



# COVENANT CHURCH

## Paso

**March 17, 2024**

ADVENT CHRISTMAS EPIPHANY LENT EASTER PENTECOST ORDINARY

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## **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).

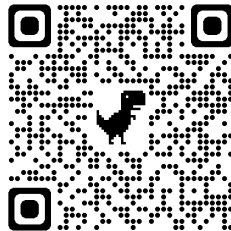
Toddler Time is for children ages 3-5 years (dismissed at sermon time).

Children's Church is for children ages K through 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.covenantpaso.com) or scan our website QR code:



**The Season of Lent:** This season can serve as a unique time of preparation and repentance as we anticipate the death and resurrection of Jesus. On the Christian calendar, Lent is the 40 days beginning on Ash Wednesday (February 14) and leading up to Easter Sunday (March 31). Sundays in Lent are not counted but are generally set aside as days of renewal and celebration—"mini-Easters" of sorts. Lent invites us to make our hearts ready for remembering Jesus' passion and celebrating Jesus' resurrection. As a period of preparation, Lent has historically included the instruction of persons for baptism and profession of faith on Easter Sunday; the calling back of those who have become estranged from the church; and efforts by all Christians to deepen their faith, devotion, and readiness to mark the death and resurrection of their Savior.

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## Reflections\*

## The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024

Christ with me,  
 Christ before me,  
 Christ behind me,  
 Christ in me,  
 Christ beneath me,  
 Christ above me,

— St. Patrick of Ireland

Formative Christian worship paints a picture of the beauty of the Lord--and a vision of the *shalom* he desires for creation--in a way that captures our imagination....The biblical vision of *shalom*--of a world where the Lamb is our light, where swords are beaten into ploughshares, where abundance is enjoyed by all, where people from every tribe and tongue and nation sing the same song of praise, where justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like an everlasting stream--is the vision that should be enacted in Christian worship.

— James K.A. Smith,  
*You Are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit*

The webbing together of God, humans, and all creation in justice, fulfillment, and delight is what the Hebrew prophets call *shalom*.... We may safely describe evil as any spoiling of *shalom*, whether physically, morally, spiritually, or otherwise. Sin is the disruption or disturbance of what God has designed.... Sin tends to disintegrate both its victims and its perpetrators.

— Cornelius Plantinga, Jr.  
*Not the Way It's Supposed to Be*

We can decide to live in response to the abundance of God, and not under the dictatorship of our poor needs....We can decide to center ourselves in the God who generously gives and not in our own egos which so greedily grab. One of the certain consequences of such a life is joy....

— Eugene H. Peterson  
*A Long Obedience in the Same Direction*

For daily I expect to be murdered or betrayed or reduced to slavery if the occasion arises. But I fear nothing, because of the promises of Heaven; for I have cast myself into the hands of Almighty God, who reigns everywhere. As the prophet says: 'Cast your burden on the Lord and he will sustain you.

— St. Patrick of Ireland  
*The Confessions of St. Patrick*

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\* 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

**From 1 Chronicles 29**

**Leader:**

Praise be to you, O Lord, God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.

**All:**

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor.

**Leader:**

For everything in heaven and earth is yours. Yours, O Lord, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.

**All:**

Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things.

**Leader:**

In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.

**All:**

Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name

*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

### All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

All hail the power of Jesus' name!  
 Let angels prostrate fall;  
 Bring forth the royal diadem,  
 and crown Him Lord of all.  
 Bring forth the royal diadem,  
 and crown Him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,  
 ye ransomed from the fall,  
 Hail Him who saves you by His grace,  
 and crown Him Lord of all.  
 Hail Him who saves you by His grace,  
 and crown Him Lord of all.

Let every kindred, every tribe  
 on this terrestrial ball  
 To Him all majesty ascribe,  
 and crown Him Lord of all.  
 To Him all majesty ascribe,  
 and crown Him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng  
 we at His feet may fall  
 We'll join the everlasting song,  
 and crown Him Lord of all.  
 We'll join the everlasting song,  
 and crown Him Lord of all.

