

Covenant Congregational Church

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

Service of Worship February 19, 2017 10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE *David's Harp* Pethel

INTROIT *Jesus, Stand Among Us* Filitz

WELCOME Alynne MacLean

*CALL TO WORSHIP

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, **so that together we may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Welcome one another, therefore, **just as Christ has welcomed us, for the glory of God.**

*HYMN *Be Still and Know* 503

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O God, you spoke your word and revealed your good news in Jesus, the Christ. Fill all creation with that word again, so that by proclaiming your joyful promises to all nations and singing of your glorious hope to all peoples, we may become one living body, your incarnate presence on the earth. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD Sam Schumacher
Psalm Reading: Psalm 119:33-40 NRSV (Old Testament page 567)

³³ Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, and I will observe it to the end.

³⁴ Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.

³⁵ Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.

³⁶ Turn my heart to your decrees, and not to selfish gain.

³⁷ Turn my eyes from looking at vanities; give me life in your ways.

³⁸ Confirm to your servant your promise, which is for those who fear you.

³⁹ Turn away the disgrace that I dread, for your ordinances are good.

⁴⁰ See, I have longed for your precepts; in your righteousness give me life.

New Testament Reading: Matthew 5:38-48 NRSV (New Testament page 5)

³⁸ "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' ³⁹ But I say to you, Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also; ⁴⁰ and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well; ⁴¹ and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile. ⁴² Give to everyone who begs from you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you.

⁴³ "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' ⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, ⁴⁵ so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. ⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? ⁴⁸ Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Response: The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Alynne MacLean

*HYMN *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* 439

(Children K through 3rd grade are dismissed to Junior Church at this time)

SERMON The Holy Quest For Truth: Where Is It Written? Pastor Jason O. Mohn

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

CONSECRATION OF LEADERSHIP

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Choral Anthem *A Covenant Prayer* Pote

*Doxology 48

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

* Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN *Faith of Our Fathers* 584

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Amen!* arr. Johnson

*POSTLUDE *Peace Like A River* arr. C.E. Walz

*Please stand in praise to God, if able
CCLI #982653

Thank you for participating in our worship gathering! We are glad that you are here this morning and pray that this might be a meaningful faith-building experience for you and/or your family. To more deeply connect with this faith community, we invite you to stay following our worship gathering and enjoy a time of refreshments and fellowship in our Fireside Room and Narthex.



**Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.
Matthew 5:48**

Welcome to Covenant Congregational Church
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