will be added to you.

Matthew 6:33

**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: *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!**

**Indicates
when to stand.
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***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY! - Hymn #100**

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, Holy, Holy, all the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, Holy, Holy, though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

***PRAYER OF PRAISE**

Colors in the Church

We use different colored banners in a symbolic way throughout the liturgical year.
White = purity & holiness
Purple = royalty & suffering.
Red = blood & fire
Blue = royalty
Black = mourning & death (only used on Good Friday)
Green = life & growth

***KING OF KINGS**

In the darkness we were waiting, without hope without light
Till from Heaven You came running, there was mercy in Your eyes
To fulfill the law and prophets, to a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory, to a cradle in the dirt

(Chorus)

*Praise the Father, Praise the Son, Praise the Spirit three in one
God of Glory, Majesty, Praise forever to the King of Kings*

To reveal the kingdom coming and to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation, You did not despise the cross
For even in Your suffering You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation, Jesus for our sake You died

(Chorus)

And the morning that You rose all of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good for the Lamb had conquered death
And the dead rose from their tombs and the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come to the Father are restored

And the Church of Christ was born then the Spirit lit the flame
Now this Gospel truth of old shall not kneel shall not faint
By His blood and in His Name in His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ who has resurrected me

(Chorus)

Praise forever to the King of Kings

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.

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 desires 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.

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.

***CHRIST OUR WISDOM**

Christ our wisdom we are humbled
When You hide Your ways from us
You have purposes unnumbered
Each one good and glorious
Help us trust when we grow weary
Free us from our anxious thoughts
Give us grace to see more clearly
You are God and we are not

Christ our wisdom be our gladness
When we fail to understand
You ordain all joy and sadness
To fulfill Your perfect plan
Help us know You rule with power
Over every raging flood
In our most uncertain hour
You are God and we are loved

Christ our wisdom we will follow
Though the way ahead is veiled
As we journey through the shadows
Grant us faith where sight has failed
Help us cling to Your commandments
Strengthened by Your faithful Word
We will never be abandoned
You are God and we are Yours

Christ our wisdom we adore You
For the beauty of the cross
Once in foolishness we scorned You
But Your blood has ransomed us
Help us sing the endless mercies
Of Your humble heart to save
Christ our wisdom Christ our glory
You are God forever praised

Help us sing the endless mercies
Of Your humble heart to save
Christ our wisdom Christ our glory
You are God forever praised

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)*

***JESUS PAID IT ALL (O PRAISE THE ONE)**

I hear the Savior say, "Your strength indeed is small.
Child of weakness, watch and pray, find in me your all in all."

(Chorus)

*Jesus paid it all; all to him I owe
Sin had left a crimson stain, he washed it white as snow*

Lord now indeed I find, thy power and thine alone
Can change the leper's spots, and melt the heart of stone
(Chorus)

And when before the throne, I stand in him complete
"Jesus died my soul to save," my lips shall still repeat
(Chorus)

*Oh, praise the One who paid my debt
And raised this life up from the dead (3x)
(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.)

Seek First the Kingdom —Matthew 6:25-34

Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.

²⁵“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³²For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. ³⁴“Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”

I. Pursuing the Good and Losing the Best

II. Pursuing the Kingdom and Gaining 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.

Questions for Further Reflection

1. Jesus began his ministry by proclaiming the kingdom of God was at hand. How does the sermon on the mount reveal what Jesus meant by this?
2. In what way do our worries show us the heart of our idolatry? How is idolatry a means of using God for our benefit?
3. Our anxiety questions whether or not God has our best interests in mind. How is anxiety a way to try and control the outcome of things we have no control over? Jesus has borne our anxieties. How does the good news of Christ help free you from fear?
4. What reasons does Jesus give for us to not to worry? How is this a call to trust in the Father?
5. What does it mean to seek the kingdom of God? How does this pursuit affect your priorities, your prayers, and your passions?

Children's Question

How does my hope in Jesus help keep me from worry and anxiety?

How does following Jesus redirect all of my priorities?

***MARVELOUS GRACE OF OUR LOVING LORD - Hymn #465**

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,
Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt!
Yonder on Calvary's mount out-poured—
There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

(Chorus)

*Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within;
Grace, grace, God's grace,
Grace that is greater than all our sin!*

Sin and despair, like the sea-waves cold,
Threaten the soul with infinite loss;
Grace that is greater— yes, grace untold—
Points to the Refuge, the mighty Cross.

