

## 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.



*Spreading A Love for God and His Glory*

**May 17, 2015**

*“He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”*

*Luke 8:8*

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 96:7-11**

Leader: Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!

All: **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!**

Leader: Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth!

All: **Say among the nations, “The LORD reigns!**

Leader: Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity.” Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it.

### **\*JESUS SHALL REIGN - Hymn #441**



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(\*Indicates when to stand)

## **\*HE WHO BRINGS THE MORNING**

High this mountain, broad this sea, still, my sin ran deeper  
 Grave offense my soul did wreak, against creation's keeper  
 But see what power so fell and fair, has stayed his holy justice  
 God Himself all hell did bear, how great his love for us is

*(Chorus)*

*O serve Him, Only serve Him, He who brings the morning (2x)*

Every hour is a precious boon, every breath is a mercy  
 Every glimpse of yonder moon, a balm upon this journey  
 How vast the heavens above this place, so small beneath His glory  
 Still He stooped and showed His face and poured His mercy o'er me  
*(Chorus)*

Jesus, our Messiah King, for those who don't deserve Him  
 Conquered death all life to bring, so seek His face and serve Him  
*(Chorus 2x)*

## **\*PRAYER OF PRAISE**

**\*NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD OF JESUS - Hymn #307 vs. 1-4**

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

**SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: 1 John 2:3-4**

And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

**All: For our transgressions are multiplied before you, and our sins testify against us; for our transgressions are with us, and we know our iniquities: transgressing, and denying the LORD, and turning back from following our God, speaking oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering from the heart lying words. Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands far away; for truth has stumbled in the public squares, and uprightness cannot enter. (Isaiah 59:12-14)**

## **SILENT CONFESSON OF SIN**

## **CALENDAR**

### **TODAY**

8:30 a.m. – WORSHIP SERVICE  
 9:45 a.m. – Coffee & Fellowship  
 10:15 a.m. – Sunday School for all ages  
 11:15 a.m. – WORSHIP SERVICE  
 2:00 p.m. – Baby Shower for Rachel Hunter & Alyssa Hobus, fellowship hall

### **THIS WEEK**

Tuesday	– Elders/Deacons' meeting, 7:00 p.m. at the church
Wednesday	– Jr. High Youth Group, 7:00 p.m. at the church
	– Sr. High Youth Group, 7:00 p.m. at the Neumanns'

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

Tuesdays	– Music practice, 5:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Wednesdays	– Men's Fraternity Study, 6:00-7:30 a.m., at the church
Weekly	– Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups 7:00 p.m. (Sept.-May)
1st Sundays	– Adult Small Groups (Sept.-May)
1st Tuesdays	– Diaconal Offering
3rd Tuesdays	– Trustee Meeting
2nd & 4th Tuesdays	– Elders/Deacons' meeting, 7:00 p.m.
	– Elizabeth Women, noon, at Jo Anne Ross' home, (Sept.-May)

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Tuesday, May 26	– Elizabeth Women's Group, noon, Jo Anne Ross' home
Tuesday, May 26	– Leadership Class, 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall
Sunday, May 31	– Last day of Sunday School
Tuesday, June 2	– Trustees Meeting, 5:30 p.m. at the church
Tuesday, June 2	– Leadership Class, 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall
Sunday, June 7	– Summer Worship Service times begin, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.
Sunday, June 7	– Graduation Sunday
Tuesday, June 9	– Leadership Class, 7:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall
Thursday, June 11	– Feed the Flathead, 5:30 p.m. at Central Christian Church
Tuesday, June 16	– Elder/Deacon Meeting, 7:00 p.m. at the church
June 22-26	– Vacation Bible School - Save the Date! 6-8:15 p.m.

## 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](mailto:office@faithcov.com).*

### MAY

DEACON OF THE MONTH ..... Bruce Tulloch  
NURSERY COORDINATOR..... Darcy Hearn  
*Direct Nursery questions, concerns, praises, etc., to Darcy at 270-8933.*

### TODAY

USHERS/GREETERS (8:30 AM)..... Mike & Julie Thompson  
USHERS/GREETERS (11:15 AM)..... Phil & Carol Van Duyne  
CHILDREN'S CHURCH (11:15 AM service only)..... Tamie Jentz & Annie Hill  
First WORSHIP NURSERY (8:30 AM infants) ..... Hearns  
First WORSHIP NURSERY (8:30 AM toddlers thru 3yrs)..... Uzzis  
Second WORSHIP NURSERY (11:15 AM infants) ..... Tinkhams  
Second WORSHIP NURSERY (11:15 AM toddlers thru 3yrs)..... Motleys  
FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS..... Paula Saldamando & Eileen Pierson  
COMMUNION PREP..... Carolyn Duncan  
COMMUNION CLEAN-UP..... Lori Vander Ark

