

covenant
children's ministries

Sunday, March 22, 2026

Dear parents of young worshipers,

Welcome! We are delighted to have you and your children worshipping with us this morning. Our goal each Sunday is to glorify and enjoy the God Who made us and saved us by His grace.

This bulletin was designed to help your children follow along with this morning's worship service. Here are some ideas to guide you:

- * Have children use the **stickers** provided as they follow along with this morning's liturgy. We've included some **brief definitions** for various parts of the liturgy to help you as you guide your child through the worship service.
- * Encourage your children to **color (or draw)** the main points of this morning's sermon as you listen together.
- * Help your children as they listen for the answer to the **question for young worshipers** during the sermon.
- * Check out the back of the bulletin for suggestions on **preparing for next week's worship service!** (Practicing can be especially helpful for young worshipers who cannot yet read!)

If you have any questions about our church, please do not hesitate to ask.

**In Christ,
Pastor Wiersema**

MORNING WORSHIP



Prelude

Think about why we are here. Get ready to worship!



Call to Worship: Psalm 97:1-6, 12

God calls us to worship Him from His Word

PASTOR: *The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice;
let the many coastlands be glad!*

PEOPLE: Clouds and thick darkness are all around him;
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

PASTOR: *Fire goes before him
and burns up his adversaries all around.*

PEOPLE: His lightnings light up the world;
the earth sees and trembles.

PASTOR: *The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,
before the Lord of all the earth.*

PEOPLE: The heavens proclaim his righteousness,
and all the peoples see his glory.

ALL: **Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous,
and give thanks to his holy name!**



Hymn of Adoration: God, All Nature Sings Thy Glory #122

We respond to God's call to worship in praise and love!

1. God, all na - ture sings thy glo - ry, and thy works pro - claim thy might;
 2. Clear - er still we see thy hand in man whom thou hast made for thee;
 3. But our sins have spoiled thine im - age; na - ture, con - science on - ly serve
 4. God of glo - ry, pow - er, mer - cy, all cre - a - tion prais - es thee;

or - dered vast - ness in the heav - ens, or - dered course of day and night;
 rul - er of cre - a - tion's glo - ry, im - age of thy maj - es - ty.
 as un - ceas - ing, grim re - mind - ers of the wrath which we de - serve.
 we, thy crea - tures, would a - dore thee now and through e - ter - ni - ty.

beau - ty in the chang - ing sea - sons, beau - ty in the storm - ing sea;
 Mu - sic, art, the fruit - ful gar - den, all the la - bor of his days,
 Yet thy grace and sav - ing mer - cy in thy Word of truth re - vealed
 Saved to mag - ni - fy thy good - ness, grant us strength to do thy will;

all the chang - ing moods of na - ture praise the change - less Trin - i - ty.
 are the call - ing of his Mak - er to the har - vest feast of praise.
 claim the praise of all who know thee, in the blood of Je - sus sealed.
 with our acts as with our voic - es thy com - mand - ments to ful - fill.



Invocation

We ask God to be present with us as we worship Him.



Profession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

**We declare what we believe about God —
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen



Gloria Patri

We praise God for who He is.



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly



Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er



shall be, world with-out end... A - men, a - men.

2nd Cent.; tr.

GLORIA PATRI (GREATOREX)
Henry W. Greatorex, 1851



Corporate Confession of Sin

We confess our sins together as God's people.

ALL: Lord God, in the wrong we have done
 and in the good we have not done
 we have sinned in ignorance;
 we have sinned in weakness;
 we have sinned in not seeking your counsel;
 we have sinned through our own deliberate fault.
 We are truly sorry.
 We repent and turn to you.
 Forgive us and renew our lives
 through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.



Silent confession

Confess your own sins quietly to God.



Assurance of Pardon: 1 John 1:8-9

God promises to forgive all those who trust in Jesus!

PASTOR: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

ALL: Thanks be to God! Amen.

