

FAITH 
COVENANT

C H U R C H

Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

January 7, 2018

*“Again Jesus spoke to them, saying,
“I am the light of the world.
Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life.”
John 8:12*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Our worship is
a response to
God's initiative.*

*The pattern of
our worship
reflects the
gospel.*

God Calls Us

The Lord summons his people to worship and we respond in obedience.

The Lord's call is a call to action. We gather, praise, adore, give thanks, etc.

The Call to Worship is a joyful summons and a clear reminder that worship is our coming into God's presence by his command, and not our command that he come into our presence.

CALL TO WORSHIP: *Isaiah 60; Psalm 72

Leader: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.

All: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest.

All: Blessed be his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory.

Leader: And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

All: Amen and amen.

IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE - *Hymn #38

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above,
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE, *continued

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

***GUIDE ME OH THOU GREAT JEHOVAH**

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty; hold me with Thy powerful hand.

Bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore (2x)

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing waters flow;
Let the fiery cloudy pillar; lead me all my journey through.

Strong deliverer, be Thou still my strength and shield. (2x)

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of deaths, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.

Songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee (2x)

Land me safe on Canaan's side, bid my anxious fears goodbye (4x)

Goodbye

***PRAYER OF PRAISE**

Epiphany

Epiphany is a Greek word that means 'to show,' 'to appear,' or 'to manifest.'

The Season of Christmas begins with the First Sunday of Advent, marked by expectation and anticipation, and concludes with Epiphany, which looks ahead to the mission of the church to the world in light of the Incarnation.

**Indicates when to stand.*

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***HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION** - *Hymn #94 vs. 1-3 and 6*

How firm a foundation you saints of the Lord
is laid for your faith in his excellent word.
What more can he say than to you he has said
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled.

Fear not I am with you O be not dismayed
for I am your God and will still give you aid.
I'll strengthen you help you and cause you to stand
upheld by my righteous omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call you to go
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow
For I will be with you your troubles to bless
And sanctify to you your deepest distress

The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not I will not desert to his foes.
That soul though all hell should endeavor to shake
I'll never, no never, no never forsake.

COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *1 John 2:9-11*

Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates a brother or sister is still in the darkness. Anyone who loves their brother and sister lives in the light, and there is nothing in them to make them stumble. But anyone who hates a brother or sister is in the darkness and walks around in the darkness. They do not know where they are going, because the darkness has blinded them.

All: O Lord Almighty, you have called us out of darkness and have chosen us to be your people. We should be filled with gratitude for your mercy; we should be filled with courage to war against our flesh. Yet we consider ourselves worthy of your mercy, and barely lift a hand to fight against our lusts. Our conduct often gives no indication that we belong to you. Forgive us for abusing your grace by not resisting temptation. Forgive us for abasing your glory by not being a light to the world. Please fill us with boldness and righteousness in our words and in our deeds, so that the appearing of Christ Jesus our Lord would be evident in our lives, to his praise. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

DECLARATION OF GRACE: *John 1:9, 12*

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world ... to all who have receive him, to those who believe in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

God Cleanses Us

The biblical response to God's call to be in his presence is confessing our sins. We humble ourselves when we approach our God. This is a corporate prayer of all God's people. It is a great privilege of the gospel that we can stand forgiven before the Lord of glory.

***JESUS I COME**

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into thy freedom, gladness and light, Jesus, I come to thee.

Out of my sickness into thy health,
Out of my wanting and into thy wealth,
Out of my sin and into thyself, *Jesus, I come to thee.*

Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the glorious gain of thy cross, Jesus, I come to thee.

Out of earth's sorrows into thy balm,
Out of life's storms and into thy calm,
Out of distress into jubilant psalm, *Jesus, I come to thee.*

Out of unrest and arrogant pride, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into thy blessed will to abide, Jesus, I come to thee.
Out of myself to dwell in thy love, Out of despair into raptures above,
Upward forever on wings like a dove, *Jesus, I come to thee.*

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the joy and light of thy home, Jesus, I come to thee.
Out of the depths of ruin untold, Into the peace of thy sheltering fold,
Ever thy glorious face to behold, *Jesus, I come to thee.*
Jesus, I come to thee.

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.

11 a.m. Service: Children ages 4-6 excused for Children's Church (downstairs in the Corner Classroom)

JESUS! WHAT A FRIEND FOR SINNERS - Hymn#498 vs.1-3 and 5

Jesus what a friend for sinners, Jesus lover of my soul
Friends may fail me foes assail me, he my Savior makes me whole

(Chorus)

*Hallelujah what a Savior! Hallelujah what a friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, he is with me to the end*

Jesus what a strength in weakness, let me hide myself in Him
Tempted tried and sometimes failing, he my strength my victory wins

(Chorus)

Jesus what a help in sorrow, while the billows o'er me roll
Even when my heart is breaking, he my comfort helps my soul

(Chorus)

Jesus I do now receive Him, more than all in Him I find
He hath granted me forgiveness, I am His and He is mine

(Chorus)

Offering

We give back to God a portion of what he has given us to use to declare that he is Lord of all. (This is part of our service as a church family, and visitors should not feel obligated to participate.)

Epiphany
Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.
I am the Light of the World – John 8:12 (ESV)

Isaiah 42:6-7

⁶ "I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations,
⁷ to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

John 1: 4-13

⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it ...

⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.

¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

John 8:12

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Ephesians 5:8-9

⁸ ... for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true).

Isaiah 60:1

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

² For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.

³ And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

Sermon Outline

I. A Radiant Savior

II. A Radiant Bride

God Consecrates Us
Consecrate means to make holy, to set apart. The Word of God does that for the lives of believers. Through the sermon, confessions of faith, and the offering we are sanctified for service to our Lord to joyfully offer up our lives to him.

