



COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 24, 2026

To our guests,

Welcome! We are delighted to have you with us this morning. Our goal each Sunday is to glorify and enjoy the God Who made us and saved us by His grace. If you have any questions about our church, please do not hesitate to ask.

In Christ,
Pastor Noah Wiersema

Thank you for visiting with us!

Get Connected!

Want to plug into the life of Covenant? Scan the QR code to fill out our **Connection Card**, and our team will be in touch to help you get connected!



 **Hearing Assist:** Sanitized devices are available from our ushers.

Large Print version of the bulletin is available in the narthex.



Why a pelican?

Carved into the front of our pulpit is one of the most ancient symbols of Christ's sacrificial death on the cross. Often referred to as "the pelican in her piety," this symbol offers a vivid picture of how Christ's death brings us life: according to legend, a mother pelican will pluck her breast to feed her young with her blood during a time of famine. As a church, Christ's stunning grace is not only front-and-center in our sanctuary but, more importantly, in our lives. The image of the pelican serves as a frequent reminder that we are deeply rooted in Christ so that we might reach out with Christ.

For Children:

Junior Bulletin: We love having our children participate with us in worship! Each week, we provide a children's version of our bulletin that can be found in the narthex.

Nursery: The nursery (for children birth to 4 years old) is located on the Lower Level at the north end of the building. If you need help locating it, please feel free to ask an usher for assistance.

Wiggle Room: If you need to step out of the Sanctuary with your child, the Mare Room offers a closed circuit feed of the worship service along with a few toys. Our ushers would be happy to direct you.

Children's Worship (available only at the 8:30 service): A worship training time for children ages four through first grade is offered during the sermon. Children begin worship in the sanctuary and will be dismissed at the appropriate time. Parents should pick up their children in Room 13 on the Lower Level after the service.

MORNING WORSHIP

Reflection

The church is in desperate need of a leadership community whose function is not just structured to achieve with efficiency but is more deeply shaped by the comforts and calls of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

✦ Paul David Tripp

Greeting

As we enter into worship, please silence your cell phones.

Prelude

Call to Worship • from Psalm 19

PASTOR: *The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.*

PEOPLE: Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.

PASTOR: *There is no speech, nor are there words,
whose voice is not heard.
Their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.*

PEOPLE: The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;

PASTOR: *The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;*

PEOPLE: The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;

PASTOR: *The commandment of the LORD is pure,
enlightening the eyes;*

PEOPLE: The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;

PASTOR: *The rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.*

**ALL: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my
heart be acceptable in your sight,
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

God, through his Word,
calls us to worship Him.

In response to God calling
us into worship, we sing
praises to Him.

Hymn of Adoration • 10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)

REFRAIN

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; Wor-ship His ho - ly name.
— Sing like nev - er be-fore, O my soul; I'll wor-ship Your ho - ly name.
1. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn-ing, it's time to sing Your song
— a - gain, What - ev - er may_ pass, and what - ev - er lies be -
fore_ me, let me be sing-ing when the eve-ning comes.

REFRAIN

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

REFRAIN

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

REFRAIN

Invocation

We pray to God to bless
and guide our worship.

We join ourselves to
Christians across time and
space by confessing what
we believe.

Profession of Faith • The Apostles' Creed

ALL: 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.

* universal

Gloria Patri

#735

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.

Corporate Confession of Sin • from Joshua 23

**ALL: O Lord, we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed.
We have not been strong to keep your word.
Instead, we have turned to the right hand
or to the left.
We have bowed down to gods of our age:
money, materialism, and man.
We confess that we have not clung to you,
the LORD our God.
Have mercy on us, O Lord.**

We boldly confess our
disobedience to God
because he is faithful
and just.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon • from Isaiah 1 and Revelation 1

PASTOR: *Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though
your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow;
though they are red like crimson, they shall become like
wool. Truly, Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn
of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. It is he who
loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood.*

ALL: Thanks be to God! Amen.

We hear of the forgiveness
we have in Jesus and
respond with grateful
hearts.



