

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 99:9

***Hymn of Praise**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
(Trinity Psalter Hymnal #293)

***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 19:21–41
(Pew Bible Page 928)

Confession of Sin (Silent)

Assurance of God’s Pardoning Grace

Isaiah 43:1–3

Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

* Congregation Standing

***Psalm of Thanksgiving**

Psalm 96
(Trinity Psalter Hymnal #96)

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

Isaiah 65
(Pew Bible Page 623)

Prayer of Illumination

Sermon

Rev. Sean McCann
Senior Pastor

“Seek, and Ye Shall Find”
(Isaiah: Holiness By Grace, 47)

***Hymn of Preparation**

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
(Trinity Psalter Hymnal #292, 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**

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
(Trinity Psalter Hymnal #292, verses 3–4)

***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

The Gospel According to Isaiah

Coming to the end of Isaiah is like coming to the end of a Thanksgiving feast: I am stuffed with richness and goodness...and it is going to take a while to digest it all! Years from now, when I look back at this series, what will I remember? What have I learned, and how has my life been changed by spending a year with Isaiah? To remember the whole, let’s break it down into the three sections – or courses – of the book, and see how the key prophecy in each section points us to Jesus.

First Course: The King (Chapters 1–39)

Isaiah prophesied to the southern kingdom during the reign of four of her final kings. At that time Judah was characterized by hypocritical religion, creeping idolatry, and high-handed injustice against the poorest of her citizens. Like a roaring lion, Isaiah confronted them for their spiritual rebellion and warned them to repent and return to God: “but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be eaten by the sword, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken” (Isaiah 1:20). To escape this coming disaster, they must repent, trust and worship God alone, and wait for the Messiah he promised to send them: “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (Is 9:6). Jesus is that King, the Son of God and Son of Man who will set his people free from all that ails them. But how will he accomplish this redemption? We look to the second figure to answer that question.

Second Course: The Servant (Chapters 40–55)

God’s people fail to heed Isaiah’s message and repent, so God disciplines them by sending them off to Babylon in exile. The second section of the book is addressed to the exiles – to a crushed and despondent people, God sends words of hope and encouragement. Central to that message of hope is the “servant.” The people of God, original called his servants, were to exemplify his righteousness to a fallen world, but they failed miserably. So, God promised another servant, a singular individual characterized by righteousness. To a people devoid of righteousness, he gives his own: “by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities” (Is 53:11). Jesus was “crushed for our iniquities” on the cross, and “with his wounds we are healed.” For the king to rescue us from spiritual exile, he must enter that exile itself by becoming that suffering servant. His descent into the tomb fulfills the prophecy of the Suffering Servant.

Third Course: The Messenger (Chapters 56–66)

In the final scene of the book, the exiles are returned to the land and become heirs of a renewed creation. The news of this victory and the renewed call of righteousness is heralded by a third figure, the Messenger: “The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor” (Is 61:1). Jesus announces the purpose of his coming with these words, and he begins to fulfill them with his resurrection and victory over the grave. He both announces the dawn of an age of renewal, and works to bring it about by making all things new. The herald declares the victory of God and calls us back to the path of faith: trust the message of the Messenger, for it is being fulfilled in Jesus.

What is the gospel according to Isaiah? We are sinners who have failed to meet the righteous standard of God, and he will punish us accordingly. But in his grace, he sends a king to deliver us from sin by dying in our place and rising again to usher in a new creation. Repent of your unrighteous, trust the victory of the Servant-King, and receive the promises of new life in his everlasting city.

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.

Sunday School: Join us at 9:30 Sunday mornings for our new study on the Fear of The Lord. The idea of fearing the Lord can be a challenging one for Christians and unbelievers alike. The idea of fearing the Lord can be a challenging one for Christians and unbelievers alike. In this series, we will explore the variety of ways the Bible talks about fear, and what it means to Fear the Lord.

No Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting: We will resume meeting on January 8, 2025.

Shelton Baby Shower: The women of CRPC are invited to join us for a Baby Shower honoring Lisa Shelton. We will celebrate with dessert and snacks on Wednesday, December 4 at 7:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Gift suggestions for the Shelton's include diapers in sizes 1 and larger, and gift cards to Wal-Mart or Amazon.

Youth Christmas Party: Students, mark your calendars, and join us for some Christmas fun! Christmas games, Christmas music, Christmas food, and Ugly-Christmas Sweaters (welcome, but not required)! Friday, December 6th | 5:30pm-8pm. More details to come. Feel free to contact Micaiah with any questions (micaiah@covenantreformed.net, 828-775-4813).

Watering Seeds Podcast: Be sure to check out our church's weekly podcast, *Watering Seeds*. Each week our pastors review, discuss, and apply the previous Sunday's sermon. You can find the podcast on any major podcast platform, such as Anchor, Spotify, or Apple Podcast, by searching for our church name or the title, "*Watering Seeds*," or by scanning the QR code printed to the left.



THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Tuesday, December 4

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

Thursday, December 5

7:30 am:
R.O.M.E.O.s at
Cornerstone Restaurant

Sunday, December 8

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



COVENANT
REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCA)

CURRENT AND UPCOMING VOLUNTEERS

Sunday, December 1

Greeters:
Linda & Grey Dixon

Security:
David McCullough

Nursery:

9:30 am:
Ann Sprinkle
Debbie Cate

10:45 am:
Danette Lowery
Jim Lowery
Lucy McCann

December Deacons on Duty:

Rich Bishop
Noe McHone
Jeff Greene (Usher)

Sunday, December 8

Greeters:
Kathy & Ross Drown

Security:
George Goosmann

Nursery:

9:30 am:
Theresa Wallace
Bonnie Golden

10:45 am:
Gloria Boothe
Cathy O'Brien
Abigail Livernois

6:00 pm:
Suzanne & David McCullough

THE LORD'S DAY DECEMBER 1, 2024

*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: Rich Bishop, Grey Dixon, Jeff Greene, Drew Lefevre, David McCullough, Noe McHone, Carl Tannenbaum

Deacons' Helper: Zach Voigt

Nursery Coordinator: Rebekah Woodard

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