A - maz - ing love! How can it be that
A - maz - ing love! How can it be

thou my God, shouldst die for me?
that thou, my God,

Charles Wesley, 1738
Alt. 1990

SAGINA L.M.D.
Thomas Campbell, 1825



Scripture Reading: James 1:5-8

We hear God's word being read and thank him for it.

PASTOR: *This is the word of the Lord.*

ALL: **Thanks be to God!**



New Members

We welcome new members to our Church.



Prayer of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer

The pastor prays for God's Church, locally and globally, then we pray the prayer Jesus taught His disciples.

**ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever. Amen**



Offertory: Eternal Life

We give back to God a portion of what He has given us.



CHOIR: For God so loved the world, For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, He gave His only Son His one and only, only, Son (repeat).

For God sent not His Son to condemn the world, For God sent not His Son to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved, the world might be saved, the world might be saved through Him.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whosoever believes, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

**For God so loved the world, the world, God so loved the world.
Amen.**



Sermon: Joshua 9:1-27

Crumbly Bread Covenant (Pastor Chris)

We listen to God's Word preached to us.

¹ As soon as all the kings who were beyond the Jordan in the hill country and in the lowland all along the coast of the Great Sea toward Lebanon, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, heard of this, ² they gathered together as one to fight against Joshua and Israel.

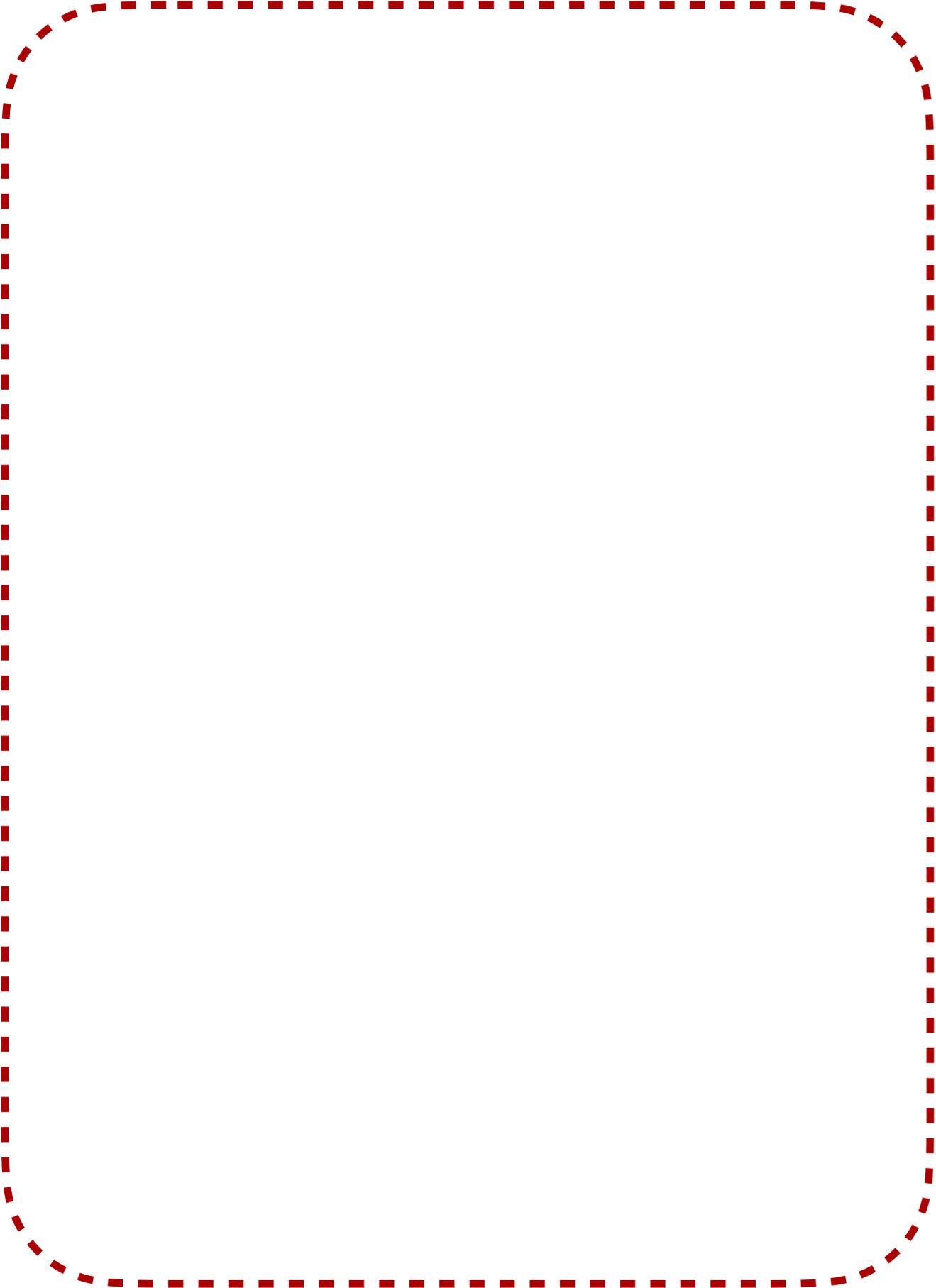
