

Morning Worship – 10:45 AM

**PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

*Please be seated by 10:45 for the announcements*

**Silent Preparation**

*During the few minutes before the service begins, the congregation is invited to a moment of silent and prayerful preparation for worship.*

**Welcome and Announcements**

*Visitors, please fill out the Visitor Card in the rack in front of you and place it in the offering plate during the Collection of Tithes and Offerings.*

**Musical Prelude**

**ADORATION OF GOD**

**Call to Worship** Psalm 96:7–9

**\*Hymn of Praise** I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art  
*(Trinity Psalter Hymnal #282)*

**\*Prayer of Invocation and Lord’s Prayer**

*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 Faith** Apostles’ Creed

*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.*

**CONFESSION OF SIN AND THANKSGIVING**

**Scripture Reading** Acts 22:30–23:11  
*(Pew Bible Page 932)*

**Confession of Sin (Silent)**

**Assurance of God’s Pardoning Grace** Psalm 130:7–8

O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption. And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

\* Congregation Standing

**\*Psalm of Thanksgiving**

Psalm 130  
*(Trinity Psalter Hymnal #130A)*

**Welcome Communicant Members**

*Alistair Dillingham  
Zeb Dillingham  
Marjorie Dillingham  
Stella Dillingham  
Abigail Livernois  
Gabriel Livernois  
Mary Neal McCann  
Ellie Tate*

**Prayer of Intercession and Dedication**

**Collection of Tithes and Offerings**

**\*Gloria Patri** *(Trinity Psalter Hymnal #572)*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.  
World without end. Amen. Amen.*

**PROVISION FOR LIFE AND GROWTH**

**Scripture Reading** 1 Peter 1:3–9  
*(Pew Bible Page 1014)*

**Prayer of Illumination**

**Sermon** Rev. Sean McCann  
*Senior Pastor*

“A Living Hope”  
*(1 Peter: Sojourners in Faith, 2)*

**\*Hymn of Preparation** How Deep the Father’s Love for Us  
*(Trinity Psalter Hymnal #351, verses 1, 2)*

**The Lord’s Supper†**

*Invitation and Fencing of the Table  
Prayer of Consecration  
Words of Institution  
Distribution of the Elements  
Prayer of Thanksgiving*

**RESPONSE AND BLESSING**

**\*Hymn of Response** How Deep the Father’s Love for Us  
*(Trinity Psalter Hymnal #351, verse 3)*

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

† *The bread we serve for the Lord’s Supper is gluten-free  
The inner rings of cups are wine; the outer ring is juice*

\* Congregation Standing

**Welcome Communicants**

This morning, we experience the joy of welcoming our newest communicant members into full membership in our church. For these children and their families, this momentous occasion culminates years of prayer and will stand as an Ebenezer for years to come. As we witness this moment, I want us to consider how we got here, and what comes next.

**Non-Communing Members by Birth**

Our church membership consists of “all those who make profession of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, together with their children” (BCO 2-1). The Book of Church Order goes on to clarify: “The children of believers are, through the covenant and by right of birth, non-communicating members of the church. Hence they are entitled to Baptism, and to the pastoral oversight, instruction and government of the church, with a view to their embracing Christ and thus possessing personally all benefits of the covenant” (BCO 6-1). Scripture requires worthy partakers of the Lord’s Supper to “examine” themselves before eating and drinking (1 Corinthians 11:26), which we understand to include the capacity to understand the Gospel. Unless and until a child understands the gospel, accepts Christ personally, and confesses him before men (BCO 57-1), they are considered non-communicant members and kept from the Lord’s Supper. This restriction is not a punishment but a protection while they are nurtured and disciplined under the care of the Church. It is one of our most fervent prayers as a church that each of our covenant children will experience the fruit of their baptism by believing the gospel and coming to the Lord’s Table.

**Communing Members by Profession**

“By virtue of being children of believing parents they are, because of God’s covenant ordinance, made members of the Church, but this is not sufficient to make them continue members of the Church” (BCO 56-4). At some point, our children must decide for themselves to obey the obligations of the covenant by repenting of their sin and believing the gospel. There is no set age in Scripture for this decision, which is why parents persist in praying with and for their children to this end. At CRPC, we bring interested communicants through a “Communicants Class” on the basics of the faith. Afterward, those who are interested meet with the Session to hear their profession of faith to grant admission to the Lord’s Table –this is always the scariest part for the kids! Once they have been granted admission by the elders, the communicants are presented to the church to make a public profession of faith in the presence of the congregation. As they affirm the five membership promises, they are publicly welcomed into full membership and communion with their church.

**A Word to the Church**

When our children received covenant baptism, you were asked the following question: “Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of this child?” As a parent, thank you for keeping that promise! But let me beg you: do not stop now. This morning does not represent an arrival or a finish line, rather it serves as a signpost for a new kind of journey. As my children have grown, I have realized more and more the need for godly influences in their lives. We need the whole church to invest in the spiritual lives of our children. They need Sunday school teachers and assistants, youth leaders and chaperones, and even security volunteers to keep them safe. They need older women to be their prayer partners and older men to sit with them at Men’s Breakfast. They need you to seek them out by name after a worship service or send them a note of encouragement. And most of all they – and their parents - need your prayers. It truly takes a church to raise a Christian.

Join me today in welcoming these children and celebrating the faithfulness of our good Father to his covenant promises. And join me in looking to the future in hope as these new pilgrims join our caravan to the heavenly country and help us along the way.

