



CHRIST COVENANT

Presbyterian Church in America

"For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus
Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants
for Jesus' sake."
2 Corinthians 4:5

Ordinary Time
September 13, 2026
8:30am & 10:45am

WELCOME!

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 congregational 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.

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, 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 Orlund's book, *Gentle and Lowly; The Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers*.

This Morning's Servers

Ushers: Chris Lyons & Charlie Smith

A/V Assistant: Bo Jones

Communion & Coffee: Shaun & Shannon Sipe

Hosts:

Next Sunday's Servers

Ushers: Chris Lyons & David Wright

AV Assistant: Colton Clark

Communion & Coffee:

Hosts:

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.

Preparing for Worship

With so many distractions for our attention, this is a time to listen to the prelude music, read the 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 lives. 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

Rev. Jim Plunk

PASTOR: Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall all vows be performed.

PEOPLE: O you who hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come.

PASTOR: Blessed is the one you choose to bring near, to dwell in your courts! We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, the holiness of your temple! *Psalms 65:1-2, 4*

*Song of Adoration

How Firm A Foundation #94

*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 of Sin 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

PASTOR: Let us now humbly confess our sins together:

ALL: Lord Almighty, you have done all that is necessary for our life and our good and our salvation; yet when you look for justice, you see bloodshed. When you look for righteousness, you hear cries of distress. When you look for love, you find only selfishness. Forgive us for the yield of bad fruit in our lives this week, even this morning. Prune and cultivate us and restore our souls. We ask this in the name of your Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Isaiah 5

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon and Comfort

PASTOR: Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives transgression...? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy.

Micah 7:18

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**

Blessed Assurance #693

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."

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.

You can give securely on our website: www.christ-covenantms.org

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**

Elder Shaun Sipe (8:30am service)

LEADER: What is repentance unto life?

ALL: Repentance unto life is a saving grace, whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ, doth, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of, and endeavor after, new obedience. *Westminster Shorter Catechism 87*

Kingdom Prayers of the People

Offertory

Christ Our Wisdom

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

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

***Prayer for Illumination**

The Reading of God's Word

Matthew 14:22-36 (p. 769)

READER: The grass withers, the flowers fade

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

The Sermon

Rev. Jim Plunk

"Miracles and King Jesus: Walking"

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.

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

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 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

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: Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

PEOPLE: Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come 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 BLESSINGS

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.christ-covenantms.org or on our app on your smartphone.

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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.

***Song of Sending**

Psalm 67

***Benediction**

PASTOR: Peace be to you, and love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with love incorruptible. *Ephesians 6:23-24*

ALL: Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

Sermon Notes

“Miracles and King Jesus: Walking”

Matthew 14:22-36 (p. 769)

His power

His person

His patience

His praise

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School: This ministry meets Sunday from 10am-10:30am for all ages. Adults meet in the sanctuary, youth in the south end lounge area and kids in the classrooms.

Security: The building has been rekeyed to ensure security, and a new policy is being developed by the deacons. Reach out to Adam Clark with questions.

Men's Gathering: Our next men's gathering will be this Wednesday from 6:00pm-7:30pm at the property on Mt. Pleasant. Talk to Bailey Patridge if you have any questions!

Men's Retreat: Christ Covenant men's retreat will be held 11.6 – 11.7 at Pinecrest Retreat Center in LaGrange, TN. We will aim to arrive around 5pm Friday and depart around 12pm Saturday. The cost will be \$50 (includes all meals). Please use the sign up page on our website for registration and payment. Please contact Bailey Patridge if you have any questions. www.christcovenantms.org/signup

Wednesday Activities: Men's morning bible study meets at 6:30am, women's morning bible study meets at 9:00am, women's evening bible study, youth and Kids' Club all meet at 6:00pm. Bring a friend!

Youth Group Meals: Please sign up to provide a meal for our youth on Wednesday evenings. This is a great way to serve even if you don't have a youth: www.christcovenantms.org/signup

Newcomer's Luncheon & Inquirer's Class: The luncheon will be at the Plunks' house Sunday September 13th after the second service, and classes will be during Sunday school 9.20, 9.27, 10.11 and 10.18. Visit the sign up page on our website to register so we can plan for food and class materials: www.christcovenantms.org/signup

CCC App: We have been using an app for a while now which contains bulletins, sermons, signups and calendars. Download it for your phone to help stay up to date. Teams and committees can also communicate through it.

Children's Ministry Staffing: We are looking to either fill a new half-time role to assist Christa, or a part-time role to take over from her. Please see Jim and Christa with any questions.

PRAYER NEEDS

Praying for the families of Christ Covenant 9.13-9.19

Drew Scott • Randy, Brittany, Oliver & Worth Scott

Illness/Medical Prayer Needs: Dick & Emily Brankstone • Karol Barber, receiving treatment for cancer • Bo & Taryn Jones, expecting their 2nd child • William & Anna Kate Coleman, expecting their 2nd child

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

OUR LOCAL & WORLD MISSIONS

Please pray for these local and world missions and 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 Translation - Mexico) • Brett & Valerie McAlpin (MTW, Leeds, England) • International Presbyterian Church, British Presbytery: Church Planting Committee

Sermon Preview

9.20.26	Matthew 15:1-20	Obedience and King Jesus
9.27.26	Matthew 15:21-39	Miracles and King Jesus: Faith, Mercy, Compassion
10.4.26	Matthew 16:1-12	Struggling Faith and King Jesus
10.11.26	Mattew 16:13-20	The Nature of the Kingdom of Jesus

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 - September 13th

8:30am - Worship w/ Communion
10:00am - Sunday school
10:45am - Worship w/ Communion

Monday - September 14th

4:00pm - Session meeting
5:30pm - Deacon meeting
6:00pm - Joint session meeting

Tuesday - September 15th

No activities planned

Wednesday - September 16th

6:30am - Men's Bible study
9:00am - Women's Bible study
6:00pm - Men's Gathering, Women's Bible study, Youth, Kids' club

Thursday - September 17th

No activities planned

Friday - September 18th

No activities planned

Saturday - September 19th

No activities planned

Looking Ahead

- Community Group Dates - 9.20, 11.1, 11.15
- Covenant Presbytery - 10.6
- Fall Fest - 10.18
- Joint Reformation Service - 10.25
- Thanksgiving Feast - 11.8
- CPYC - 11.13-15
- Hanging of the Greens - 11.29
- Women's Christmas Tea - 12.13
- Lessons & Carols - 12.20
- Women's Annual Retreat - 1.15-16

LEADERSHIP

Session

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

*Sabbatical

**Emeritus

***Deacon on duty

Diaconate

Andrew Duff, Chairman
Chris Lyons, Treasurer
Adam Clark
Michael Emerson
Nick Manley
Robert Massey
Charlie Smith***
Chris Tingle*
David Wright

Dick Brankstone**

Christ Covenant Church (PCA)

1068 Thousand Oaks - Phone: 662-469-9330

Jim Plunk, Pastor, jplunk@christcovenantms.org

Hillary Hale, Director of Women's Ministry, women@christcovenantms.org

Christa Chapman, Director of Children's Ministry, kids@christcovenantms.org

Jamie Frank, Office Administrator, office@christcovenantms.org

Sue Tarver, Pianist

www.christcovenantms.org