³ But when the inhabitants of Gibeon heard what Joshua had done to Jericho and to Ai, ⁴ they on their part acted with cunning and went and made ready provisions and took worn-out sacks for their donkeys, and wineskins, worn-out and torn and mended, ⁵ with worn-out, patched sandals on their feet, and worn-out clothes. And all their provisions were dry and crumbly. ⁶ And they went to Joshua in the camp at Gilgal and said to him and to the men of Israel, "We have come from a distant country, so now make a covenant with us." ⁷ But the men of Israel said to the Hivites, "Perhaps you live among us; then how can we make a covenant with you?" ⁸ They said to Joshua, "We are your servants." And Joshua said to them, "Who are you? And where do you come from?" ⁹ They said to him, "From a very distant country your servants have come, because of the name of the LORD your God. For we have heard a report of him, and all that he did in Egypt, ¹⁰ and all that he did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon the king of Heshbon, and to Og king of Bashan, who lived in Ashtaroth. ¹¹ So our elders and all the inhabitants of our country said to us, 'Take provisions in your hand for the journey and go to meet them and say to them, "We are your servants. Come now, make a covenant with us."' ¹² Here is our bread. It was still warm when we took it from our houses as our food for the journey on the day we set out to come to you, but now, behold, it is dry and crumbly. ¹³ These wineskins were new when we filled them, and behold, they have burst. And these garments and sandals of ours are worn out from the very long journey." ¹⁴ So the men took some of their provisions, but did

