



WORSHIP AT COVENANT REFORMED

Welcome to Covenant Reformed Presbyterian Church and to the most vital thing we do: worship the living God in spirit and in truth (John 4:24). We hope that as you worship with us your hearts will be enriched, your minds opened to the things of God, and your desires shaped to his will. Below are a few pointers to assist you in joining fully into our worship.

We invite you to be an active participant in our services as God speaks to us through his word, and we respond in prayer and song. We seek to make the Sunday bulletin (the tri-fold guide given as you enter) a useful tool, along with your Bible, the red Trinity Hymnal, and With Heart and Voice (the yellow booklet of songs) to help you participate fully. An asterisk () marks the parts of worship when all are invited to stand.*

PRELUDE: A musical piece planned for reflection and preparation to help focus your heart and prepare to meet God. Meditation on Scripture or reading over the words of the opening hymn of the service is often helpful during this time. We ask everyone to be in their seats by 10:55 for the Welcome and Announcements.

CALL TO WORSHIP: Our service begins with a biblical text as God calls us to worship him.

SINGING: The pastors select hymns or psalms that reinforce the message of the later sermon and also that lift up the Triune God. We use hymns that are reverent, joyful, and focused on God. Our goal is to bring you into the presence of the exalted God who meets with us in worship.

PRAYER OF ADORATION: A short prayer praising who God is and declaring our love and commitment to him.

CONFESSION OF FAITH: We use historic confessions or creeds to verbalize our faith publicly and to unite with each other and other believers in every place and age of the church.

SCRIPTURE READINGS: God's Word tells us to devote ourselves to the public reading of Scripture. Each service features many portions of God's Word, for it is through his Word that God speaks to his people.

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON: Our adoration and worship of the holy God leads to an awareness of our sin and need for forgiveness. We use scriptural prayers of confession or silent prayers, followed by an announcement of pardon from sin and assurance - good news for all believers. We invite you to enter sincerely into these opportunities to acknowledge together our brokenness and to know God's forgiveness through Christ.

OFFERING: Our ministry is supported by grateful givers and their tithes, which belong to the Lord. The presentation of our tithes and offerings to God is a public act of worship and adoration of God.

DOXOLOGY AND GLORIA PATRI: We use these historic songs to voice our thanksgiving following the collection of the offering.

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION: A time to praise, petition, and communicate with God. We often pray for specific needs of our congregation, as well as our nation, our missionaries, and our world.

SERMON: An explanation of the Bible verses read, trusting God's Spirit to apply his Word to our hearts. The sermon's purpose is to unfold and apply the eternal message of God. Our pastors typically preach through books of the Bible in both the morning and evening services.

BENEDICTION: A concluding word, taken from Scripture, to give a final blessing to God's people. While the benediction ("good word") is pronounced, meditate and rejoice in God's blessing.

POSTLUDE: Celebratory music played after the Benediction. Be sure to greet one another and deepen your friendships as an overflow of worship.

We value the Lord's Day so much that we begin (10:55 am) and end (6:00 pm) the day in worship. Please join us for evening worship, which is both a great conclusion to the Lord's Day and sets the whole day apart as belonging to God. (On the first Sunday of the month we have a congregational meal or Elder Groups instead of Evening Worship.)