- ▶ 1. Come, ye sin - ners, poor and need - y, weak and wound - ed_
- ▶ 2. Come, ye need - y, — come and wel - come, God's free boun - ty_
- ▶ 3. Come, ye wea - ry, — heav - y lad - en, bruised and bro - ken
- ▶ 4. Let not con - science make you lin - ger, nor of fit - ness
- ▶ 5. Lo! th'in - car - nate_ God as - cend - ed, pleads the mer - it_



- ▶ sick and sore; Je - sus read - y stands to save_ you,
- ▶ glo - ri - fy; true be - lief_ and true re - pent - ance,
- ▶ by the fall. If you tar - ry 'til you're bet - ter,
- ▶ fond - ly dream; all the fit - ness He re - quir - eth
- ▶ of His blood: Ven - ture on_ Him, ven - ture whol - ly,

REFRAIN



- ▶ full of pit - y, — love and pow'r.
- ▶ ev - 'ry grace that_ brings you nigh.
- ▶ you will nev - er_ come at all. I will a-rise and go to Je - sus,
- ▶ is to feel_ your need of Him.
- ▶ let no oth - er_ trust in - trude.



He will em-brace me_ in His arms. In the arms_ of



my dear Sav - ior, O there are_ ten_ thou - sand charms.

Joseph Hart
Refrain, source unknown

Traditional American Melody
Walker's *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Scripture Reading • 1 Kings 2:1-4

p.290
Reagan Calcari

We hear and read from
God's word throughout
our service.

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God!**

Prayer of Intercession and The Lord's Prayer

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,
forever. Amen.**

We pray for God's church
and the world and then
together pray the prayer
Jesus taught us to pray.

Please take a moment to sign the brown attendance pad.

Offering

*With grateful hearts for God's extravagant mercy and blessing,
we joyfully present our offerings to the Lord for the ministry of our church and community.*

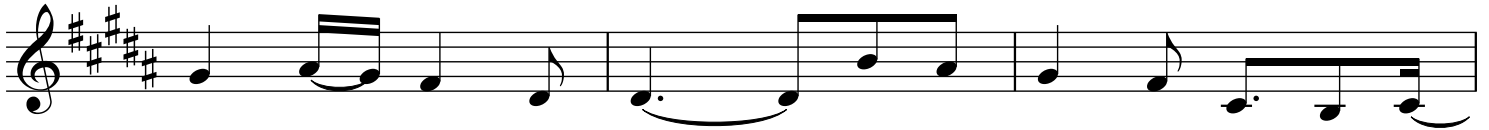
You may give your gift in the offering box provided.

We cheerfully give back to
God because of all he has
given us.

Hymn of Preparation • *Hast Thou Heard Him, Seen Him, Known Him*



1. Hast thou heard Him seen Him, known Him? _____ Is not
 2. What can strip the seem - ing beau - ty _____ from the
 3. 'Tis the look that melt - ed Pe - ter, _____ 'tis that

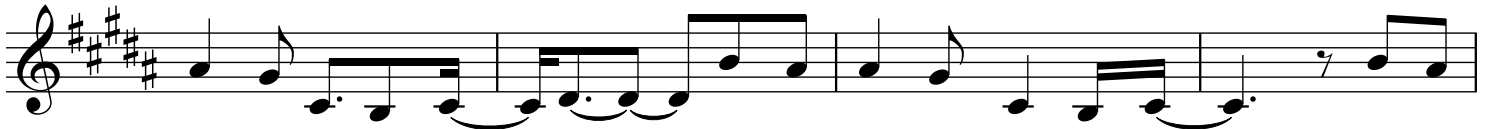


thine a ___ cap - tured heart? ___ Chief a - mong ten thou - sand own
 i - dols_ of the earth? ___ Not a sense of right or du -
 face that_ Ste - phen saw, ___ 'tis that heart that wept with Mar -



___ Him; ___ joy - ful choose the bet - ter part. ___ Cap - ti -
 - ty, ___ but the sight of peer - less worth. ___
 - y, ___ can a - lone from i - dols draw; ___

Chorus



vat - ed by His beau - ty; ___ wor - thy tri - bute haste to bring; Let His



peer - less worth con - strain ___ thee, ___ crown Him now un - ri - valed King.