not ask counsel from the LORD. ¹⁵ And Joshua made peace with them and made a covenant with them, to let them live, and the leaders of the congregation swore to them.

¹⁶ At the end of three days after they had made a covenant with them, they heard that they were their neighbors and that they lived among them. ¹⁷ And the people of Israel set out and reached their cities on the third day. Now their cities were Gibeon, Chephirah, Beeroth, and Kiriath-jearim. ¹⁸ But the people of Israel did not attack them, because the leaders of the congregation had sworn to them by the LORD, the God of Israel. Then all the congregation murmured against the leaders. ¹⁹ But all the leaders said to all the congregation, “We have sworn to them by the LORD, the God of Israel, and now we may not touch them. ²⁰ This we will do to them: let them live, lest wrath be upon us, because of the oath that we swore to them.” ²¹ And the leaders said to them, “Let them live.” So they became cutters of wood and drawers of water for all the congregation, just as the leaders had said of them.

²² Joshua summoned them, and he said to them, “Why did you deceive us, saying, ‘We are very far from you,’ when you dwell among us? ²³ Now therefore you are cursed, and some of you shall never be anything but servants, cutters of wood and drawers of water for the house of my God.” ²⁴ They answered Joshua, “Because it was told to your servants for a certainty that the LORD your God had commanded his servant Moses to give you all the land and to destroy all the inhabitants of the land from before you—so we feared greatly for our lives because of you and did this thing. ²⁵ And now, behold, we are in your hand. Whatever seems good and right in your sight to do to us, do it.” ²⁶ So he did this to them and delivered them out of the hand of the people of Israel, and they did not kill them. ²⁷ But Joshua made them that day cutters of wood and drawers of water for the congregation and for the altar of the LORD, to this day, in the place that he should choose.

Question for young worshipers:
What did the men of Israel fail to do?



CRUMBLY

BREAD

COVENANT



Celebration of the Lord's Supper:

Jesus Paid It All #308

As Christians, we share this meal - reminding us of and strengthening our union with Christ and with one another - as Jesus told His disciples to do before He was crucified.



1. I hear the Sav - ior say, "Your strength in - deed is small,
2. Lord, now in - deed I find your pow'r, and yours a - lone,
3. For noth - ing good have I where - by your grace to claim—
4. And when, be - fore the throne, I stand in him com - plete,

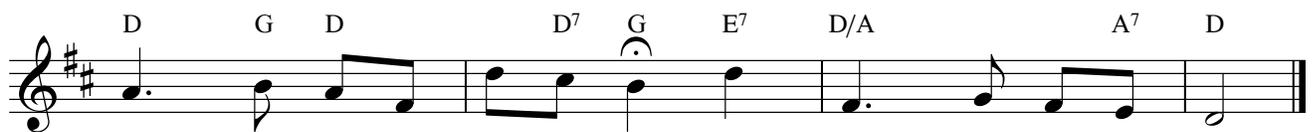


child of weak - ness, watch and pray, find in me your all in all."
can__ change the lep - er's spots, and__ melt the heart of stone.
I'll__ wash my gar - ments white in the blood of Cal - v'ry's Lamb.
"Je - sus died my soul to save," my__ lips shall still re - peat.

REFRAIN



Je - sus paid it all, all to him I owe;



sin had left a crim - son stain, he washed it white as snow.

Elvina M. Hall, 1865; mod.

ALL TO CHRIST 6.6.7.7.ref.
John T. Grape, 1868

★ Parents, if you think your child or children are ready to come to the table, please contact your fold elder or a pastor.



Benediction

The pastor proclaims a blessing on God's people



Threefold Amen

"Amen" means "Let it be so" or "It is true"

A - men, A - men, A - - men.



The Peace of Christ

We greet one another and are sent out on our way.

PASTOR: *The peace of Christ be with you.*

ALL: **And also with you!**

Musicians – Jonathan McGuire, Organ & Piano; Tim Cole, Choir Director

Unless noted otherwise, all Scripture notations are from The ESV Bible [The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, © 2001 Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.

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Join us for Sunday School @ 9:45 a.m.!

Check in downstairs at the Children's Ministry Desk to learn more!

Preparing for next week's worship service

We know that **training our children to worship** does not happen overnight. Especially for children who are not yet able to read, worship services can be difficult to follow, much less participate in! By practicing some of the elements of the service at home as a family during the week as you are able, your child(ren) can be prepared for what to say and sing along with the congregation.

- **PRAY:** We need the Lord's help as we train our children in worship. Even our best efforts to prepare them will fall flat without His aid!
- **MEMORIZE:** Work on memorizing **The Apostles' Creed** and **The Lord's Prayer** with your child(ren). We say these almost every week! In addition, we almost always include one or more of the following songs: the **Doxology**, the **Gloria Patri**, and the **Threefold Amen**.
- **PRACTICE:** You can scan the QR code to find a Spotify playlist with hymns commonly sung in our service and other worshipful hymns.





By the grace of the Triune God, Covenant Presbyterian Church exists to form and send disciples with passion for God and compassion for people.

Statement of Faith

We are a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), which believes that the Bible is the inerrant and infallible Word of God and holds to that system of doctrine summarized in the Westminster Confession of Faith & Catechisms.

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