

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 27, 2014

*“But for me it is good to be near God;
I have made the Lord God my refuge, that I may tell of all your works.”
Psalm 73:28*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

His Calling and Our Praise

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** *Psalm 147, Revelation 4*

Leader: Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

All: Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!

Leader: Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

All: Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.

***ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS’ NAME!** - *Hymn #296 vs. 1-3,6*

*(*Indicates when to stand)*

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

***PRAYER OF PRAISE**

***AMAZING LOVE**

My Lord, what love is this that pays so dearly;
That I, the guilty one, may go free?

(Chorus)

*Amazing love, O what sacrifice,
the Son of God giv'n for me;
my debt he pays and my death he dies,
that I might live, that I might live.*

And so they watched him die, despised, rejected;
but, O the blood he shed flowed for me.

(Chorus)

And now this love of Christ shall flow like rivers;
come wash your guilt away, live again.

(Chorus)

***I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY** - Hymn #478

His Renewal and Our Hope

COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *James 1:19-22*

Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

All: O blessed Jesus, you know the impurity of our affection, the narrowness of our sympathy, and the coldness of our love; take possession of our souls and fill our minds with the image of yourself; break the stubbornness of our selfish wills and mold us in the likeness of your unchanging love. O you who alone can do this, our Savior, our Lord, and our God. Amen. (William Temple, 1910)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

CALENDAR

TODAY

- 8:30 a.m. – WORSHIP SERVICE
- 9:45 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship
- 10:00 a.m. – Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. – WORSHIP SERVICE

THIS WEEK

- Monday – Ladies' Spiritual Disciplines Study, 6:30 p.m. at the church
- Tuesday – Leadership Training Class, 7:00 p.m. at the church
- Wednesday – Men's Prayer Breakfast, 6:45 a.m. at the church
– Jr. High Youth Group, 7:00 p.m. at the church
– Sr. High Youth Group, 7:00 p.m. at the Neumanns'
- Friday – Men's Retreat, Bend Guard Station
- Saturday – Men's Retreat, Bend Guard Station

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, Trustee Meeting
- 3rd Tuesdays – Elders/Deacons' meeting, 7:00 p.m.
- 2nd & 4th Tuesdays – Elizabeth Women, noon, at Jo Anne Ross' home, (Sept.-May)

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- Sunday, May 4 – Ladies' Jane Austen Tea Party, 3:00 p.m. at the church
 - Tuesday, May 6 – Trustees' Meeting, 6:00 p.m. at the church
– Leadership Training Class, 7:00 p.m. at the church
 - Thursday, May 8 – Feed the Flathead, 5:30 p.m. at Central Christian Church
 - Saturday, May 17 – Habitat for Humanity Work Day, see announcements
 - Sunday, May 18 – Graduation Sunday
 - Tuesday, May 20 – Elders/Deacon Meeting, 7:00 p.m. at the church
 - Wednesday, May 28 – Baby Shower for Linden Rigler & Dawn Tinkham, 6:30 p.m. at the church

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.

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.

APRIL

DEACON OF THE MONTH Doug Brown
NURSERY M.O.M. (Mom of the Month) Karen Hunnicutt
NURSERY COORDINATOR Darcy Hearn
Direct Nursery questions, concerns, praises, etc., to Darcy at 270-8933.

TODAY

USHERS/GREETERS (8:30 AM) Terry & Judy Fosbery
USHERS/GREETERS (11 AM) Nick & Hanni Hanson
CHILDREN'S CHURCH (11 AM service only) Dar Wassink & Annalise Pierson
WORSHIP NURSERY (8:30 AM) Darcy Hearn
WORSHIP NURSERY (11 AM infants) Brenda Olmsted
WORSHIP NURSERY (11 AM toddlers thru 3yrs) Yvonne Hernandez & Kelly Brown
FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS Sara Motley & Joani Eisentraut
COMMUNION PREP Terry & Judy Fosbery
COMMUNION CLEAN-UP Mark Rice

NEXT SUNDAY – MAY 4

USHERS/GREETERS (8:30 AM) Nick & Hanni Hanson
USHERS/GREETERS (11 AM) Nick & Hanni Hanson
CHILDREN'S CHURCH (11 AM service only) Dar Wassink & Annalise Pierson
WORSHIP NURSERY (11 AM infants) Nicole Waldron & Annalise Pierson
WORSHIP NURSERY (11 AM toddlers thru 3yrs) Marlo Lancaster
FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS Rachel Hunter & Julie Thompson
COMMUNION PREP Carolyn Duncan
COMMUNION CLEAN-UP Theresa Paolini