Scripture Reading • Joshua 23:1-16

23 *A long time afterward, when the LORD had given rest to Israel from all their surrounding enemies, and Joshua was old and well advanced in years, ² Joshua summoned all Israel, its elders and heads, its judges and officers, and said to them, “I am now old and well advanced in years. ³ And you have seen all that the LORD your God has done to all these nations for your sake, for it is the LORD your God who has fought for you. ⁴ Behold, I have allotted to you as an inheritance for your tribes those nations that remain, along with all the nations that I have already cut off, from the Jordan to the Great Sea in the west. ⁵ The LORD your God will push them back before you and drive them out of your sight. And you shall possess their land, just as the LORD your God promised you. ⁶ Therefore, be very strong to keep and to do all that is written in the Book of the Law of Moses, turning aside from it neither to the right hand nor to the left, ⁷ that you may not mix with these nations remaining among you or make mention of the names of their gods or swear by them or serve them or bow down to them, ⁸ but you shall cling to the LORD your God just as you have done to this day. ⁹ For the LORD has driven out before you great and strong nations. And as for you, no man has been able to stand before you to this day. ¹⁰ One man of you puts to flight a thousand, since it is the LORD your God who fights for you, just as he promised you. ¹¹ Be very careful, therefore, to love the LORD your God. ¹² For if you turn back and cling to the remnant of these nations remaining among you and make marriages with them, so that you associate with them and they with you, ¹³ know for certain that the LORD your God will no longer drive out these nations before you, but they shall be a snare and a trap for you, a whip on your sides and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from off this good ground that the LORD your God has given you.*

¹⁴ *“And now I am about to go the way of all the earth, and you know in your hearts and souls, all of you, that not one word has failed of all the good things that the LORD your God promised concerning you. All have come to pass for you; not one of them has failed. ¹⁵ But just as all the good things that the LORD your God promised concerning you have been fulfilled for you, so the LORD will bring upon you all the evil things, until he has destroyed you from off this good land that the LORD your God has given you, ¹⁶ if you transgress the covenant of the LORD your God, which he commanded you, and go and serve other gods and bow down to them. Then the anger of the LORD will be kindled against you, and you shall perish quickly from off the good land that he has given to you.”*

God's word is held out to us so that we might better know, love, and serve God.

Sermon • A Call to Lead

Joshua 23:1-16; pp. 197-198

Rev. Noah Wiersema

1. The Tasks of a Leader

2. The Temptations of a Leader

May 24, 2026

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

We are raised up to feast
with our Lord.

Gluten-free bread is located on the communion table at the front of the sanctuary.

Grape juice is in the clear cups and wine is in the tinted cups.

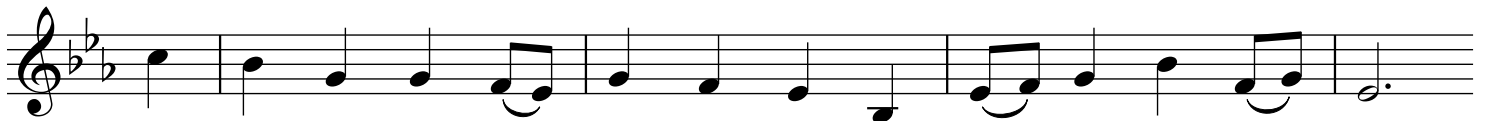
Parents, if you think your child or children are ready to come to the table, please contact your fold elder or a pastor.

Communion Hymn • *This Is My Father's World*

#111



1. This is my Fa - ther's world, and to my lis - t'ning ears,
2. This is my Fa - ther's world, the birds their car - ols raise,
3. This is my Fa - ther's world, O_ let me ne'er for - get



all na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.
the morn - ing light, the lil - y white, de - clare their Mak - er's praise.
that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is__ the Rul - er__ yet.



This is my Fa - ther's world: I__ rest me in the thought of__
This is my Fa - ther's world: he__ shines in all that's fair; in the
This is my Fa - ther's world: the__ bat - tle is not done; Je -



rocks and trees, of__ skies and seas; his hand the won - ders wrought.
rus - tling grass I__ hear him pass, he speaks to me ev - 'ry - where.
-sus who died shall be sat - is - fied, and earth and heav'n be__ one.