### NEXT SUNDAY – MAY 24

USHERS/GREETERS (8:30 AM)..... Mike & Julie Thompson  
USHERS/GREETERS (11:15 AM)..... Phil & Carol Van Duyne  
CHILDREN'S CHURCH (11:15 AM service only)..... Annalise Pierson & Taryn Iddings  
First WORSHIP NURSERY (8:30 AM infants) ..... Russells  
First WORSHIP NURSERY (8:30 AM toddlers thru 3yrs)..... Hearns  
Second WORSHIP NURSERY (11:15 AM infants) ..... Chelcie Miller  
Second WORSHIP NURSERY (11:15 AM toddlers thru 3yrs)..... Cathy Hanson  
FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS..... Carolyn Duncan & Alyssa Hobus  
COMMUNION PREP..... Fenners  
COMMUNION CLEAN-UP ..... Donelle Holderbaum

### **DECLARATION OF GRACE: *1 John 2:12***

I am writing to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven for his name's sake.

### **\*SCRIPTURAL CONFESSION: *Ephesians 2:8-10***

**All: For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.**

### **\*BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR**

All my days I will sing this song of gladness,  
give my praise to the fountain of delights;  
for in my helplessness you heard my cry,  
and waves of mercy poured down on my life.

I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer;  
I will sing of the blood that never fails,  
of sins forgiven, of conscience cleansed,  
of death defeated and life without end.

*(Chorus)*

*Beautiful Savior, Wonderful Counselor,  
clothed in majesty, Lord of history,  
you're the Way, the Truth, the Life.  
Star of the Morning, glorious in holiness,  
you're the Risen One, heaven's champion,  
and you reign, you reign over all!*

I long to be where the praise is never ending;  
yearn to dwell where the glory never fades,  
where countless worshipers will share one song,  
and cries of "worthy" will honor the Lamb!

*(Chorus 2x)*

### **OFFERTORY & RESPONSE**

*Reminder: please sign and pass the Attendance Register down the pew.  
11:15 a.m. Service: Children ages 4-6 are excused for Children's Church  
(held downstairs in the Fellowship Hall)*

## **DOXOLOGY (ROMANS 11)**

Oh, the depths of the riches  
Of the wisdom and knowledge of God  
How unsearchable His judgements,  
How untraceable his paths.

Who knows the mind of our God?  
And who can bring counsel to Him?  
Who has given to God, that God should repay?  
For from Him, through Him,  
To Him is everything.  
To God be the glory forever and ever,  
To God be the glory forever, Amen.

## **SERMON – *Horticulture of the Heart* – Luke 8:1-21**

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

### **\*SING TO JESUS**

Come and see, look on this mystery  
The Lord of the universe, nailed to a tree  
Christ our God, spilling His holy blood  
Bowing in anguish, His sacred head

Sing to Jesus, Lord of our shame  
Lord of our sinful hearts, He is our great redeemer  
Sing to Jesus, honor His name  
Sing of His faithfulness, pouring his life out unto death

Come, you weary, and He will give you rest  
Come you who mourn, lay on his breast  
Christ who died, risen in paradise  
Giver of mercy, giver of life

Sing to Jesus, His is the throne  
Now and forever, He is the King of Heaven  
Sing to Jesus, we are His own  
Now and forever, sing for the love, our God has shown

*(song continued above)*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LOCAL OR REGIONAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR:** Family Life Christian Church, Kalispell, Pastor Frank Mack

**MISSION PROJECT OR MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR:** Pray for Al & Jacie Persenaire and our brothers and sisters at Hillcrest Christian School and various West Africa Bible Study Fellowships in and around Jos, Nigeria, Africa, where they served for many years until the recent civil disorder. Also please intercede for Al as he now serves stateside as Christian Reformed World Missions Project Manager for Educational Care for Latin America, Asia and Africa.

**BABY SHOWER:** Faith Covenant ladies are invited to a baby shower for Rachel Hunter and Alyssa Hobus TODAY at 2:00 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. Come join us as we celebrate the upcoming arrival of these little ones into our church family.

