

OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH

The Presbyterian Church in America or “The PCA” is a distinctly evangelical denomination in the Reformed tradition. The Bible as the Word of God is the primary standard for our faith. The Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms, although subordinate to the Bible in their authority, set forth our understanding of biblical truth in a consistent, concise, and reliable form.

In the Reformed tradition, there are five key tenets, among others, that we hold to: By Scripture Alone; By Christ Alone; By Grace Alone; By Faith Alone; and To God Alone be the Glory.

- We believe the Bible is the written word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit and without error in the original manuscripts. The Bible is the revelation of God’s truth and is infallible and authoritative in all matters of faith and practice.
- We believe in the Holy Trinity. There is one God, who exists eternally in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- We believe that all are sinners and totally unable to save themselves from God’s displeasure, except by His mercy.
- We believe that salvation is by God alone as He sovereignly chooses those He will save. We believe His choice is based on His grace, not on any human individual merit, or foreseen faith.
- We believe that Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, who through His perfect life and sacrificial death atoned for the sins of all who will trust in Him, alone, for salvation.
- We believe that God is gracious and faithful to His people not simply as individuals but as families in successive generations according to His Covenant promises.
- We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells God’s people and gives them the strength and wisdom to trust Christ and follow Him.
- We believe that Jesus will return, bodily and visibly, to judge all mankind and to receive His people to Himself.
- We believe that all aspects of our lives are to be lived to the glory of God under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.



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Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

April 7, 2013

*“Why are not times of judgment kept by the Almighty,
and why do those who know him never see his days?”
Job 24:1*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

His Calling and Our Praise

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** *Psalm 22:22-25*

Leader: I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.

All: You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

Leader: For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him.

All: From you comes my praise in the great congregation.

*(*Indicates when to stand)*

We ask that you please turn off cell phones during the worship service. Thank you.

***JOYFUL, JOYFUL WE ADORE THEE**

Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee, hail thee as the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, blossom meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou the Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals join the mighty chorus, which the morning stars began;
father love is reigning o'er us, brother love binds man to man.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife;
joyful music leads us upward in the triumph song of life.

***THINE BE THE GLORY – Hymn #274**

***PRAYER OF PRAISE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

***WONDERFUL, MERCIFUL SAVIOR**

Wonderful, merciful Savior, precious Redeemer and friend.
Who would have thought that a lamb could rescue the souls of men;
Oh, you rescue the souls of men.

Counselor, comforter, keeper; spirit we long to embrace.
You offer hope when our hearts have hopelessly lost the way;
Oh, we hopelessly lost the way.

(Chorus)

*You are the one that we praise. You are the one we adore.
You give the healing and grace our hearts always hunger for;
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.*

Almighty, infinite Father faithfully loving your own.
Here in our weakness you find us falling before your throne;
Oh, we're falling before your throne.

(Chorus 2x)

CALENDAR

TODAY

9:30 a.m. – WORSHIP SERVICE
10:45 a.m. – Coffee Hour & Fellowship
11:15 a.m. – Sunday school for all ages

THIS WEEK

Tuesday – Elizabeth Women, noon at Jo Anne Ross' home
– Women's Ministries meeting, 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday – Men's Prayer Breakfast, 6:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall
– Jr. High Youth Group, 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the church
– Sr. High Youth Group, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Pierson's home,
30 Chip Ct. in Kalispell
Thursday – Community Kitchen: Feeding the Flathead

LOOKING AHEAD

Tuesdays – Music practice, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesdays – Men's Prayer Breakfast, 6:45 a.m.
– Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups (Sept.-May)
Sundays – Adult Small Groups (Sept.-May)
1st Sundays – Diaconal Offering
1st Tuesdays – Elder home visits
3rd Tuesdays – Elders/Deacons' meeting, 7:00 p.m.
2nd & 4th Tuesdays – Elizabeth Women, noon, at Jo Anne Ross' home, (Sept.-May)
Last Sunday of month – Prayer & Worship Service, 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 16 – Elder/Deacon meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, April 23 – Elizabeth Women, noon, at Jo Anne Ross' home
Sunday, April 28 – Prayer & Worship Service, 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 7 – Trustees' meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church
Thursday, May 9 – Community Kitchen: Feeding the Flathead
Fri-Sat, May 10-11 – Men's Retreat at Bend Guard Station
Saturday, May 11 – Appreciation Dinner for Sunday school teachers, 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 12 – Last Sunday school until September
Tuesday, May 14 – Elizabeth Women, noon, at Jo Anne Ross' home
– Fellowship Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 18 – Baby Shower for Nicole Waldron, details to follow
Tuesday, May 21 – Elder/Deacon meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 28 – Elizabeth Women, noon at Jo Anne Ross' home

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOCAL OR REGIONAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR: The Gideons International

MISSION PROJECT OR MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Sam & Dawn Wills with Mission Aviation Fellowship in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Pray for more opportunities to build relationships with the Congolese.

DIACONAL OFFERING: This morning we share in worshipping through our diaconal offering for those needing assistance in our church and community. Please use the Special Offering envelopes located in the pew racks.

