

FAITH 
COVENANT

C H U R C H

Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

March 11, 2018

*“The punishment of your iniquity,
O daughter of Zion, is accomplished;
he will keep you in exile no longer.”
Lamentations 4:22*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Our worship is
a response to
God's initiative.
The pattern of
our worship
reflects the
gospel.*

***CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 18**

Leader: I love you, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised.

All: For who is God, but the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God?

Leader: The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation.

All: I will praise you, O LORD, among the nations, and sing to your name.

Call to Worship

Worship begins with God who invites us and welcomes us into his presence. Because of Christ, we can approach God with boldness even though we are sinful and weak.

***PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY - Hymn #53 vs. 1-2, 4-5**

Praise to the Lord the Almighty, the King of creation
O my soul praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation
All ye who hear now to His temple draw near
Join me in glad adoration

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen, how thy desires e'er have been
Granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise thou the Lord, who with marvelous wisdom hath made thee,
Decked thee with health, and with loving hand guided and stayed thee.
How oft in grief, Hath not he brought thee relief,
Spreading his wings to o'ershade thee!

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him
all that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him
Let the amen sound from His people again
Gladly forever we adore Him

*BECAUSE HE LIVES (AMEN)

Matt Maher, Chris Tomlin

I be-lieve in the Son; I be-lieve in the Ris-en One,
I was dead in the grave; I was cov-ered-in sin and shame

I be-lieve I o-ver-come by the pow-er of His blood;
I heard mer-cy call my name; He-rolled the stone a way.

A - men A - men I'm a-live, I'm a-live be-cause He - lives A -
men, a - men, let my song join the one that nev-er ends be-cause He
lives. ends be-cause He
lives I can face to-mor-row be-cause He lives ev-ry fear is gone; I
know He holds my life my fut-ure in His hands. A - men A -
men I'm a - live I'm a-live be-cause He lives. A - men a
men let my song join the one that ne - ver ends. be-cause He lives.

*PRAYER OF PRAISE

*COME YE SINNERS

Come ye sinners, poor and wretched, weak and wounded, sick and sore.

Jesus, ready, stands to save you, full of pity joined with power.

He is able, he is able; he is willing; doubt no more.

Come ye needy, come and welcome; God's free bounty glorify:
True belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh.
Without money, without money, come to Jesus Christ and buy.

Come ye weary, heavy laden, bruised and broken by the fall.
If you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all.
Not the righteous, not the righteous; sinners Jesus came to call.

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream.
All the fitness he requireth is to feel your need of him.
This he gives you, this he gives you, 'tis the Spirit's rising beam.

Lo! The Incarnate God, ascended; pleads the merit of his blood.
Venture on him; venture wholly, let no other trust intrude.
None but Jesus, none but Jesus can do helpless sinners good.

COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *Psalms 51:5-6, 16-17*

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart...For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; you will not be pleased with a burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

continued above

All: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. (*Psalms 51:1-4, 10*)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

DECLARATION OF GRACE: *Psalms 23:1-4*

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

***SCRIPTURAL CONFESSION OF FAITH:** *Colossians 1:15-20*

All: Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Call to Confession

We all sin daily, in thought and word and deed. As we come into God's presence, we acknowledge how we have rebelled against our King and seek his forgiveness.

***HOUSE OF GOD FOREVER (PSALM 23)**

God is my shepherd, I won't be wanting, I won't be wanting
He makes me rest, in fields of green, with quiet streams

Even though I walk, through the valley, of death and dying
I will not fear, cause you are with me, you are with me

Your shepherd's staff comforts me, you are my feast

In the presence of enemies

Surely goodness will follow me, follow me

In the house of God forever

(Repeat)

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.)

OFFERTORY & RESPONSE

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)

THY WILL BE DONE

My God and Father! while I stray,
Far from my home in life's rough way,
Oh! teach me from my heart to say,
"Thy will be done!" "Thy will be done!"

If Thou shouldst call me to resign,
What most I prize, it ne'er was mine.
I only yield Thee what was Thine;
"Thy will be done!" "Thy will be done!"

