

LEADERSHIP

Session

Jim Plunk, Moderator*
Tim Chapman, Clerk
Chas Emerson, Treasurer
Jared Barkley
Bob Barber
Zack Becker
Scott Sartor
Shaun Sipe*

*Sabbatical

**Emeritus

***Deacon on duty

Diaconate

Andrew Duff, Chairman
Chris Tingle, Secretary***
Adam Clark
Michael Emerson
Nick Manley
Robert Massey
Charlie Smith

Chris Lyons*

David Wright*

Dick Brankstone**



Christ Covenant Church (PCA)

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Jamie Frank, Office Administrator, office@christcovenantms.org

Sue Tarver, Pianist

www.christcovenantms.org

"For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord,

with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake."

2 Corinthians 4:5

Pentecost

5.31.26



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Notes

If you are new to church, the notes in this margin are a way to help you understand and follow along through each aspect of today's service. If you like, use the free space to take your own notes about anything you find interesting or thought provoking. If you have additional questions, you can talk with a church officer after the service.

Congregational Standing

Throughout the bulletin the asterisk * denotes congregation standing

We encourage you to use this bulletin during the week to reflect on what you have heard and experienced during worship. You can use the prayers, confessions, and scripture for personal worship and devotional time at home

WELCOME!

Thank you for joining us for worship today. Here at Christ Covenant, we seek to celebrate God's grace through Jesus Christ, who came to give us life today and for eternity. We also seek to cultivate a safe environment for the convinced and unconvinced to hear the free offer of the gospel in Jesus Christ. Whether you are a follower of Jesus, or it has been a while since you've considered your relationship to Him, or you are exploring His claims for the first time, we are delighted to have you with us today. We would love to be able to connect with you and share with you more about the ministry of our church. We have a visitor bag for you in the lobby with a mug, coffee, pens and Dane Ortlund's book, "Gentle and Lowly, The Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers."

This Morning's Servers

Ushers: Andrew Duff & Chris Tingle

A/V Assistant:

Communion & Coffee: Nick & Maggie Manley

Hosts: Brooke & Tyler Mitchell

Next Sunday's Servers

Ushers: Andrew Duff & Nick Manley

AV Assistant: Bailey Patridge

Communion & Coffee: Greg & Jill Karr

Hosts: The McNeely Family

For Your Children: We welcome children to attend and participate in the corporate worship by singing, praying, and offering responses as they are able. A nursery is provided for infants through toddlers to age 4.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Be sure to sign up on our website to receive the weekly E-news which is sent every Wednesday with the latest up-to-date information.

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST COVENANT CHURCH

Sunday—May 31st

9:15am—Coffee & conversation

9:30am—Worship w/ Communion

10:45am—VBS volunteer meeting

Wednesday—June 3rd

6:30am—Men's bible study

Thursday—June 4th

No activities planned

Monday—June 1st

No activities planned

Friday—June 5th

Office closed

Tuesday—June 2nd

No activities planned

7:05pm—Memphis Redbirds

Saturday—June 6th

9:00am—VBS decorating

Looking Ahead

- General Assembly—6.22-26
- Brooke Mitchell's Baby Shower—6.20, 10:00am @ the Sartor's
- RYM 2026—7.7-12
- Joint Officer Retreat—7.31-8.1
- Annual Meeting—8.9
- Wednesday Activities Resume—8.19

PRAYER NEEDS

Praying for the families of Christ Covenant 5.30-6.6
Drew, Erin, Mary Whitten & Lane Funderburk • Wes, Hillary, Forest, Mercy Paige & Foster Hale

Illness/Medical Prayer Needs: Dick & Emily Brankstone • Tyler & Brooke Mitchell, expecting their first child • Karol Barber, receiving treatment for cancer

Prayer Requests: Land and Building Committee • Assistant Pastor search • Vaughn family transition • Capital Campaign (talk to an elder if you have questions)

OUR LOCAL & WORLD MISSIONS
Please pray for these local and world missions and our missionaries.

Peru Mission (Chimbote Church Plant) • Bill Berry (Christ Redeemer in Jonesboro) • RUF: John Craft (Rhodes College), John Crosby, Spencer Sipe (University of Memphis), Justin & Carey Helms (LSU) • Jermaine Van Buren Jr., (Jackson State) • Reclaimed Ministry • Ricky Kroeger (Wycliffe Bible Translators—Mexico)

Sermon Preview

6.7.26	James 4:1-10	Reid Kelly—Guest Preacher
6.14.26	TBD	Spencer Sipe—Guest Preacher
6.21.26	Matthew 12:15-21	Elder Chas Emerson—Preaching
6.28.26	TBD	Jeremy Britt—Guest Preacher

Preparing for Worship
With so many distractions vying for our attention, this is a time to listen to the prelude music, read of Vision Statement on the front cover, and get ready for the service.