**Welcome Visitors!** We extend a warm welcome to all who are worshipping with us today. We are delighted you are here and we are available to answer any questions you may have about our worship service, our church, or even the gospel of Jesus Christ. If you have children they are most welcome in our worship service, and we also provide a nursery for children up to 3 years of age. **Please fill out the Visitor Card located in the rack in front of you and place it in the offering plate when it comes by later in the service.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Lord's Supper:** Today we will celebrate the Lord's Supper at the end of our morning worship service. This sacrament consists of giving and receiving bread and wine (or juice) to show forth the death of Jesus and receive spiritual nourishment. The Lord's Supper is open to everyone who has confessed their faith in Jesus Christ alone for salvation, provided that they have received Christian baptism, are members in good standing in a Bible believing church, and who are not living with secret or unrepentant sin. If you have any questions about these restrictions then please speak with a pastor or elder after the service, we would love to discuss them with you.

**Shepherding Groups:** At periodic times throughout the year we gather in groups following morning worship at the church or in various homes for lunch and a time of prayer. Our Shepherding Groups will meet today as follows:

- **Badgley:** Will meet at 1:00pm for a brunch themed meal at the Linton's home (29 EW Wilson Ln. Burnsville, NC 28714).
- **Dangerfield:** Will meet at the Dangerfield's home (86 Greenwells Glory Dr., Biltmore Lake, NC 28715) immediately following the worship service. Meat and vegetarian chili will be provided. Please bring a salad, bread, or dessert to share.
- **Cook:** Will meet at the Cooks' home (8 Twin Hills Drive Weaverville, NC 28787). Soup and bread will be provided. Please bring salad, fruit or dessert to complete our meal.
- **Meiners & Wallace:** Will meet at the church in the Fellowship Hall. Boston Butt will be provided. Please bring a side or dessert to share.
- **Voigt:** Will meet at the Albee's home (559 Old Haw Creek Rd. Asheville, NC 28805) Our hosts will provide the meat; please bring sides, salads or desserts to share.

**Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting:** Join us Wednesdays at 6:00 pm for dinner, followed at 6:45 with a time of prayer, Bible study, youth group, children's classes, and nursery.

**Women's Bible Study:** Our Galatians Bible Study resumes this Thursday, February 6 from 10-11:30 am. There is no homework for the first week, and childcare is provided for children 5 and under. Previous and new attendees are invited.

**Men's Breakfast:** Join us this coming Saturday, February 8, from 8:00-10:00am for our Men's Breakfast ministry. We will enjoy a hot breakfast and a message from our guest speaker, Rev. Morrie Lawing. Rev. Lawing is a long-time pastor who currently serves as the Executive Director of Outreach North America, the domestic mission arm of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARP). This gathering is open to all men, young and old, so please make plans to join us as we grow together.

**Youth Bowling Night:** Students, mark your calendars for bowling night: Friday, February 21, 6:30pm-8:30pm! Cost: \$15/student. Includes bowling, dinner and drinks. Location: Star Lanes (Tunnel Rd.). Please reach out to Micaiah (micaiah@covenantreformed.net) with any questions.

### THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

#### Today, February 2

**12:15 pm:**  
Shepherding Groups

#### Tuesday, February 4

**9:30 am:**  
Women's Prayer at Gail Albee's home

#### Wednesday, February 5

**6:00 pm:**  
Supper, Prayer, Bible Study, Youth Group, & Lessons for Children

#### Thursday, February 6

**7:30 am:**  
R.O.M.E.O.s at Cornerstone Restaurant  
**10:00 am:**  
Women's Bible Study

#### Sunday, February 9

**9:30 am:**  
Sunday School  
**10:45 am:**  
Morning Worship  
**6:00 pm:**  
Evening Worship

### CURRENT AND UPCOMING VOLUNTEERS

#### Sunday, February 2

**Greeters:**  
Susan & Bruce Robertson

**Security:**  
Carl Tannenbaum

**Nursery:**  
**9:30 am:**  
Joy Voigt & Theresa Wallace  
**10:45 am:**  
Cathy O'Brien  
Lucy McCann  
Julian Eckley

#### Wednesday, February 5

**Nursery:**  
Bonnie & Jerry Golden

**Security:**  
Carl Tannenbaum

#### Sunday, February 9

**Greeters:**  
Lesley & Adam Roper

**Security:**  
Ben Badgley

**Nursery:**  
**9:30 am:**  
Jeanette & Scott Carter  
**10:45 am:**  
Jennifer McHone  
Ron McEwen  
Emerson Tannenbaum  
**6:00 pm:**  
Suzanne & David McCullough

#### February Deacons on Duty:

Grey Dixon  
Drew Lefevre  
Carl Tannenbaum (Usher)



**COVENANT**  
REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

# THE LORD'S DAY FEBRUARY 2, 2025

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;  
to all who mourn and long for comfort;  
to all who struggle and desire victory;  
to all who sin and need a Savior;  
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;  
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;  
and to whoever will come—  
this church opens wide her doors  
and offers her welcome  
in the name of the Lord Jesus*

Submit bulletin items to office@covenantreformed.net by noon on Thursdays.

*If you have a prayer request, please speak to a pastor or elder, call the church office at 828-253-6578, or e-mail ceb392@mac.com and it will be added to our church prayer list.*

**Senior Pastor:** Sean McCann  
**Associate Pastor:** Jim Curtis  
**Pastoral Interns:** Micaiah Liner, David Livernois  
**Administrative Assistant:** David Livernois  
*Office Hours: 9 a.m.—4:30 p.m., Tuesday—Friday*  
**Elders:** Ben Badgely, Rob Cook, Clay Dangerfield, Gordon Meiners, Tom Voigt, Tim Wallace. *Emeritus: Mike Cate*  
**Deacons:** Grey Dixon, Jeff Greene, Drew Lefevre, Noe McHone, Carl Tannenbaum  
**Deacons' Helper:** Zach Voigt  
**Nursery Coordinator:** Rebekah Woodard

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