**VBS SAVE THE DATE - THE KING IS COMING! JUNE 22-26:** Mark your calendars now for a great week of VBS June 22-26 from 6-8:15 p.m. As we begin to plan and prepare for sharing our joy in the King, please pray how you can be involved—many opportunities are available from teaching, music, prayer, snacks, crafts, recreation, food, drama and more ... and pray also for many children to come! Contact Joni Jenks at cascade.jenks@gmail.com or call/text 257-3560 to volunteer today!

**MISSION COMMITTEE SEEKING NEW VOLUNTEERS:** Excited about global and local missions? Several openings are available on the Faith Covenant mission team including Media Team, Short-Term Coordinator, and Treasurer. Contact Joe Swenson 406-871-5273 for more info.

**GRADUATION SUNDAY!** If you or someone you know is graduating (grade school – post-college) please fill out the card in your bulletin and put it in the offering or you may also turn it in to the office. We will honor our graduates during the Fellowship Coffee hour on Sunday, June 7.

**MEALS MINISTRY:** We will have a number of joyfully expected babies joining families in our congregation in May and June. If you would like to bless those families with a homemade meal when their babies arrive, contact Jenny Heyboer (616-901-7742) and make sure the office has your current email address.

**GENERAL OFFERING SUMMARY THRU MAY 10:**  
Targeted Budget = \$121,853.58; Offerings received = \$121,094.50

**Please pick up a baby bottle in the foyer TODAY** to help Hope Pregnancy Ministries during their Baby Bottle Fundraiser! Between Mother's Day and Father's Day, fill your baby bottle with loose change, bills or a check and bring your bottle back to church on or before Father's Day. Hope Pregnancy Ministries serves women experiencing unplanned pregnancy by providing free pregnancy testing and ultrasound with options counseling, as well as mentorship and material needs for young moms! Get involved today by filling and returning a baby bottle! Questions? Call 257-5700.

## *Questions for Reflection and Discussion*

1. How easy is it for the truth of God to penetrate your heart?
  
2. When life gets difficult, does it draw you closer to God or pull you away from Him?
  
3. What truths from God's Word are the most precious to you when you face difficulties?
  
4. How do your priorities and the truth of God intersect? Are they parallel universes that never intersect? How well do they weave together?
  
5. Think of the most important issue you are facing in life right now. What does the Word of God say about it? How is it an opportunity to grow and bear fruit?

## **\*SING TO JESUS, continued**

Sing to Jesus, Lord of our shame

Lord of our sinful hearts

He is our great redeemer

Sing to Jesus, honor His name

Sing to Jesus, His is the throne

Now and forever, He is the King of Heaven

Sing to Jesus, we are His own

Now and forever, sing for the love our God has shown

## **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 5)*

## **PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION**

### **\*ON JORDAN'S STORMY BANKS I STAND**

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand, and cast a wishful eye  
to Canaan's fair and happy land, where my possessions lie.

All o'er those wide extended plains shines one eternal day.  
There God, the Son forever reigns and scatters night away.

*(Chorus)*

*I am bound, I am bound,  
I am bound for the Promised Land.*

*(Repeat)*

No chilling winds nor poisonous breath can reach that healthful shore;  
sickness, sorrow, pain, and death are felt and feared no more.

*(Chorus)*

When shall I reach that happy place and be forever blessed?

When shall I see my Father's face, and in his bosom rest?

*(Chorus 2x)*

## **\*BENEDICTION**

## SERMON OUTLINE

May 17, 2015

**Sermon: Pastor Shane Waldron**

**Sermon Title: Horticulture of the Heart**

## SERMON TEXT

Luke 8:1-21 ESV

<sup>1</sup> Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him,<sup>2</sup> and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out,<sup>3</sup> and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means.

<sup>4</sup> And when a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable,<sup>5</sup> "A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it.<sup>6</sup> And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture.<sup>7</sup> And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it.<sup>8</sup> And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold." As he said these things, he called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

<sup>9</sup> And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant,<sup>10</sup> he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that 'seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.'<sup>11</sup> Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God.<sup>12</sup> The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved.<sup>13</sup> And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away.<sup>14</sup> And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature.<sup>15</sup> As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.

<sup>16</sup> "No one after lighting a lamp covers it with a jar or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a stand, so that those who enter may see the light.<sup>17</sup> For nothing is hidden that will not be made manifest, nor is anything secret that will not be known and come to light.<sup>18</sup> Take care then how you hear, for to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he thinks that he has will be taken away."

<sup>19</sup> Then his mother and his brothers came to him, but they could not reach him because of the crowd.<sup>20</sup> And he was told, "Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, desiring to see you."<sup>21</sup> But he answered them, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it."