Call to Worship If worship is offering all that we are to all that God is, then this call is a way to proclaim this movement, while also challenging us on what we worship daily.

Why we sing
We sing in order to remember the stories of how God has worked in our loves. Singing takes the truth of who God is and what He is doing, and applies it into our lives.

Prayer of Invocation
Is from the Latin *invocare*, meaning “to call on.” God has called us to worship—and now, in grateful response, we cry out for His presence among us.

The Lord’s Prayer
Jesus gave this example in the New Testament (Matthew 6:9-13) to show us how to pray. We use this prayer corporately each week as a reminder.

ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC WORSHIP

Gospel Welcome

Prelude

***Call to Worship** Elder Bob Barber
LEADER: With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day:
PEOPLE: Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted.
LEADER: Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth.
PEOPLE: Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

***Song of Adoration** To Christ The Lord

***Invocation** (concluded by 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.

Confession is the time when we are honest about ourselves with each other and with God. As we admit our misplaced affections, we are called to reorder our lives. Only by being honest will the good news of grace be significant and needed.

Assurance of Pardon and Comfort are encouraging words which is what we need to hear after the honesty of our confession

Confession of Sin

LEADER: Let us now humbly confess our sins together:

ALL: O Father, we are gathered before you, the maker of heaven and earth, whose chosen dwelling place is with the broken and contrite, to confess that we have sinned in thought and word and deed; we have not loved you with our heart and soul, we have not loved you with all our mind and strength; we have not even loved our neighbor as ourselves. In your mercy, deepen our sorrow for the wrong we have done and for the good we have left undone, so that we may hate our sin with a holy hatred. But, please, Father, do not leave us in sorrow. With you, O Lord, there is forgiveness. In your mercy, restore the joy of our salvation; so that we may love you with a holy love. Amen.

Valley of Vision

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon and Comfort

LEADER: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

Psalm 145:8-9

ALL: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation! The old has passed away, behold, the new has come!

2 Corinthians 5:17

*Song of Renewal

Thy Mercy My God

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sabbatical: Jim and family are on sabbatical until July 26th and he will be back in the office Monday July 27th. They will be out of town and/or worshipping elsewhere and Jim won't have his phone or email. For any shepherding needs, please reach out to an elder.

ICP Summer Needs: Interfaith Council On Poverty is asking that all local churches donate pop tarts and fruit rollups during June and July to help families with kids home from school for the summer! Please leave donations by the basket in the lobby. This is in addition to the REGULAR SIZE (NOT FAMILY) INSTANT POTATOES and 16 or 18 OZ JARS OF SMOOTH PEANUT BUTTER Christ Covenant has committed to provide. Talk to Denise Lyons if you have any questions!

Guest Preacher: This morning, we welcome John Craft as guest preacher. John joins us from RUF—Rhodes College.

Youth Summer Events: Join us for fun summer events! Redbirds game, 6.5; slip n slide kickball, 6.12 at the Mt. Pleasant property; pool party at the Manley’s home, 6.17; pickleball & Area 51, 6.24. Check out the full summer calendar on our app or website for more details!

Summer Worship Schedule: We will continue to meet for worship at 9:30am throughout the summer. No later than Sunday 8.2, we will resume two worship services at 8:30am and 10:45am. On 8.16, we will resume Sunday school from 10-10:30am.

Women’s Summer Book Club: *Aging with Grace: Flourishing in an Anti-Aging Culture* by Betters and Hunt. June 16, 23, & 30; July 7, 14. 6:00 PM at the church.

Assistant Pastor Search: The session has confirmed that we will conduct a site visit with Jay Sawrie, candidate for assistant pastor, the weekend of June 19th. Details to come!

VBS 2026: 6.8-12, we are gearing up for another fun VBS! This morning after service, VBS volunteers will meet in the classrooms.

VBS Prep: We will decorate the church on Sat, June 6th @9 am and Sun after worship. Please come help! Christa will be in the classrooms today if you have any questions about VBS planning. Please bring your artificial trees to donate next Sunday.

COMMUNION GUIDELINES AND PRAYERS

Bread: Each tray contains gluten-free bread in the brown cup.

Cup: Each tray has wine in the outer rim. The pink cups in the center are filled with grape juice.