If but my fainting heart be blest,
With Thy sweet Spirit for its guest,
My God! To Thee I leave the rest,
"Thy will be done!" "Thy will be done!"

Renew my will from day to day,
Blend it with Thine, and take away,
All now that makes it hard to say,
"Thy will be done!" "Thy will be done!"

Then when on earth I breathe no more,
The prayer oft mixed with tears before,
I'll sing upon a happier shore,
"Thy will be done!" "Thy will be done!" (2x)

**Indicates when to stand.*

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Lamentations: A Liturgy of Grief
Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.
Exhausted Sufferer – Lamentations 4:1-22 (ESV)

- ¹ How the gold has grown dim, how the pure gold is changed!
The holy stones lie scattered at the head of every street.
- ⁴ The tongue of the nursing infant sticks to the roof of its mouth for thirst;
the children beg for food, but no one gives to them.
- ⁵ Those who once feasted on delicacies perish in the streets;
those who were brought up in purple embrace ash heaps.
- ⁶ For the chastisement of the daughter of my people has been greater
than the punishment of Sodom, which was overthrown in a moment,
and no hands were wrung for her.
- ⁷ Her princes were purer than snow, whiter than milk; their bodies were more
ruddy than coral, the beauty of their form was like sapphire.
- ⁸ Now their face is blacker than soot; they are not recognized in the streets;
their skin has shriveled on their bones; it has become as dry as wood.
- ⁹ Happier were the victims of the sword than the victims of hunger,
who wasted away, pierced by lack of the fruits of the field.
- ¹³ This was for the sins of her prophets and the iniquities of her priests,
who shed in the midst of her the blood of the righteous.
- ¹⁴ They wandered, blind, through the streets; they were so defiled with blood
that no one was able to touch their garments.
- ¹⁶ The LORD himself has scattered them; he will regard them no more;
no honor was shown to the priests, no favor to the elders.
- ²⁰ The breath of our nostrils, the LORD's anointed, was captured in their pits,
of whom we said, "Under his shadow we shall live among the nations."
- ²² The punishment of your iniquity, O daughter of Zion, is accomplished;
he will keep you in exile no longer; but your iniquity,
O daughter of Edom, he will punish; he will uncover your sins.

Sermon Outline

I. Weary with Grief

II. A Light on the Horizon

Sermon

God addresses and speaks to us by the reading and preaching of his Word. Both Christians and non-Christians need to hear the good news of salvation and grow in it.

Sermon Questions

1. The power of this poem comes from its series of contrasts to the way things were to what they are now. What value is there in doing this? (Keep in minds that it is one part of five poems).
2. This poem expresses the pain of all the different classes of people in the city of Jerusalem. There are no “I” statements, only “We”.
3. The people of God are not asked to stuff or deny their emotions. How does a biblical lament enable us to do so rightly?
4. Consider: “Do not pry too curiously into the secrets of Providence, nor allow your shallow reason arrogantly to judge and censure its designs.” —John Flavel (1628-1691). Why is this a good reminder for us?
5. How are the responses of the leadership before the fall in sharp contrast to the leaders of Nineveh in the book of Jonah? In what ways can we be presumptuous as Christians?
6. Where do we find our dignity in suffering? How does the gospel provide real hope in very bad circumstances?

**The Lord's
Supper**
The gospel is
not only heard,
but visibly seen
as God invites
us to commune
with him at his
table. In the
Lord's Supper
we remember
and experience
Jesus' saving
work.

***BY THY MERCY**

Jesus, Lord of life and glory, bend from heaven your gracious ear;
While our waiting souls adore thee, friend of helpless sinners, hear:
From the depth of nature's blindness, from the hardening power of sin,
From all malice and unkindness, from the pride that lurks within,

(Chorus)

*By thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord
By thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord, good Lord.*

When temptation sorely presses, in the day of Satan's power,
In our times of deep distresses, in each dark and trying hour.
When the world around is smiling, in the time of wealth and ease,
Earthly joys our hearts beguiling, in the day of health and peace.

