Elect Exiles

Welcome

Thank you for joining us in gathered worship today!

At Covenant, we are a church that is bound to God and to each other by grace, growing and serving together in love, and living and sharing the hope that we have in Jesus.

We hope that you will be moved towards greater love for Jesus and one another as we pause to praise, pray, and ponder under God's Word.

The emphasis throughout our Sunday service is that worship is all about God. In our service, we will: worship our Heavenly Father for his miraculous deeds, bear witness to Jesus Christ the Son and the hope he brings through his death and resurrection, be moved to engage with the mission of God through the power of the Holy Spirit as we wait for the return of Christ.

Our service is shaped by the Bible—God's Word to us. Because of that, our worship follows a shared pattern each week. Christians sometimes call this pattern a "liturgy."

"Liturgy" simply means "the work of the people." It reminds us that worship isn't a performance or a product—it's something we participate in together. Throughout the service, you'll have chances to join in with prayers and spoken responses, and you're warmly invited to take part.

We hope your time with us serves to encourage and fill you with hope and joy.

Call to Worship

> Many, Lord my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us. None can compare with you; were I to speak and tell of your deeds, they would be too many to declare.
>
> Psalm 40:5

Songs of Invitation

Confession of Sin

We confess, our Father, that we do not live up to the family name.
We are more ready to resent than to forgive, more ready to manipulate than to serve,
more ready to fear than to love, more ready to keep our distance than to welcome,
more ready to compete than to help. At the root of this behavior is mistrust.
We do not love one another as we should, because we do not believe that you love us as you do.

Forgive us our cold unbelief. And make more vivid to us the meaning and depth of your love at the cross. Show us what it cost you to give up your Son that we might become your sons and daughters. We ask this in the name of Jesus our righteousness.

All: Amen!

Word of Assurance

> For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people.
>
> Titus 2:11

Congregational Prayer

Offering

Regular giving to support our ministry as a gospel partner can be made by direct deposit into our account.

Account Name: Covenant Presbyterian Church

BSB: 032 060

Account: 663 486

Community News

Calling for OHP & sound desk helpers

As we enter 2026, Covenant is seeking more helpers to serve on OHP and/or sound desk. These roles play an integral part in the smooth running of our Sunday services. No previous experience is required, you will receive training and supervision.

Please let one of the elders know if you are interested or would like to know more.

Important Dates

January 25	**CGL / ACGL planning meeting** After service @ Christ College
February 1	**Prayer corner** 9am @ Christ College
February 8	**Vision day** After service @ Christ College

Bible Reading

1. 1 Peter 1:1-2 NIV

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Outline

Elect Exiles

1 Peter 1:1-2

Dan Shih

1. Your own worst enemy
2. Exiles
3. Elect
4. The people are the point

Songs in Response

Lord’s Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours

now and for ever.
Amen.

Benediction

> Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.
>
> `1 Peter 4:10-11`

Date Created
01/04/2026
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