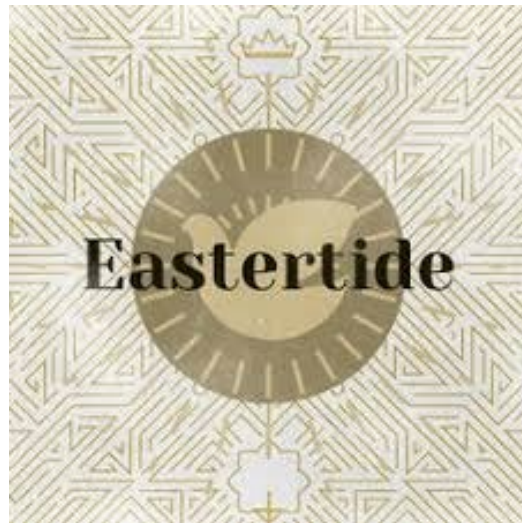




COVENANT CHURCH

Paso



April 21, 2024

ADVENT CHRISTMAS EPIPHANY LENT EASTER PENTECOST ORDINARY

Welcome to Covenant Presbyterian Church of Paso Robles

We're glad you're with us today! There will be leaders up front at the end of the service to talk with you, pray with you, and help you in any way they can.

Join us for Coffee & Refreshments after the service

Meet new friends, visit with longtime friends, and enjoy the fellowship of CPC!

Childcare Options: (Volunteers trained by Ministry Safe)

Crayons and paper are available on the welcome table for children to use during the worship service.

Nursing/Cry Room is located off the foyer.

Nursery is for infants and young toddlers 0- 2 years (open before the service begins).

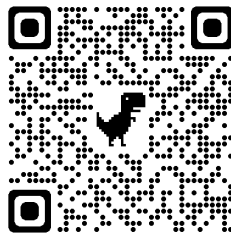
Toddler Time is for children ages 3-5 years (dismissed at sermon time).

Children's Church is for children ages K through 2nd grade (dismissed at sermon time).

(Occasional snacks are offered. Please notify the teacher of any allergies)

Offerings: There is an offering box at the back of the sanctuary, or you can give online <https://www.covenantpaso.com/give>

Learn More about Covenant Church Paso: go to our website: www.covenantpaso.com or scan our website QR code:



What Is Easter Season?

Easter, or Resurrection Sunday, is the day Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus the Christ from the dead. The early church saw the resurrection as the central witness to a new act of God in history and the victory of God in vindicating Jesus as the Messiah. This event marks the faith confession of the early church and was the focal point for Christian worship, observed on the first day of each week since the first century (Acts 20:7). Easter, as an annual celebration of the Resurrection has been observed at least since the fourth century. Even in churches that traditionally do not observe the other historic seasons of the church year, Easter has occupied a central place as the high point of Christian worship. In the Christian church year, the two major cycles of seasons, Christmas and Easter, are far more than a single day of observance. Like Christmas, Easter itself is a period of time, rather than just a day. It is a seven-week season of the church year called **Eastertide**, the Great Fifty Days that begins at sundown the evening before Easter Sunday (the Easter Vigil) and lasts for six more Sundays until Pentecost Sunday.

Reflections**The Fourth Sunday of Easter*

April 21, 2024

It is so far from being true that [salvation by grace alone] makes us remiss in a pious and holy life, that on the contrary without it we would never do anything out of love to God, but only out of self-love or fear of damnation. Therefore, it is impossible that this holy faith can be unfruitful; for we...speak of a faith which is called in Scripture a “faith working through love,” which excites us to the practice of those works which God has commanded in His Word. ...[Otherwise] we would always be in doubt, tossed to and fro without any certainty, and our poor consciences would be continually vexed if they relied not on the merits of our Savior.

— The Belgic Confession (1561)
Chapter 24

Grace is not opposed to effort, it is opposed to earning. Earning is an attitude. Effort is an action. Grace, you know, does not just have to do with forgiveness of sins alone.

— Dallas Willard
The Great Omission

There is no mechanical solution to true spirituality or the Christian life. Anything that has the mark of the mechanical upon it is a mistake. It is not possible to say, read so many chapters of the Bible every day, and you will have this much sanctification (Christian growth). It is not possible to say, pray so long every day and you will have a certain amount of sanctification. It is not possible to add the two together and to say, you will have this big a piece of sanctification.... The Christian life, true spirituality, can never have a mechanical solution. The real solution is being cast up into the moment by moment, personal communion, with God himself; and letting Christ's truth flow through me through the agency of the Holy Spirit.