DECLARATION OF GRACE: *Colossians 2:13-14*

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

***HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US**

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure.
That he should give his only Son and make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss; the Father turns his face away;
as wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon the cross, my sin upon his shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there until it was accomplished.
His dying breath has brought me life; I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom.
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection.
*Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart, his wounds have paid my ransom.*

CHRISTIAN BAPTISM OF:

*Henry Theodore Heyboer
Ruth Marie Heyboer*

PRAYER, OFFERTORY & RESPONSE

*Reminder: please sign and pass the Attendance Register down the pew.
11:00 a.m. Service: Children ages 4-6 are excused for Children's Church
(held downstairs in the Fellowship Hall)*

JESUS, KEEP ME NEAR THE CROSS - Hymn #264

*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

His Word and Our Response

Sermon: Trent Neumann

Sermon Title: *The Precarious Path*

Sermon Text: Psalm 73

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

***OH THE BLESSED CONDESCENSION**

Oh, the blessed condescension, Christ to us the sinful came
Truth and power, all authority vested in a helpless babe
Strange and lowly, infant holy bears salvation to the world
To the banished hope is given through the faith of a virgin girl

On the cross see Christ our savior, many wounds which mar his skin
See the cost of our redemption; he is given for our sin
Oh the cruel price of salvation, God's own son placed in the grave
See the scandal turned to glory; he is risen we are saved

Into heaven he ascended, where our Lord is justly praised
All the hosts of heaven singing, to the King of all our days
On the earth, all life is calling, all are yearning for the groom
as God's kingdom comes with power and our hearts prepare him room

We now witness to the coming of his Kingdom on the earth
Here in part, not yet in fullness, we endure the pains of birth
May we never cease in singing of the love our God has shown
For his love is everflowing; by our love he is made known

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

All: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Leader: It is indeed good, right, and our delight that we should at all times
and in all places give thanks unto You, O Lord, Holy Father,
Almighty, Everlasting God.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Wine is located in the two outer rings; juice is located in the center ring.
(See FCC Observance on page 10)*

PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOCAL OR REGIONAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR: Rocky Mountain Community Church-PCA, Billings, Pastor Alfred Poirier & Pastor Jason Barrie

MISSION PROJECT OR MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Jamie & Alissa Shattenberg with Red Island Restoration in Madagascar

LADIES SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES STUDY: The monthly Ladies Bible Study on Spiritual Disciplines will meet again Monday, April 28, from 6:30 pm to 8 pm. Come even if you have missed previous sessions! This month's discipline is worship. Questions? Call Chany at 260-3221.

MEN'S RETREAT MAY 2-3: *Men are invited to the Annual Men's Retreat* at the Bend Guard Station west of Kalispell on the Thompson River Friday and Saturday, May 2 and 3. The retreat begins Friday afternoon/evening with dinner and ends Saturday afternoon. Bring a sleeping bag, pillow and personal items. Sign up in the foyer so they can plan for meals. Cost for food will be divided among those attending. Contact Matt Riley at 261-6554 for more information.

JANE AUSTEN TEA PARTY MAY 4: Ladies of all ages are invited to *A Jane Austen Tea Party* **NEXT Sunday, May 4**, at 3:00 p.m. in the church Fellowship Hall. **Please bring your own tea cup and saucer** and dust off your copies of *Pride and Prejudice* for a very English afternoon tea! Sign up in the foyer by April 27 to make your reservation.

HABITAT WORK DAY MAY 17: Mission volunteers needed for Habitat for Humanity! Faith Covenant is once again sponsoring a group of volunteers to help at the construction site in Columbia Falls on Saturday, May 17, at 7:45 a.m. till 4:00 p.m. You can volunteer all or part of the day. Lunch and hot and cold drinks are provided. There are jobs for men, women, and teens between the ages of 15 and 18 with parental permission. A sign up sheet along with parental permission forms and a map are located in the foyer. Sign up by May 11th so Habitat for Humanity organizers can plan for the day.

THE REFUGE—A SUPPORT GROUP FOR SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE: If you or someone you know is experiencing physical, verbal or emotional abuse, Faith Covenant Church has a support group that can help. Women with little or no church background are welcome to attend. Contact the church office (752-2400) for more information.