Maltbie D. Babcock, 1901

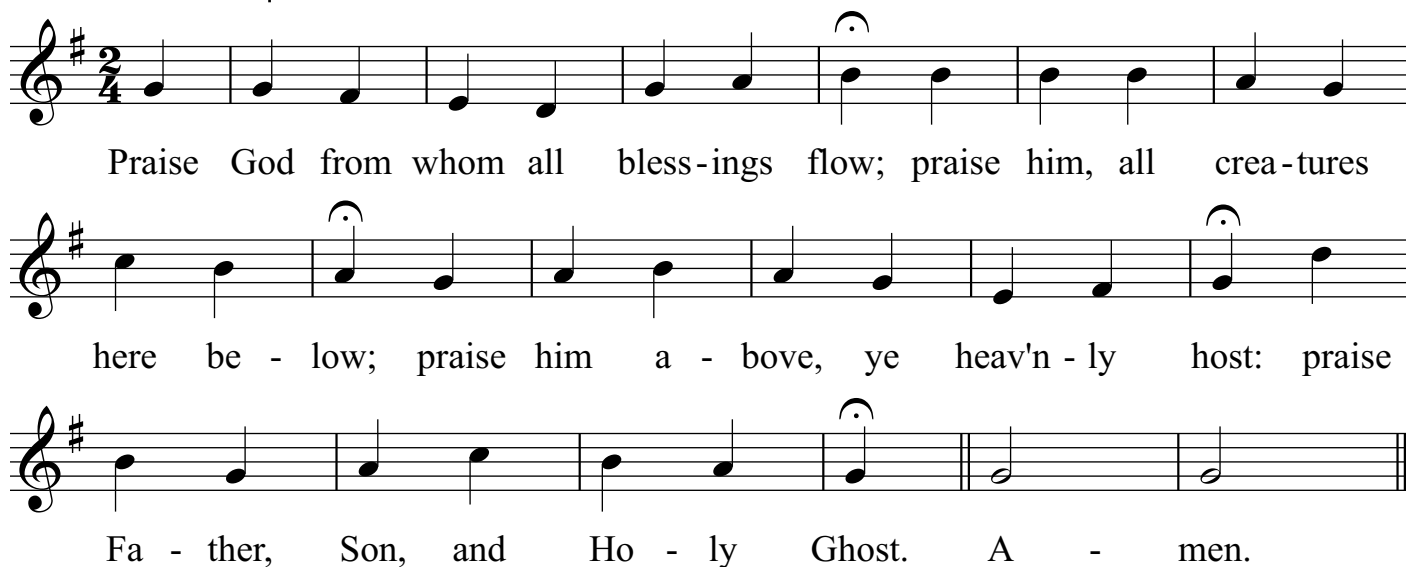
TERRA BEATA S.M.D.
Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915
Arr. by Edward Shippen Barnes, 1926

We are sent out with
God's blessing.

Benediction

Doxology

#731



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures
here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host: praise
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Thomas Ken, 1709

OLD HUNDREDTH L.M.
Louis Bourgeois's Genevan Psalter 1551

We are reminded of the
peace we have in Jesus and
we share that peace with
one another.

The Peace of Christ

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

PEOPLE: *And also with you!*

Musicians – James Marsh, Piano; Will Nabholz, Guitar & Vocals; Kuyper Brandt, Guitar;
Bryndis Bryan, Vocals; Paul Schultz, Cajon

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.
Used by permission. All rights reserved.] and all hymns are from the *Trinity Hymnal*.

CCLI songs are reprinted and streamed with permission under CCLI License #390623 and
CCLI Streaming License #21464884. All rights reserved.

Hymn of Adoration (“10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)”): Words and music by Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman.
© 2011 Atlas Mountain Songs | sixsteps Music | Thankyou Music | worshiptogether.com songs -- all admin. by
Capitol CMG Publishing. CCLI Song #6016351.

Hymn of Preparation (“Hast Thou Heard Him, Seen Him, Known Him”): Words by Ora Rowan. Music by Joel
Littlepage. © 1997 Joel Littlepage Music. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

For God so loved the world that
He gave His only begotten Son
that whosoever believeth in Him
should not perish but have everlasting life.

✠ John 3:16

EVENING WORSHIP

*If you would like to give your tithe this evening,
please place it in the wooden offering box located in the narthex before or after the service.*

Reflections

We conclude therefore that it is Christ who ... makes us partakers of himself. In brief, it is he who fulfills what the sacraments figure, and he uses these aids in such a way that the whole effect rests in his Spirit.

*✠ John Calvin and Heinrich Bullinger,
Consensus Tigurinus Article XIV. RC 1.542*

Prelude

God, through his Word,
calls us to worship Him

Call to Worship • Psalm 34:1-3, 8, & 22

PASTOR: *I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.*

PEOPLE: My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the humble hear and be glad.

PASTOR: *Oh, magnify the Lord with me,*

PEOPLE: And let us exalt his name together!

PASTOR: *Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!*

PEOPLE: Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

ALL: **The LORD redeems the life of his servants;
none of those who take refuge in him
will be condemned.**

May Mayhem

Enjoy playing with our pastors and friends while learning more about God's Word.

*Children ages 4 through sixth grade may be dismissed
during the final verse of the following hymn.*

Opening Prayer

We pray to God to bless
and guide our worship.