— Francis A. Schaeffer
True Spirituality

Christ does not ask His followers to "make a few minor adjustments" or "try a bit harder to be religious." His words call for radical transformation—first in thinking, next in living. He leaves no alternative, no middle ground, when He exhorts us to decide either for or against kingdom living. He expects (and deserves) our allegiance, our obedience, our very lives. When this finally becomes a reality in anyone's life, it is absolutely remarkable how many things are simplified.

— Charles R. Swindoll
Simple Faith

* As a courtesy, please mute all cell phones.

Welcome

Nick Nowakowski

*The Church expresses her hospitality to all people.**“To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to any and all who will come, this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Risen Lord Jesus Christ.”***Announcements****Call to Worship****Psalm 108:1-5**

Leader:

My heart is steadfast, O God; I will sing and make music with all my soul. Awake, harp and lyre! I will awaken the dawn

People:

I will praise you, O Lord, among the nations; I will sing of you among the peoples.

Leader:

For great is your love, higher than the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

All:

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens, and let your glory be over all the earth.

*Call to Worship:
Worship is what we give worth and weight to in our lives. The God who created us and redeemed us in Christ calls us to respond to the weight of who He is and the worth of what He's done in our lives. God invites us into the joy of celebrating His Greatness.*

Prayer of Invocation & Adoration

Songs & Hymns of Praise

Holy is The Lord

We stand and lift up our hands
 For the joy of the Lord is our strength
 We bow down and worship Him now
 How great how awesome is He
 And together we sing
 Ev'ryone sing

Chorus

Holy is the Lord God Almighty
 The earth is filled with His glory
 Holy is the Lord God Almighty
 The earth is filled with His glory
 The earth is filled with His glory

Bridge

It is rising up all around
 It's the anthem of the Lord's renown
 It's rising up all around
 It's the anthem of the Lord's renown

Holy is the Lord/CCLI Song # 4158039
 Chris Tomlin | Louie Giglio
 © 2003 sixsteps Music & worshiptogether.com songs
 CCLI License # 1678693

King of Love

The King of Love my Shepherd is
 Whose goodness faileth never
 I nothing lack if I am His
 And He is mine forever
 And He is mine forever

Where streams of living water flow
 My ransomed soul He leadeth
 And where the verdant pastures grow
 With food celestial feedeth

Chorus

Never failing Ruler of my heart
 Everlasting Lover of my soul
 On the mountain high or in the valley low
 The King of Love my Shepherd is
 The King of Love my Shepherd is

Lost and foolish off I strayed
 But yet in love He sought me
 And on His shoulder gently laid
 And home rejoicing brought me

In death's dark veil I fear no ill
 With Thee dear Lord beside me
 Thy rod and staff my comfort still
 Thy cross before to guide me

Bridge

Oh Hallelujah Hallelujah
 Oh Hallelujah Hallelujah

And so through all the length of days
 Thy goodness faileth never
 Good Shepherd may I sing Your praise
 Within Your house forever
 Within Your house forever

CCLI Song # 6529824
 Adam Palmer | Jonathan Smith
 Matthew Hein | Stephanie Kulla | Stuart Garrar

Confession of Sin and Declaration of our Need of Jesus Christ

Ted Wagner

Leader: Isaiah 6:1-5

In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ² Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!”

⁴ And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵ And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

People:

Holy and righteous God, we confess that like Isaiah, we are a people of unclean lips. But it is not only unclean lips we possess. We are people with unclean hands and unclean hearts. We have broken your law times without number, and are guilty of pride, unbelief, self-centeredness and idolatry. Affect our hearts with the severity of our sin and the glory of your righteousness as we now acknowledge our sins in your holy presence.

Why is Confession important? In the Light of God's perfection and greatness, we see our sin and brokenness, yet we can come before the Father in honesty and openness, confessing our sins and remembering His promise to forgive us, cleanse us, heal us, and bless our gathering in Jesus' name.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

Ephesians 1:7-10

Song of Assurance and Thanksgiving

Arise, My Soul, Arise

Arise, my soul, arise,
shake off your guilty fears;
The bleeding sacrifice,
in my behalf appears;
Before the throne my Surety stands,
Before the throne my Surety stands,
My name is written on His hands.

Chorus: Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise
Arise, my soul, arise.
Arise (arise), arise (arise), arise
Arise, my soul, arise.
Shake off your guilty fears and rise

He ever lives above,
for me to intercede;
His all redeeming love,
His precious blood, to plead;
His blood atoned for every race,
His blood atoned for every race,
And sprinkles now the throne of grace.

Five bleeding wounds He bears;
received on Calvary;
They pour effectual prayers;
they strongly plead for me:
"Forgive him, O forgive," they cry,
"Forgive him, O forgive," they cry,
"Nor let that ransomed sinner die!"