Sermon Questions

1. Light and dark are easy metaphors for us to understand. Why do some take great offense at Christians using these to speak of morality?
2. Consider: "Jesus is the light. To have the light is to have Jesus. There is no light apart from right relationship to Him." —Leon Morris
3. To bring light infers that darkness is present. In what ways does the Church bring light to the world's darkness? What does it mean that the Church mediates Christ's light to the world?
4. Consider: "The Church enacts the liturgy not to satisfy the needs and desires of individual congregants but to worship God." —Nicholas Wolterstorff
5. Worship is an epiphany of the Church. What does this statement mean?
6. The book of the Bible that mentions light the most is Job (Psalms and Isaiah are next). Why do you think that is?

**God Communes
with Us**

The Lord strengthens and nourishes our faith through a sacramental meal. Through Jesus, communion with God has been reestablished. The covenant has been renewed. The Lord's Supper is the gospel made visible for us and we share in it as the full community of God's people.

***ROCK OF AGES, CLEFT FOR ME**

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood, from thy wounded side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfil thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears for ever flow,
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to thee for dress, helpless, look to thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Saviour, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eye shall close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

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 below)*

PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION

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.

***LEAD ON, O KING ETERNAL**

Lead on, O King eternal, the day of march has come;
Henceforth in fields of conquest Thy tents shall be our home:
Through days of preparation Thy grace has made us strong,
And now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
And Holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace;
For not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums,
But deeds of love and mercy, the heav'nly kingdom comes.

(Chorus)

*Lead on O King, Lead on O King
Lead on O King, eternal King lead on*

Lead on, O King eternal, we follow, not with fears;
For gladness breaks like morning where'er thy face appears;
Thy cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light:
The crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might.

(Chorus 2x)

***BENEDICTION**

If you are in need of personal prayer, an elder is available up front after the service.

**God
Commissions
Us**

Having been richly blessed by the Lord in our worship, we are sent forth as his ambassadors of reconciliation into the world. Our worship of God as his people now extends into our lives throughout the week. We are to offer ourselves as living sacrifices to him in all areas of our lives.

Leaders & Staff

Senior Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D. & Associate Pastor Taylor Clark

Staff: Kristin Bay, Hanni Hanson, Carlynn Stahlberg, Kelly Brown, Sara Motley (*Nursery*)

Elders: Tim Anderson Grady Bennett, Tom Jentz, Trent Neumann, Don Olmsted, Matt Riley, Micah Tinkham, Steve Thompson *Deacons:* Terry Falk, Kyle Hanson, Micah Hill, Ryan Petersen, Mike Stahlberg, Bruce Tulloch, Phil Van Duyne

To be added to church enews, and prayer lists, please contact us at office@faithcov.com.
For more about Faith Covenant and the Presbyterian Church in America, go to faithcov.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOCAL OR REGIONAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR: Calvary Lutheran Church, Evergreen, Pastor Kurt Rau

MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Pray for Dan & Naomi Emerson with Worldwide Evangelization for Christ on the Tajikistan/Uzbekistan border.

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.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP LOCATION CHANGE: For the next two weeks, they will meet at Micah Tinkham's home on Jan. 10 and 17 (89 Valley View Place, Kalispell).

YOUNG ADULT SMALL GROUP: Young adults 18-25 are invited to Neumanns' the first and third Sunday of the month starting Jan. 7, at 6 to 8:30 p.m. for dinner and study (111 E. Bluegrass Drive, Kalispell). Contact Trent, 212-7625, or Becky, 212-7664, for details.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS on Wednesday, January 24, for our **ANNUAL MEETING**. A 6:00 p.m. soup supper will precede the 7:00 p.m. meeting. All members are encouraged to attend but you do not need to be a member to attend.

SOUP SIGNUPS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING are available on the table in the foyer. Twelve pots of soup, any kind, are needed, enough to serve 12 (or more) each. Please bring your pot of soup to the church ready to serve by 5:45 p.m. on January 24.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN-FEEDING THE FLATHEAD: Those of you who are volunteering with Feed the Flathead will serve next on Thursday, Jan. 11, at Central Christian. Contact Dawn Tinkham for details (208-640-6060).

CHURCH OF THE CROSS SERVICE: You're invited to visit our PCA church plant in Whitefish for their monthly worship service, **Sunday, Jan. 21**, at 5 p.m. at the Whitefish Foursquare church (233 Kalispell Ave). Childcare available.

ENEWSLETTER: If you would like to be added to the email list for our Friday enewsletter, contact the office at office@faithcov.com.

SERVING: January Deacon - Micah Hill

WEEKLY/MONTHLY

Today (1st service/2nd service)

Ushers: Nick & Hanni Hanson/Tim & Kate Anderson
Children's Church: Sharon Salyer
Nursery 8:15 am: C. Hansons
Nursery 11 am: Grays
Fellowship Hosts: Paula Saldamando & Judy Fosbery
Communion Prep/Cleanup: Fenners/H. Hanson

Next Sunday - January 14

Ushers: Nick & Hanni Hanson/Tim & Kate Anderson
Children's Church: Gina & Sophie Wright
Nursery 8:15 am: Rileys
Nursery 11 am: Andersons
Fellowship Hosts: Carolyn Duncan & Alyssa Hobus
Communion Prep/Cleanup: Fosberys/Yvonne Hernandez

Worship Services

Sundays 8:15 & 11 am

Sunday School

Sept.-May 10 am

Music Practice

Tuesdays 5:30 pm

Trustees

1st Tuesdays 5:30 pm

Elder/Deacon Meeting

3rd Tuesdays 7 pm

Elizabeth Women

2nd & 4th Tuesdays noon

Sr. & Jr. Youth Groups

Sept.-May Wednesdays 7 pm