

FAITH 
COVENANT

C H U R C H

Spreading A Love for God and His Glory

December 27, 2020

*“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father,
full of grace and truth.”*

John 1:14

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

***CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 89:1, 2, 5**

Leader: I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever.

All: **With my mouth I will make known your faithfulness
to all generations.**

Leader: For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever; in the
heavens you will establish your faithfulness."

All: **Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!**

***ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH - Hymn #214**

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.

(Chorus)

Gloria.....in excelsis Deo.

Gloria.....in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be?
Which inspire your heav'nly song?

(Chorus)

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

(Chorus)

***PRAYER OF PRAISE**

***WHAT A BEAUTIFUL NAME**

You were the Word at the beginning, one with God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation, now revealed in You our Christ

What a beautiful name it is, what a beautiful name it is
The name of Jesus Christ my King
What a beautiful name it is, nothing compares to this
What a beautiful name it is, the name of Jesus

So great a love poured out upon us
When Jesus You brought heaven down
My sin was great Your love was greater
What could separate us now

What a wonderful name it is, what a wonderful name it is
The name of Jesus Christ my King
What a wonderful name it is, nothing compares to this
What a wonderful name it is, the name of Jesus
What a wonderful name it is, the name of Jesus

Death could not hold You, the veil tore before You
You silence the boast of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring, the praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again

You have no rival, You have no equal
Now and forever God You reign
Yours is the kingdom, Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name above all names

What a powerful name it is, what a powerful name it is
The name of Jesus Christ my King
What a powerful name it is, nothing can stand against
What a powerful name it is, the name of Jesus (3x)

**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.

**Indicates
when to stand.
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**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.

COMMON CONFESSION OF SIN

SCRIPTURE OF EXHORTATION: *Isaiah 58:13-14*

If you turn back your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, or seeking your own pleasure, or talking idly; then you shall take delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride on the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

All: Lord Jesus, I have sinned times without number, and been guilty of pride and unbelief, and of neglect to seek you in my daily life. My sins and shortcomings present me with a list of accusations, but I thank you that they will not stand against me, for all have been laid on Christ. Deliver me from every evil habit, every interest of former sins, everything that dims the brightness of your grace in me, everything that prevents me taking delight in you. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

DECLARATION OF GRACE: *Lamentations 3:22-23*

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

***CONFESSION OF CHRIST'S GRACE:**

– *The Heidelberg Catechism (1563), Question 1*

Leader: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

All: That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.

Leader: He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

All: Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

***IN CHRIST ALONE**

In Christ alone my hope is found, he is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones he came to save;
Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied
For ev'ry sin on him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay, light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
for I am his and he is mine bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
*No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from his hand.
Till he returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.*

OFFERTORY: (*Offerings can be mailed to the church or given online at faithcov.com)
Children ages 4-6 excused for Children's Church during 11 a.m. services (downstairs corner classroom)*)

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.)

Sermon Series: Advent — A Surprising God
Pastor Lloyd Pierson, Ph.D.
Finally Here — John 1:9-14 (ESV)

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.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

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 Outline

- I. Our God reveals Himself to us

- II. Our God invites us into Himself

Sermon Questions

1. What does *logos* mean in John's gospel?
2. What does God's revelation in Christ require of you?
3. Jesus took on human frailties. Why is this significant for us? (Read Hebrews 2:18)
4. How do you know if Christ is formed in you? (Gal 4:19, Acts 2:37)?

Children's Question

How does it encourage you to know that through Jesus we can be God's children?

*THIS IS JESUS

Night of wonder, still and silent
Heaven's brilliance from above, light of glory
Pierced the darkness, mercy pierced my heart with love

(Chorus)

*This is Jesus, King of glory, here to rescue from the fall
Son of God who comes to save us, Prince of peace and Lord of all*

Oh the mystery who could fathom,
God would leave His Holy throne
For a manger, for a sinner, for us all to be His own

(Chorus)

Rejoice He is with us, Rejoice Hope is here (4x)

(Chorus)

For the hearts so prone to wander, for these feet so quick to flee
God is here and love is reaching, for the lost and least of these

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

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.

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.

***ALL GLORY BE TO CHRIST**

Should nothing of our efforts stand, no legacy survive
Unless the Lord does raise the house, in vain its builders strive
To you who boast tomorrow's gain, tell me what is your life
A mist that vanishes at dawn, all glory be to Christ

(Chorus)

*All glory be to Christ our king, All glory be to Christ
His rule and reign we'll ever sing, All glory be to Christ*

His will be done His kingdom come, on earth as is above
Who is Himself our daily bread, praise Him the Lord of love
Let living water satisfy, the thirsty without price
We'll take a cup of kindness yet, all glory be to Christ

(Chorus)

When on the day the great I Am, the faithful and the true
The Lamb who was for sinners slain, is making all things new
Behold our God shall live with us, and be our steadfast light
And we shall e're his people be, all glory be to Christ

(Chorus)

***BENEDICTION**

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOCAL MINISTRY TO PRAY FOR: Church at Creston, Pastor Kyle Winter
MISSIONARIES TO PRAY FOR: Missionary family serving in the Middle East
VESPERS: Join us Sunday, Jan. 10, at 6:30 p.m. for our monthly Vespers service.
SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAK: There is no Sunday School today. Classes for all ages resume Jan. 17.
CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING will be Wednesday, Jan. 27, at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary.

SERVING: December Deacon – Phil Van Duyne

WEEKLY/MONTHLY

Today (1st service/2nd service)

Sunday Worship Services

Children's Church: 9:30 Sunday School — 11 Sharon Salyer

8, 9:30 & 11 am, 6:30 pm

Nursery: 9:30 Sunday School — 11 Falk

Streaming 11 am

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Fosberys/Theresa Paolini

Vespers

Next Sunday Jan3rd

2nd Sunday of the month

Children's Church: 9:30 Sunday School — 11 Julie Thompson

6:30 p.m.

Nursery: 9:30 Sunday School — 11 Hunter

Wednesday Youth Group

Communion Prep/Cleanup: Carol Martin/Benni Tulloch

Jr High 4:30-6 pm, Sr High 7-9