My God is reconciled;
His pardoning voice I hear;
He owns me for His child;
I can no longer fear
With confidence I now draw nigh,
With confidence I now draw nigh,
And "Father, Abba, Father," cry.

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How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God
When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds
Thy hands have made
I see the stars
I hear the rolling thunder
Thy pow'r thru'out
The universe displayed

Chorus

Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art
Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art

When through the woods
And forest glades I wander
And hear the birds
Sing sweetly in the trees
When I look down
From lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook
And feel the gentle breeze

And when I think
That God His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die
I scarce can take it in
That on the cross
My burden gladly bearing
He bled and died
To take away my sin

When Christ shall come
With shout of acclamation
And take me home
What joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow
In humble adoration
And there proclaim
My God how great Thou art

CCLI Song # 14181
Stuart Wesley Keene Hine
CCLI License # 1678693

Prayers of the People

Garet Pahl

Offering

There is an offering box and envelopes at the back of the sanctuary, or you can give via our online giving feature <https://www.covenantpaso.com/give>

Why an offering? At the very beginning of the world, God entrusted the material things that he had created to the care of human beings so that they might grow them and use them for the good of others. Christians are to be known for their generosity and sacrificial giving to others. We live this out in our service by giving away our money for use in God's kingdom.

Children ages 3-5 are dismissed for Toddler Time, and Children ages K to 2nd grade are dismissed for our Children's Church program. Parents, you are always welcome to have your children stay with you throughout the service.

Sermon Scripture

2 Peter 1:1-11
English Standard Version

¹ Simeon Peter, a servant and apostle of Jesus Christ,

To those who have obtained a faith of equal standing with ours by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ:

² May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

³ His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, ⁴ by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. ⁵ For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, ⁶ and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, ⁷ and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. ⁸ For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. ¹⁰ Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. ¹¹ For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in His sovereign mercy?

Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel?

Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes a follower of Christ?

Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?

Do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to study its purity and peace?

Sermon

Do you Now Resolve?
Series: *Do You?*

Dan Katches

Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes a follower of Christ?

NEXT SUNDAY:
Sunday April 28, 2024
Preaching: Will Hawk
Text:
Title: Do You Now Promise?
Series: *Do You?*

Guidelines for Reception of Communion

Communion, also called *The Lord's Supper* or the *Eucharist*, is the family meal of Christians. We invite all committed followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this sacrament: those who are baptized and connected to a congregation that proclaims the gospel, who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. Baptized children are welcome to receive Communion when they have been confirmed in their faith. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. We hope that this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with His people, the church.

Confessing our Faith

The Apostles Creed (4th Century AD)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell;¹
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic² church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

¹that is, He truly suffered the punishment deserved by sinners

²that is, the true Christian church of all times all places

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Communion Acclamation

Minister: Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Minister: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

All: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Minister: The gifts of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God.

Words of Institution (From 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

Distribution of the Bread* and Cup**

(*gluten free bread in the center of the bread trays ** grape juice on the outer ring of the drink trays)

Prayers of Meditation for Those Not Communing

If you are not able to receive Communion, please use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers.

Prayer for Those Searching for Truth:

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of Belief:

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Commitment:

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in baptism and in a life of committed discipleship in your church. Grant that I may take the necessary steps to be one with your people and live in the fullness of your Spirit. Amen.

Communion Prayer

ALL:

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal kingdom. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Song of Sending

Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy my righteousness and freedom
My steadfast love my deep and boundless peace

To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to his
Oh how strange and divine I can sing all is mine
Yet not I but through Christ in me

The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side the Saviour he will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need his power is displayed

To this I hold my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley he will lead
Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome
Yet not I but through Christ in me

No fate I dread I know I am forgiven
The future sure the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And he was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released I can sing I am free
Yet not I but through Christ in me

With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For he has said that he will bring me home
And day by day I know he will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne

To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to him
When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me

When the race is complete
still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I but through Christ in me
Yet not I but through Christ in me

Benediction

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

—1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

Dan Katches

*Benediction:
from the Latin
bene “well”
and dicere “to
speak” (so to
speak well of,
bless). We
close our
service with
God declaring
his blessing
upon us.*

Dismissal

Leader:

Let us go forth to serve the world
as those who love our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

People:

Thanks be to God!

Worship Music team today:

Ted Wagner – guitar, vocals

Greg Heim –bass, vocals

Carrie Heim – vocals

Kate Luders – vocals

Aaron Luders – sound

Eli Luders – ProPresenter

Announcements

TODAY! Send-off Potluck Lunch for Rich and Pam Bartel: Please make plans to join us after the service today as we send off Rich & Pam Bartel with our love and prayers over a potluck lunch.