*CCLI Song # 25400*  
*Edward Perronet | John Rippon | Oliver Holden*  
*Words: Public Domain Music; Public Domain*  
*CCLI License # 1678693*

### Only A Holy God

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven  
 Who else could make every king bow down  
 Who else can whisper and darkness trembles  
 Only a Holy God

What other beauty demands such praises  
 What other splendour outshines the sun  
 What other majesty rules with justice  
 Only a Holy God

Chorus  
 Come and behold Him  
 The One and the Only  
 Cry out sing holy  
 Forever a Holy God  
 Come and worship the Holy God

What other glory consumes like fire  
 What other power can raise the dead  
 What other name remains undefeated  
 Only a Holy God

Who else could rescue me from my failing  
 Who else would offer His only Son  
 Who else invites me to call Him Father  
 Only a Holy God

*CCLI Song # 7073332*  
*Dustin Smith | Jonny Robinson | Michael Farren | Rich Thompson*  
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*Alleluia! Music; Integrity's Praise! Music*  
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## Confession of Sin and Declaration of our Need of Jesus Christ

Ted Wagner

Leader: Philippians 2:12-16

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, <sup>13</sup> for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. <sup>14</sup> Do all things without grumbling or disputing, <sup>15</sup> that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, <sup>16</sup> holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

**People:**

**Merciful God, you made us in your image and redeemed us to restore us to your likeness. You have granted us: a mind to know you, a heart to love you, and a will to serve you. But we have allowed lesser things to grab hold of our hearts, distracting us from knowing you more, making our love inconstant, and our obedience incomplete. In your tender love, forgive us, and renew our affection for you and you alone. through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

*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

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. Ephesians 2:4-7

## Songs of Assurance and Thanksgiving

### His Mercy Is More

#### Chorus

Praise the Lord His mercy is more  
Stronger than darkness new every morn  
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

#### Verse 1

What love could remember no wrongs we have done  
Omniscient all knowing He counts not their sum  
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore  
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

#### Verse 2

What patience would wait as we constantly roam  
What Father so tender is calling us home  
He welcomes the weakest the vilest the poor  
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

#### Verse 3

What riches of kindness He lavished on us  
His blood was the payment His life was the cost  
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford  
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

### Speak I Pray Thee Gentle Jesus

#### Chorus

All the world's distracting voices  
All the tempting tones of ill  
At Thy voice so mild melodious  
Are subdued and all is still

Tell me Thou art mine O Savior  
Speak a true assurance clear  
Banish all my dark misgivings  
Still my doubting calm my fear

In Thy righteousness I'll triumph  
In Thy wisdom I'll be wise  
In Thy robes I'm perfect beauty  
In Thy power

I'll arise I'll arise in Thy power I'll arise  
I'll arise I'll arise in Thy power I'll arise  
I'll arise I'll arise in Thy power I'll arise

All the world's distracting voices  
All the tempting tones of ill  
At Thy voice so mild melodious are subdued  
In Thy righteousness I'll triumph  
In Thy wisdom I'll be wise  
In Thy robes I'm perfect beauty  
In Thy power

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

Matthew 9:14-17

*English Standard Version*

<sup>14</sup>Then the disciples of John came to him, saying, “Why do we and the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?” <sup>15</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Can the wedding guests mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast. <sup>16</sup>No one puts a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, for the patch tears away from the garment, and a worse tear is made. <sup>17</sup>Neither is new wine put into old wineskins. If it is, the skins burst and the wine is spilled and the skins are destroyed. But new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



**Sermon**

The New Wine  
Series: *New Wine for New Wineskins*

Dan Katches

NEXT SUNDAY:  
Palm Sunday March 24, 2024  
Preaching: Dan Katches  
Text: Zechariah 9:9-13  
Title: Behold Your King

## 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 (4<sup>th</sup> 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;<sup>1</sup>  
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 catholic<sup>2</sup> church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

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<sup>1</sup>that is, He truly suffered the punishment deserved by sinners

<sup>2</sup>that 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:**

**Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the sacrament of his body and blood. Send us now into the world in peace and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## Song of Sending

### Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me save that thou art  
Thou my best thought by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping thy presence my light

Be thou my wisdom and thou my true word  
I ever with thee and thou with me Lord  
Thou my great Father and I thy true son  
Thou in me dwelling and I with thee one