LADIES RETREAT VIDEOS: Ladies are invited to finish the remaining sessions of the retreat study on Living the Gospel as a Sunday School class TODAY and April 14 in Pastor Shane's office.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN—FEEDING THE FLATHEAD: Those of you who are volunteering with Feed the Flathead will serve this week on **Thursday, April 11** at Central Christian Church. If you have questions, contact Sharon Thompson or Joyce Schmutz.

MEN'S RETREAT: Men mark your calendar for the annual Men's Retreat May 10 and 11 at the Bend Guard Station.

RECYCLE YOUR BULLETIN: We will recycle your bulletin for you – you can help by returning it to the basket in the foyer at the entrance to the sanctuary.

APRIL MINISTRIES

DEACON OF THE MONTH Micah Hill
NURSERY M.O.M. (Mom of the Month)..... Leah Wiersma
NURSERY COORDINATOR..... Darcy Hearn
Direct Nursery questions, concerns, praises, etc., to Darcy at 270-8933.

TODAY

USHERS/GREETERS Chad Heath & Christy Heath
CHILDREN'S CHURCH Tamie & Kathryn Jentz
WORSHIP NURSERY (infants) Makowskis
WORSHIP NURSERY (toddlers thru 3yrs) Will Schmutz?
FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS..... Carolyn Duncan & JoAnn Duncan
COMMUNION PREP Donelle Holderbaum
COMMUNION CLEAN-UP Mark Rice

NEXT SUNDAY – APRIL 14

USHERS/GREETERS Chad Heath & Christy Heath
CHILDREN'S CHURCH Rose Ann & Aaron Clark
WORSHIP NURSERY (infants) Jenks?
WORSHIP NURSERY (toddlers thru 3yrs) Heyboers
FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS..... Jeanie Brenneman & Nicole Hill
COMMUNION PREP Terry & Judy Fosbery
COMMUNION CLEAN-UP Bennie Tulloch

His Renewal and Our Hope

COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *2 Chronicles 30:7-8*

Do not be like your fathers and your brothers, who were faithless to the LORD God of their fathers, so that he made them a desolation, as you see. Do not now be stiff-necked as your fathers were, but yield yourselves to the LORD and come to his sanctuary, which he has consecrated forever, and serve the LORD your God, that his fierce anger may turn away from you.

All: Jesus, forgive my sins. Forgive the sins I remember, and the sins I have forgotten. Forgive my failures in the face of temptation, and those times I have been stubborn in the face of correction. Forgive the harsh judgments I have made on others, and the leniency I have shown myself. Forgive the lies I have told and the truths I have avoided. Jesus have mercy on me and make me whole. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

DECLARATION OF GRACE: *Psalm 25:11, 14-15*

For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great. The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear him, and he makes known to them his covenant. My eyes are ever toward the LORD, for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

***WORTHY IS THE LAMB**

Thank you for the cross, Lord. Thank you for the price you paid.
Bearing all my sin and shame in love you came and gave amazing grace.

Thank you for this love, Lord. Thank you for the nail-pierced hands.
Washed me in your cleansing flow, now all I know, your forgiveness and embrace.

(Chorus)

Worthy is the Lamb seated on the throne.

Crown you now with many crowns, you reign victorious.

High and lifted up, Jesus Son of God.

The treasure of heaven crucified. Worthy is the Lamb.

(Repeat all)

(Chorus)

Worthy is the Lamb.

Worthy is the Lamb.

PRAYER, OFFERTORY & RESPONSE

*Diaconal Offering today: Please use the
Special Offering envelopes located in the pew racks.*

Reminder: please sign and pass the Attendance Register down the pew.

*Children ages 4-6 are excused for Children's Church
(held downstairs in the Fellowship Hall)*

**A HYMN OF GLORY LET US SING – Hymn #289; vs. 1*

*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

His Word and Our Response

Sermon: Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.

Sermon Series: Job

Sermon Title: *The Problem of Evil*

Sermon Text: Job 19-24

(See pages 6-8 for sermon outline and text)

**I WILL GLORY IN MY REDEEMER – music in pew racks*

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Wine is located in the two outer rings; juice is located in the center ring.
(See FCC Observance information on page 5)*

PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION – *Elder Steve Thompson*

**AND CAN IT BE THAT I SHOULD GAIN – Hymn #455*

*BENEDICTION

3. **Pastor Robert Rayburn: “Evil may exist, but as Job will teach us ..., it does not have the last word.”**

4. **What is meant by “the two approach method” to suffering? Why is an academic approach to someone in grief usually unkind? What is a better way to comfort someone who has suffered great loss?**

5. **How does Jesus point us away from the problem of evil and suffering?**

6. **Other reasons for suffering:**
 1. **As punishment for their sins;**
 2. **Sometimes for the sins of others;**
 3. **For the perfecting of their character and to strengthen their faith;**
 4. **For the revelation of some dimension of God's character and ways;**
 5. **For loyalty to Jesus Christ or to share in his sufferings;**
 6. **To learn what they do not yet know;**
 7. **To test their faith;**
 8. **To produce a greater joy;**
 9. **They even suffer as a sign of God's favor.**

(taken from Dr. Rayburn)

Questions and thoughts for discussion:

1. Well known Christian philosopher Alvin Plantinga offers two significant points when considering the problem of evil:
 1. *Without God there is no evil and can be no problem of evil.* Once you remove God from the equation, all that remains is just nature and its sheer brutality. Morality, right and wrong do not exist if God does not exist.
 2. *God has made himself a sufferer with us.* God does not just watch from a distance, but enters into human suffering. Redemption and salvation are brought to us through the suffering of Jesus.