(Chorus)

In the weary hours of sickness, in the times of grief and pain,
When we feel our mortal weakness, when all human help is vain.
In the solemn hour of dying, in the awful judgment day,
May our souls, on thee relying, find thee still our Rock and Stay.

(Chorus 2x)

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)*

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.

PRAYER FOR THE CONGREGATION

*CORNERSTONE

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly trust in Jesus' name.

(Repeat)

(Chorus)

*Christ alone, Cornerstone;
weak made strong in the Savior's love;
through the storm he is Lord, Lord of all.*

When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil;

(Chorus)

When he shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh may I then in him be found,
dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne.

(Chorus 2x)

*BENEDICTION

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

Benediction

Just as worship begins with God's call, it ends with God sending us into the world with his word of grace. We go forth to live and serve by the power of his grace, not our own strength.

Leaders & Staff

Senior Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.

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 *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: Dwelling Place, Kalispell, Pastor Dan Sandler

MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Jamie & Alissa Shattenberg who work with Red Island Restoration and World Venture in Madagascar

PALM SUNDAY CHILDREN'S CHOIR: Children ages 4 to sixth grade are invited to sing for the church on Palm Sunday, March 25. Practices will be the first 15 minutes of Sunday School today in the fellowship hall. Contact Bekah Marsh for details (434-882-2319).

SPRING FEVER POTATO POTLUCK: Join us for a Spring Fever Potato Potluck Sunday, TODAY, following the second service.

VESPERS SERVICE: Join us Friday, March 16, at 7 p.m. for vespers, a brief evening service of silence and symbol, prayer and song. Come unplug from modern life and recharge in reflective quiet as we follow this beautiful liturgy of worship. Childcare provided.

EASTER LILIES CAN BE PURCHASED in honor or memory of your loved ones. Dedications will be printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Forms are available on the table in the foyer for you to fill out and leave in the box provided or you may return them to the church office along with \$10.00 (per lily), no later than Sunday, March 25.

EASTER SERVICES: Please join us on Friday, March 30, at 7:30 p.m. for our **GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**. On **EASTER SUNDAY**, April 1, Faith Covenant Deacons will cook and serve breakfast between the two services at 10 a.m. There will be no Sunday School classes that day.

GENERAL OFFERING SUMMARY:

Targeted Budget = \$63,675.08 ; Offerings received = \$66,129.24

CHURCH OF THE CROSS SERVICE: You're invited to visit our PCA church plant in Whitefish for their monthly worship service, Sunday, March 18, at 5 p.m. at the Whitefish Foursquare church (233 Kalispell Ave). Childcare available.

SERVING: March Deacon - Phil Van Duyne

WEEKLY/MONTHLY

Today (1st service/2nd service)

Ushers: Mike & Julie Thompson/Scott & Jenny Mattern

Children's Church: Sharon Salyer

Nursery 8:15 am: Saldamando/Gomez

Nursery 11 am: Clarks

Fellowship Hosts: Kate Anderson & Sam Hudson

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Fenners/Mark Rice

Next Sunday - March 18th

Ushers: Mike & Julie Thompson/Scott & Jenny Mattern

Children's Church: Sharon Salyer

Nursery 8:15 am: Hernandez/Rowe

Nursery 11 am: Brown/Davis

Fellowship Hosts: Patti Albert & Kristin Bay

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Fosberys/Benni Tulloch

Worship Services

Sundays 8:15 & 11 am

Sunday School

Sept.-May 10 am

Music Practice

Tuesdays 5:30 pm

Elder/Deacon Meeting

3rd Tuesdays 7 pm

Elizabeth Women

2nd & 4th Tuesdays noon

Youth Groups

Wednesdays Sr 6:30 & Jr 7 pm

Young Adult Group

1st & 3rd Sundays 6 pm

Faith Covenant Church - 611 Third Ave. East, Kalispell, MT 59901 - 406-752-2400 - www.faithcov.com