

Covenant Presbyterian Church

8:15 am

Austin, Texas
Christ the King Sunday

November 25, 2007

PREPARATION

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Please sign the friendship register at this time and pass it down the row, then return it to its original position, noting the names of those worshipping with you. At the conclusion of the service, take time to greet one another in the name of Christ.

PRAISING GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP

From Psalm 147

Leader: Our help is in the name of our God, who made heaven and earth.

People: **Amen.**

Leader: Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving. Make music upon the harp.

How good it is to celebrate God's presence and sing praise throughout each day!

People: **How good it is to sing praise and give honor to our God!**

Leader: All of nature sings aloud the goodness of God – clouds, rain, grass, creatures great and small.

Our God creates and sustains our world with his ever-growing, never-ending love.

People: **How good it is to sing praise and give honor to our God!**

Leader: Grace and peace be yours in abundance

through the knowledge of God and of Christ Jesus, our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Hymn 721

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: Great God of our lives, for all that is gracious in our lives, revealing the image of Christ,

People: **We give you thanks.**

Leader: For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,

People: **We give you thanks.**

Leader: For minds to think and hearts to love and hands to serve,

People: **We give you thanks.**

Leader: For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,

People: **We give you thanks.**

Leader: For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,

People: **We give you thanks.**

Leader: For the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;

People: **To you, O God, be praise and glory.**

All: **Amen.**

* - Those who are able, please stand

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Loving God, we gather today, rich in blessings, somehow believing that we merit the wealth and comforts we enjoy. Forgive us, our God, for comfortably closing our eyes to the faces of the poor that stare blankly in our direction.

People (sung): Lord, have mercy on us.

Leader: With bellies full of grain and meat, we offer token gestures to the hungry in our world and we feel we have done enough. Forgive us, God, for keeping a distance between “us” and “them,” for closing our ears to the cries of the hungry.

People (sung): Christ, have mercy on us.

Leader: With hands tightly clasping our treasure on earth, we cannot reach out to our oppressed brothers and sisters around the world. Forgive us for clinging to our own possessions rather than to you. Unite us with hearts of thanksgiving, that we may work to ensure freedom and justice for all.

People (sung): Lord, have mercy on us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

We Gather Together

Hymn 81, stanza 3

We all do extol thee, our leader triumphant, and pray that thou still our defender wilt be;
Let thy congregation escape tribulation: thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ,
let us forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Colossians 3:12-16

New Testament, Page 958

SERMON

Thanksgiving Attitudes

Rick MacArthur

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

We Praise You, O God

Hymn 726

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.

COMMUNION LITURGY

INVITATION

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION AND CONSECRATION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*PARTING HYMN

Let All Things Now Living

Hymn 22, stanza 1

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God the Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, who guides us and leads to the end of our days.
His banners are o'er us, his light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished, as forward we travel from light into light.

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Rick Murray at 8:15, 9:30, and 11:00; Jill Williams at 8:15 and 11:00; James Lee at 9:00 and 6:30 (New Covenant Fellowship); Tom Mitchell at 9:30 and 11:15; Dora Arce Valentín at 11:30 (Iglesia Luyanó, our sister church in Cuba); Robbie Ytterberg at 6:30

Offering Thanksgiving Testimonies: Frank Sheppard at 8:15; Lynn and Wendell Bell at 9:30; Elaine Peterson at 11:00; Evangeline Herring at 11:15; and Wendy Nesmith at 6:30

Vince Obar, piano

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by Tommy Nelms in celebration of 40 years of marriage for Tommy and Taylor Nelms.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by Angie, Blake, Finley, and Ava Patterson in loving memory of Nick Vaught.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by Mertice Baker in memory of James and Sylvia C. Baker, David and Marie Woods, and Jim Baker and Bob Baker.

Out of respect for our neighbors, please refrain from parking on the streets in the Allandale neighborhood, especially on Louise Lane and Marilyn Street.

Overflow parking is located in the UTAIC parking garage, and the Park and Shuttle Service is available to bring you to the Covenant Campus

For more information about events at Covenant,
please see our *Covenant Matters* handout in the Narthex.

IF YOU ARE NEW TO COVENANT

Welcome! We are thankful you have chosen to worship with us today! We ask that you identify yourself by signing the red attendance book in your row. Following each service, you are invited to stop by our Visitor's Table to pick up information on Covenant's many groups, programs and events. We want you to feel welcome here and hope that we can help you find ways to grow in your faith.

Five services of worship are offered each Sunday—8:15 a.m. (a traditional Communion service), 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (traditional services), 11:15 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. (contemporary services). A shuttle service runs from 8:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. carrying worshippers from the UTAIC parking lot at 5508 Parkcrest Drive, 1/2 mile west of Covenant.

You may become a member of Covenant by profession of faith and baptism, reaffirmation of faith or letter of transfer. The Session meets the second Sunday of each month, immediately following the 9:30 a.m. worship service for the purpose of receiving new members. Would you like to know more about Covenant and what we believe as Presbyterians? You're invited to join one of our New Member Classes that begin periodically throughout the year. For more information, please contact Mary Helen Mitchell at 512-334-3018 or mhmittchell@covenant.org.

COVENANT PRAYS

Prayers of sympathy and support for – Billie Valentine and family and friends on the death of Billie's husband, Jerry Valentine, on November 16. Services were on November 19.

Ashley Elliott and family and friends on the death of Ashley's grandfather, Martin Edward Hamilton, on November 16. Services were November 21.

Prayers for recently hospitalized – Roy Tomlin, Betty Folmar, and Katherine White.

Prayers for – Al DiCristofaro, Jim Kleinhenz, Barb Sleet, Stephanie Meyer Kelly, Mike Page, Jim Stansell, John Winkler, Ama and Walter Bell, David Miller, Beverly Miller, Rick Roth, Miriam Alban, Phil Harvell, Nelle Slay, Bob Ferguson, Dorice Jeffries, Ginger Hurst, Milton and Helen Carlston, Julie McClellan, Darleen Kleinhenz, Emily Bernard, Stacy Curtis, Gregg Mason, Betty Moore, Betsey Wiswell, Jack and Virginia Ellison, Bill Ross, Michael and Alice Macdonald Harris, Tricia Argust, Charlie, Becky, and Ivory Wilson, Collin Tyndall, Amy Boykin, Jeanne MacArthur, Forrest Roan, Mike Rhoades, and Geanne Taylor.

Prayers requested by our sister church, Iglesia Presbiteriana Reformada en Luyanó, in Havana Cuba – Jesús Pérez Carbón, Manolo García, Francisco Álvarez, Karl Gerke, Blanquita y su hermana, Geovani Castillo y Miguel Angel Silot, los hermanos Vandama. Noelia, Carmen Piñeiro, Milagros Smith y Olga Lara. Hortensia y su nieta Vidal, Angeliza González, Dalia de los Ángeles Rodríguez y Alfredo Pérez Cabeza. Por el mejoramiento de las relaciones entre los gobiernos de Cuba y los Estados Unidos.

Homebound Friend of the Week (notes of encouragement are welcome)

Mrs. Jean Fulkerson, 800 Clear Lake Drive, Wimberley, TX 78676. Deacon is Julie Addington.

Although prayer requests will be removed from this listing after three weeks, please contact Mary Helen Mitchell in the church office, 334-3018, or mhmittchell@covenant.org, if prayer continues to be requested.