English as a Second Language (ESL) Ministry Training: Our CPC ESL ministry is looking for more volunteers to join this wonderful growing ministry to our community. There is an online training event that will take place between May 3-6. If you are interested, please contact our ESL coordinator, Joe Horne, to get more info.

Christian Education Classes – Spring term: Our Sunday morning Christian Education classes for all ages have resumed. Join every Sunday from 9:15am-10:00am.

Adult Christian Education Class on the Sacraments: Sacraments: What are they? Why do we call them sacraments? What do they do? Why should I care? All these questions along with the purpose and meaning of baptism and the Lord's Supper will be explored. Three Sunday sessions (14th, 21st, and 28th) Come join us!

Children's Choir Opportunity:

We are putting together children's choir for Mother's Day. We will be rehearsing during Children's Church/Toddler Time (not every Sunday) and after church (not every Sunday). Interested children/parents can contact Debbie Horne at 805-204-7871.

CPC Women's Ministry Upcoming Events:

Mother's Day Craft-. Embroidery Hearts. Postponed until further notice. Join us in praying that Inga Odenwald feels better soon!

Spring Progressive Dinner- Saturday, April 27th 5:00pm-8:30pm. See Kerrin Edmonds for more info.

Covenant Mid-Week Call to Prayer: Dan will be hosting our weekly 12 noon prayer time this Wednesday, April 24. Please join us either in person at CPC or via Zoom as we focus on gospel renewal in the church, our region, and the world.

Upcoming Events & Meetings:

- CPC Midweek Prayer: Wednesday, April 24, 12:00pm @ CPC & via Zoom
- CPC Monthly Stated Session Meeting: Wednesday, May 8, 7:00pm @ CPC

CPC 2024 First Quarter Financial Update:

JAN-MAR offerings received: \$71,084

JAN-MAR offerings Budgeted: \$90,000

JAN-MAR offerings Shortfall: -\$21,983

Staff

Rev. Dan Katches - *Lead Pastor* dan@covenantpaso.com

Rev. Will Hawk - *Founding Pastor* will@covenantpaso.com

Ted Wagner - *Director of Worship Music* ted@covenantpaso.com

Brandy Wagner – *Director of Children’s Ministries*
brandy@covenantpaso.com

Nick Nowakowski – *Pastoral Intern* nick@covenantpaso.com

Elders

elders@covenantpaso.com

Joe Horne joe@covenantpaso.com (on sabbatical)

Garet Pahl garet@covenantpaso.com

Ted Wagner ted@covenantpaso.com

Deacons

deacons@covenantpaso.com

Jim Daniels

Don Idler

Ben Walker

Bob Burgess

Jerry Gast (deacon elect)

Assistants to the Deacons

Carole Hansen

Kathy Linn

Dave Lundy

Nan Gast

Bookkeeper

Deni Willis deni@covenantpaso.com

Getting Connected

Here are the ways to get connected at Covenant Presbyterian Church as well as other ministries that we partner with to bring the hope of Christ to our region. For an overview of each ministry, visit our website at www.covenantpaso.com

Covenant Groups

Community Groups

Dan Katches
dan@covenantpaso.com

Women’s Ministry

women@covenantpaso.com

Men’s Ministry

men@covenantpaso.com

Student Ministries

Nick Nowakowski
nick@covenantpaso.com

Children’s Ministries

Brandy Wagner
brandy@covenantpaso.com

Missions

Jack & Margaret Phillips
martinsjak@earthlink.net
magpie117@earthlink.net

Mercy/Justice Ministries

Meals Ministry

Kerrin Edmonds
kerrinmalia@gmail.com

Helping Hands

Jerry & Nan Gast
jerryandnang@yahoo.com

Tree of Life

Jessica Pahl
iamjesspahl@gmail.com

Loaves & Fishes

Bob Burgess
Bobburgess100@gmail.com

ESL Ministries

Joe Horne
joe@covenantpaso.com

People’s Kitchen/Paso Cares

Jack & Margaret Phillips
martinsjak@earthlink.net
magpie117@earthlink.net

Sunday Ministries

Music

Ted Wagner
ted@covenantpaso.com

Nursery

Brandy Wagner
brandy@covenantpaso.com

Communion

Bob Burgess
bobburgess100@gmail.com

Hospitality

Carole Hansen
signysgram@gmail.com

Children’s Classes

Brandy Wagner
brandy@covenantpaso.com

Adult Christian Ed. Classes

Nick Nowakowski
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Covenant Presbyterian Church is affiliated with the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).