Catechism Question • Heidelberg Lord's Day 30

PASTOR: *What difference is there between the Lord's supper and the
papal mass?*

ALL: **The Lord's supper testifies to us,
first, that we have complete forgiveness of all our
sins through the one sacrifice of Jesus Christ,
which he himself accomplished on the cross once
for all; and,
second, that through the Holy Spirit we are grafted
into Christ, who with his true body is now in
heaven at the right hand of the Father, and this is
where he wants to be worshipped.
But the mass teaches,
first, that the living and the dead do not have
forgiveness of sins through the suffering of Christ
unless he is still offered for them daily by the
priests; and,
second, that Christ is bodily present in the form of
bread and wine, and there is to be worshipped.
Therefore the mass is basically nothing but a denial of
the one sacrifice and suffering of Jesus Christ, and an
accursed idolatry.**

We join ourselves to
Christians across time and
space by confessing what
we believe.

PASTOR: *Who are to come to the table of the Lord?*

ALL: **Those who are truly displeased with themselves because of their sins and yet trust that these are forgiven them and that their remaining weakness is covered by the suffering and death of Christ, and who also desire more and more to strengthen their faith and amend their life. But hypocrites and those who do not repent eat and drink judgment upon themselves.**

PASTOR: *Are those also to be admitted to the Lord's supper who by their confession and life show that they are unbelieving and ungodly?*

ALL: **No, for then the covenant of God would be profaned and his wrath kindled against the whole congregation. Therefore, according to the command of Christ and his apostles, the Christian church is duty-bound to exclude such persons by the keys of the kingdom of heaven, until they amend their lives.**

Hymn of Praise • *Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!*

#498

We take time to pray for
one another.

Prayer Requests

Hymn of Preparation • *Amidst Us Our Beloved Stands*

#427

Scripture Reading • 1 Corinthians 10:14-22

14 Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. 15 I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. 16 The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? 17 Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. 18 Consider the people of Israel: are not those who eat the sacrifices participants in the altar? 19 What do I imply then? That food offered to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? 20 No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be participants with demons. 21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. 22 Shall we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?

God's word is held out to us so that we might better know, love, and serve God.

Sermon • Participating in the Lord's Table

1 Corinthians 10:14-22

pp.957-958

Rev. Dr. KJ Drake

May 24, 2026

Hymn of Response • *The Church's One Foundation* #347 (vv.1-2,4,6)

Benediction

We are sent out with
God's blessing.

Postlude

Guest Preacher:

Rev. Dr. KJ Drake is Associate Professor of Systematic Theology at Covenant Theological Seminary. He is originally from Nebraska. He and his wife, Heather moved to St. Louis in June 2025 from Indianapolis and recently joined Covenant Presbyterian Church.

Musicians – Jonathan McGuire, Piano

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.
Used by permission. All rights reserved.] and all hymns are from the *Trinity Hymnal*.

Use the QR code to sign up to receive ministry emails



Preaching Schedule

May 31

Morning: Joshua 24:1-33

Evening: 1 Corinthians 11:17-34

June 7

Morning: Psalm 27

Evening: Marriage Supper of the Lamb + Q&A

Church Staff

Noah Wiersema, Senior Pastor

Chris Smith, Associate Pastor

John Roberts, Assistant Pastor/Head of School

Josh Fikkert, Assistant Pastor of Youth Ministry

Stephanie Valentine, Administrative Assistant

Morgan Fikkert, Director of Women's Ministries

Rebekah Marsh, Director of Music

John Fussell, Director of Children's Ministry

Faithe Bennett, Covenant Life Coordinator

Jamey Brester, Property Manager

Julie Bauer, Bulletin Coordinator

Donna Baber, Bookkeeper

Session Elders

John Bauer

Matt Brandt

Bill Cahill

Dave Haverdink

Will Haynes

Garrett Jacobs

Jeff Klinger

Mike Koller

Dan Legters

Jeremy Marsh

Bill McGreevy

Alan Norman

Diaconate

Walt Bosch

Ben Butterfield

Mike Castle

Don Jacobs

Casey Jowdy

Dan Moore

David Moore

Norman Reed

Todd Schultz

Nathan Theus

Reed Voorhees

Women's Ministry Leadership

Moms of Littles - Anna Kvale, Lauren Dakich

Hospitality & Fellowship - Julie Bauer, Sarah Theus, Amanda Moore

Service & Compassion - Mary Reed, Debbie Jacobs, Erin Figueira

Discipleship - Lydia Seibert



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.

2143 N. Ballas Road, St. Louis, Missouri 63131

Phone: (314) 432-8700

office@pcstl.org www.pcstl.org