Be thou my battle shield sword for my fight  
Be thou my dignity thou my delight  
Thou my soul's shelter thou my high tower  
Raise thou me heavenward O Power of my Power

Riches I heed not nor man's empty praise  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always  
Thou and thou only first in my heart  
High King of heaven my treasure thou art

High King of heaven my victory won  
May I reach heaven's joys  
O bright heaven's Son  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall  
Still be my vision O Ruler of all

## Benediction

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word. —2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

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 – keyboard, percussion, vocals

Garet Pahl – bass

Daniel Lewis – mandolin, banjo, vocals

Jessica Pahl – vocals

Laura Stevens – vocals

Thor Pahl – sound

David Lundy – ProPresenter

## Announcements

**Today! Send-off Potluck Lunch for Gary & Ruth Kuhn:** Please join us as we send off Gary & Ruth Kuhn with our love and prayers over an “Old Fashion potluck” lunch after our worship service. The Kuhns will be relocating to Walnut Creek, CA.

**Young At Heart (YAH) Lunch on March 20:** Join us Wednesday, March 20 at noon at CPC. Invite a friend! \$10 at the door but please RSVP kuhnfamily@charter.net as soon as you know you can come (today is not too soon! but no later than noon on March 18 so we know how much food to prepare and what art supplies to have on hand). Irish theme with Irish stew, soda bread, green jello, frosted cookies and ice cream. Jeanette will direct us in painting a masterpiece of sunflowers. No talent necessary; she will guide us step by step and all supplies will be provided.

**CPC Called Congregational Meeting – Sunday, April 7:** The session has called a congregational meeting to convene on Sunday April 7<sup>th</sup> at 12:15pm. The agenda for this meeting is to vote as a congregation to call to Nick Nowakowski as co-pastor, and to elect Jerry Gast to the office of deacon.

**Adult Sunday Morning Class - “The Gospel in Your Neighborhood.”** Join us in March as we continue to explore practical ways to engage our friends and neighbors with the good news of Jesus Christ. Meeting in the sanctuary from 9:15am to 10:00am.

**Easter Flower Donations:** We are hoping to purchase and fill our sanctuary with Easter flowers to celebrate the resurrection of Christ on Sunday, March 31. You can assist with a cash gift (donation jar in the fellowship room) or give via Venmo to Bonnie Katches @Bonnie-Katches.

### 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.

**Free Books!** In preparation for their move, Gary and Ruth Kuhn are giving away many of their Christian books. Check out what’s available on the table in the CPC back patio.

**Covenant Mid-Week Call to Prayer:** Dan will be hosting our weekly 12 noon prayer time this Tuesday, March 19. 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: Tuesday, March 19, 12:00pm @ CPC & via Zoom
- YAH Lunch: Wednesday, March 20, 12:00pm @ CPC
- CPC Maundy Thursday Service: Thursday, March 28, 7:00pm @ CPC
- CPC Good Friday Noon Service: Friday, March 29, 12:00pm @ CPC
- CPC Easter Sunrise Hilltop Service: Sunday, March 31, 6:30am @ CPC
- CPC Easter Morning Worship Service: Sunday, March 31, 10:30am @ CPC
- CPC Congregational Meeting: Sunday, April 7, 12:15pm @ CPC

Join us  
**EASTER SUNDAY**



**COVENANT CHURCH**  
— **Paso** —

Sunrise Service On The Hill - 6:30 am  
Easter Worship Service - 10:30 am

| 1450 Golden  
Hill Road |

*for more information and a list of Easter week  
services visit us at*

**WWW.COVENANTPASO.COM**

*(805) 238-6927*

**COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
EASTER WEEK EVENTS:**

**Maundy Thursday Service** (March 28, 7:00 p.m.)  
**Good Friday Service** (March 29, 12 noon)  
**Sunrise Service on the Hill** (March 31, 6:30 a.m.)  
**Easter Worship Service** (March 31, 10:30 a.m.)

## 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

## Assistants to the Deacons

Carole Hansen    Jerry Gast

Ruth Kuhn    Nan Gast

Kathy Linn

Dave Lundy

## Bookkeeper

Ruth Kuhn    ruth@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](http://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  
nick@covenantpaso.com



### Covenant Presbyterian Church

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