When we celebrate the Lord’s Supper, we are gathering around the table of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Therefore, we invite all followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this wonderful sacrament: those who are baptized members of a congregation which proclaims the gospel, who are at peace with God and neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with his church.

Parents, your children are welcome to partake, if they have been baptized and been received as a communing member of the church to which you belong. If you think your child is ready to become a member, please speak to one of the elders.

Prayer for Covenant Children (not yet a communing member)

Lord Jesus, thank you for placing me inside your family, the church. Help me more and more to know you, to love you, and to follow you as your faithful disciple. Amen.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. I now resolve in humble reliance on the Holy Spirit to seek to walk in a manner pleasing to you. Amen.

Prayer of Those Struggling with Sin

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my needs and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the pioneer and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

We confess our faith as an act of worship, together with Christians in all times and places. “If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”

The term “catholic” refers to the church universal, knowing no racial, economic, or geographic barriers.

Offertory is a time for prayerful reflection and response by considering how to be generous with your time, talents and resources. If you are new to our church, or exploring Christianity, please don’t feel obligated to give. Instead, please be sure to fill out a visitors card which can be found in the lobby. Also, you can give securely on our website : <https://christcovenantms.org/online-giving/>

Doxology We sing this short hymn of praise to thank and adore our God of glory.

The Sermon is a teaching based on the passage from the reading of God’s Word. The role of the sermon is to make real truths of the Gospel. It is not just an intellectual function. Rather, using the imagination, our hearts are to be affected by the text.

COMMITTING TO GOD’S KINGDOM

***Confession of Faith**

LEADER: We confess our faith with the words of 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 again 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

The Apostles’ Creed

Kingdom Moment

Christa Chapman

VBS 2026

Kingdom Prayers of the People

Offertory

Jesus, Lover Of My Soul

***Doxology (Children under 4 dismissed at this time)**

LISTENING TO GOD’S WORD

***Prayer for Illumination**

The Reading of God’s Word

Psalm 1 (p. 418)

READER: The grass withers, the flowers fade

ALL: But the word of our God will stand forever. *Isaiah 40:8*

The Sermon

Rev. John Craft

"Delight in the law?"

COMMUNING WITH GOD

The Great Thanksgiving:
Following the pattern of Jesus, this prayer of thanksgiving reminds us this is a meal offering thanks to God for all he has done as we bring our whole selves to him with the communion of the saints.

Words of Institution: These words recorded in the synoptic gospels and 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 are words from Jesus setting this meal apart from every other meal as a holy sacrament for God’s people.

The Memorial Acclamation reminds us of the center of history and our lives; the death, resurrection, and return of Jesus.

The Lord’s supper: God meets us not only in hearing the Word, but also in visible, tangible form—uniting us with himself spiritually by faith in Christ

The Great Thanksgiving

PASTOR: The Lord be with you

PEOPLE: **And with your spirit**

PASTOR: Lift up your hearts

PEOPLE: **We lift them up to the Lord**

PASTOR: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

PEOPLE: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise**

PASTOR: It is indeed good, right, and our delight that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we praise and magnify your glorious Name, evermore praising you and saying...

ALL: **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

PASTOR: Christ our Passover was sacrificed for us!

PEOPLE: **Hallelujah!**

PASTOR: According to his commandment:

PEOPLE: **We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory.**

PASTOR: The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving.

Holy Communion

Prayer of Dedication

GOING OUT WITH GOD’S BLESSING

*Song of Sending *How Great Thou Art #44*

*Benediction

PASTOR: Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. *Hebrews 13:20-21*

ALL: **Amen.**

*Gloria Patri

Sermon Notes

"Delight in the law?"

Psalms 1 (p. 418)

Why delight in the law of God?

1)Law of God provides us an identity

2)Law of God provides us a purpose

The Benediction
is how we close our time of worship. It is not a prayer but rather a blessing with a charge to go beyond our church into the world carrying the hope, joy and love of the Gospel.

Gloria Patri
We have heard and witnessed God’s glory. Now we leave singing His glory that others might know His glory.

Sermon Audio
If you want to listen to any archived sermons, please visit the sermon page on our website www.christcovenantms.org or on our app on your smartphone. All music used by permission. CCLI License #3258262

Practical Needs and Prayer
If you have questions or would like to pray with someone, our officers can be available after the worship service, or you may call the church office and leave a message for a deacon at 662.469.9330 and someone will get in touch with you. You can also send prayer requests to office@christcovenantms.org.