DANCING UNDER THE STARS NEIGHBORS IN NEED BENEFIT: Dance Under the Stars to the Notes of the Night Saturday, May 3, at 7 p.m. at the Best Western Flathead Lake Inn Somers. A benefit event for Neighbors in Need that helps local families with emergency needs. Tickets are \$25 per person and available at the door.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN—FEEDING THE FLATHEAD: Those of you who are volunteering with Feed the Flathead will serve next on **Thursday, May 8**, at **Central Christian Church**. If you have questions, contact Sharon Thompson or Joyce Schmutz.

IRON SHARPENS IRON MEN'S CONFERENCE: Men from around Montana are invited to this national equipping conference at Easthaven Baptist on Saturday, May 17. See brochures in the fellowship hall or contact Rik Goodell (890-1973) for more information. Early group registration deadline is May 7th.

Questions and thoughts for discussion:

1. C.S. Lewis says, “Falsehood is habit-forming.” How does this thought directly pertain to the psalmist and his near misstep?
2. What element in Asaph’s perspective nearly caused his fall?
3. What is meant by “Dangerous Perceptual Materialism”?
4. Asaph writes this psalm in retrospect. As you consider your own life experience, how has God brought you full circle from near folly?
5. What was the turning point for Asaph?
6. What are some practical ways you can draw near to God? How do some of your priorities need to change?
7. What is the glorious conclusion of the psalmist?

***WHOM SHALL I FEAR (GOD OF ANGEL ARMIES)**

You hear me when I call, you are my morning song.
Though darkness fills the night it cannot hide the light.
Whom shall I fear? You crush the enemy underneath my feet.
You are my sword and shield though troubles linger still.
Whom shall I fear?

(Chorus)

*I know who goes before me; I know who stands behind;
the God of angel armies is always by my side.
The one who reigns forever, he is a friend of mine;
the God of angel armies is always by my side.*

My strength is in your name for you alone can save.
You will deliver me, yours is the victory.
Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?

(Chorus)

(Bridge)

And nothing formed against me shall stand.
You hold the whole world in your hands.
I’m holding on to your promises; you are faithful, you are faithful.
You are faithful.

(Chorus 2x)

the God of angel armies is always by my side.

***BENEDICTION**

***Faith Covenant Church
exists to spread a love for God and His glory,
through the WORD:***

**Worship
Outreach
Relationship
Discipleship**

SERMON OUTLINE
April 27, 2014
Sermon: Trent Neumann
Sermon Title: *The Precarious Path*

I. The Precarious Path

II. Dangerous Perceptual Materialism

III. The Glorious Conclusion

SERMON TEXT
Psalm 73 (ESV)

A Psalm of Asaph.

- ¹ Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart.
² But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled, my steps had nearly slipped.
³ For I was envious of the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.
⁴ For they have no pangs until death; their bodies are fat and sleek.
⁵ They are not in trouble as others are; they are not stricken like the rest of mankind.
⁶ Therefore pride is their necklace; violence covers them as a garment.
⁷ Their eyes swell out through fatness; their hearts overflow with follies.
⁸ They scoff and speak with malice; loftily they threaten oppression.
⁹ They set their mouths against the heavens, and their tongue struts through the earth.
¹⁰ Therefore his people turn back to them, and find no fault in them.
¹¹ And they say, "How can God know? Is there knowledge in the Most High?"
¹² Behold, these are the wicked; always at ease, they increase in riches.
¹³ All in vain have I kept my heart clean and washed my hands in innocence.
¹⁴ For all the day long I have been stricken and rebuked every morning.
¹⁵ If I had said, "I will speak thus," I would have betrayed the generation of your children.
¹⁶ But when I thought how to understand this, it seemed to me a wearisome task,
¹⁷ until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I discerned their end.
¹⁸ Truly you set them in slippery places; you make them fall to ruin.
¹⁹ How they are destroyed in a moment, swept away utterly by terrors!
²⁰ Like a dream when one awakes, O Lord, when you rouse yourself, you despise them as phantoms.
²¹ When my soul was embittered, when I was pricked in heart,
²² I was brutish and ignorant; I was like a beast toward you.
²³ Nevertheless, I am continually with you; you hold my right hand.
²⁴ You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to glory.
²⁵ Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.
²⁶ My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.
²⁷ For behold, those who are far from you shall perish; you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you.
²⁸ But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord God my refuge, that I may tell of all your works.