2. C.S. Lewis in *Mere Christianity*: “My argument against God was that the universe seemed so cruel and unjust. But how had I got this idea of just and unjust? A man does not call a line crooked unless he has some idea of a straight line. What was I comparing this universe with when I called it unjust? ... Of course I could have given up my idea of justice by saying it was nothing but a private idea of my own. But if I did that, then my argument against God collapsed too—for the argument depended on saying the world was really unjust, not simply that it did not happen to please my fancies. Thus, in the very act of trying to prove that God did not exist ... that the whole of reality was senseless – I found I was forced to assume that one part of reality – namely my idea of justice – was full of sense. If the whole universe has no meaning, we should never have found out that it has no meaning: just as, if there were no light in the universe and therefore no creatures with eyes, we should never have known it was dark. Dark would be without meaning.”

LORD’S SUPPER OBSERVANCE

At Faith Covenant, the Lord’s Supper is observed each Lord’s Day as the climax of our worship service. We invite to the Lord’s Table all those who are baptized disciples of Jesus Christ, under the authority of Christ and His body, the Church. By eating the bread and drinking the cup with us as a visitor, you are acknowledging to our church that you are in covenant with God. You also acknowledge that you are a sinner, without hope except in the sovereign mercy of God, and that you are trusting in Jesus Christ alone for your salvation. If you have any doubts about your participation, please speak to the pastor or one of the elders after the service. Wine and bread are the elements of the supper as instituted by Jesus Christ. We recommend the use of wine; however we offer both juice and wine in the tray to allow true liberty of conscience. The wine is located in the two outer rings and the juice is located in the center ring.

CONTACT INFORMATION

“Serving One Another in Love” Galatians 5:13

CHURCH OFFICE: 752-2400 / office@faithcov.com

SENIOR PASTOR: Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D

ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Shane Waldron

OFFICE STAFF: Kristin Bay

BOOKKEEPER: Carlynn Stahlberg

CUSTODIAN: Kelly Brown

SR. HIGH YOUTH LEADER: Trent Neumann

ELDERS

Grady Bennett.....	314-4207	Don Olmsted.....	250-7915
Dave Hanson.....	249-8893	Matt Riley.....	756-8913
Tom Jentz.....	755-2029	Steve Thompson.....	857-3326
Duane Martin.....	756-6026	Jan Wassink.....	249-6590

DEACONS

Buford Bennett.....	261-7124	Micah Hill.....	890-2058
Doug Brown.....	890-0760	Mike Stahlberg.....	on sabbatical
Ike Eisentraut.....	257-2222	Bruce Tulloch.....	755-4550
Bill Gamble.....	249-0152		

BUILDING TRUSTEES

Brian Bay.....	752-9087	Nick Hanson.....	253-4668
Donnie Burns.....	261-9830	Matt Vander Ark.....	871-0615
Russ Hadley (lead).....	752-3661		

For Prayer Chain requests or to be added to the prayer chain, please contact the church office at 752-2400 or email to office@faithcov.com.

SERMON OUTLINE

April 7, 2013

Sermon: Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.

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Sermon Title: *The Problem of Evil*

Sermon Text: Job 19-24

SERMON TEXT

Job 19-24 (ESV)

Job 19:21 Have mercy on me, have mercy on me, O you my friends, for the hand of God has touched me! ²² Why do you, like God, pursue me? Why are you not satisfied with my flesh?

Job 21:7 Why do the wicked live, reach old age, and grow mighty in power? ⁸ Their offspring are established in their presence, and their descendants before their eyes. ⁹ Their houses are safe from fear, and no rod of God is upon them.

Job 23:1 Then Job answered and said: ² “Today also my complaint is bitter; my hand is heavy on account of my groaning. ³ Oh, that I knew where I might find him, that I might come even to his seat! ⁴ I would lay my case before him and fill my mouth with arguments. ⁵ I would know what he would answer me and understand what he would say to me. ⁶ Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power? No; he would pay attention to me. ⁷ There an upright man could argue with him, and I would be acquitted forever by my judge. ⁸ “Behold, I go forward, but he is not there, and backward, but I do not perceive him; ⁹ on the left hand when he is working, I do not behold him; he turns to the right hand, but I do not see him.

Job 24:1 Why are not times of judgment kept by the Almighty, and why do those who know him never see his days?

I. The Great Problem of Problems

A. Academic Answers

B. Practical Comfort

II. The Great Good of Suffering