(Chorus)

Dark is the stain that we cannot hide,
What can avail to wash it away?
Look! There is flowing a crimson tide;
Whiter than snow you may be today.

(Chorus 2x)

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

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.

**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.

***CHRISTUS VICTOR (Amen)**

O Most High King of the ages
Great I AM God of Wonders
By the blood You have redeemed us
Led us through mighty waters
Our strength, our song, our sure salvation

Now to the Lamb upon the throne
Be blessing honor glory power
For the battle You have won
Hallelujah Amen

O Most High Dwelling among us
Son of man sent for sinners
By Your blood You have redeemed us
Spotless Lamb mighty Savior
Who lived who died who rose victorious

(Chorus)

*Now to the Lamb upon the throne
Be blessing honor glory power
For the battle You have won
Hallelujah*

*With every tribe and every tongue
We join the anthem of the angels
In the triumph of the Son
Hallelujah Amen*

O Most High King of the nations
Robed in praise crowned with splendor
On that day who will not tremble
When You stand Christ the Victor
Who was and is and is forever
(Chorus 2x)

Sing the victory of the Lamb
Hallelujah Amen

***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:** Veneration Church, Pastor Luke Taylor
- SEPTEMBER MISSION FOCUS:** Trinity Center for World Mission & Dr. Ashley Gess
- SUNDAY SCHOOL:** starts TODAY, with classes for all ages at 10 am. The adult class, “The Meaning of Marriage”, will meet in the sanctuary. Follow the signs to find the right classroom(s) for your child(ren).
- MISSIONS MEAL:** A potluck luncheon featuring Dr. Ashley Gess with Trinity Center for World Mission is TODAY after the 2nd service.
- VESPERS:** our Sunday evening service of prayer and reflection is TONIGHT at 6 pm.
- WOMEN’S MINISTRY FALL KICKOFF:** Ladies, join us for a potluck after the 2nd service next Sun., Sept. 20, to hear about the studies, service opportunities, and special events scheduled for the 2026-2027 ministry year. Sign up in the foyer to bring a salad, dessert, or fall dish to share.
- BIBLE STUDY ON I PETER:** If you missed this month-long evening study in July, it’s being offered again! More information and a signup are in the foyer.
- PROVERBS BIBLE STUDY:** Using the book *The Way of Wisdom* as a guide, this 8-week study will meet at Gloria Johnson’s home on Wed. afternoons from 1-3 beginning Sept. 23. This class is almost full; check the signup in the foyer if you’re interested in joining.
- SEEING JESUS IN THE OT PROPHETS:** Chany Ockert will be leading this yearlong Nancy Guthrie Bible study at the church on Thurs. mornings starting Oct. 1. Please see the description in the foyer for more information or to sign up.
- NEWCOMERS' LUNCH:** If you are new to Faith Covenant, please join us for lunch and fellowship on Sun., Sept. 27, at the Cunningham's home, after 2nd service. RSVP to Hannah Cunningham or on the signup in the foyer.
- COMING UP:** If you’re interested in membership at Faith Covenant, a class will be starting up on Sun., Oct. 11. A signup sheet will be available next week.

SERVING: September On-Call Deacon - Bruce Tulloch

WEEKLY/MONTHLY

Today (1st service/2nd service)

Ushers: C&C Cole / Falk Family
Children’s Church: H&Z Hanson / J. Benson & S. Calvi
Nursery: Rieke Family / Kamela Anderson Family
Fellowship Hosts: E. Pierson & L. Cole-Tinkham
Communion Prep/Cleanup: S. Sullivan / J. Brown

Next Sunday September 20

Ushers: N&H Hanson / Lancaster Family
Children’s Church: Russell Family / J. Benson & S. Calvi
Nursery: Hobus Family / Mattern Family
Fellowship Hosts: J. Haugestuen / D&K Eroh
Communion Prep/Cleanup: A. Haymond / N. Moody

Sunday Worship Services

8:15 & 11 am

Sunday School

Sept.-May 10 am

Vespers

2nd Sunday @ 6 pm

Wednesday Youth Group

6-7:30 pm (MS) / 6:30-8:15 pm (HS)

Elder/Deacon Meeting

3rd Monday @ 7 pm

Men’s Breakfast

Wednesdays @ 6:30 am