

Covenant Congregational Church

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Service of Worship October 8, 2017 10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE *Come, All Christians, Be Committed* arr. Bennett

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Karen Bassett

INTROIT *Jesus, Stand Among Us* Filitz

*GATHERING SONG *Come Celebrate the Presence of the Lord* Hymn #512

*PRAYER OF ASSURANCE OF GRACE

God of Grace, You call us to be different from the world,
but the world is seductive, and so we come here to be strengthened.

God of Vision, You hold before us an alternate way of life,
different priorities, different loyalties, different values.

But we know that the world is not only seductive but powerful,
**and so we are drawn in to following its priorities,
accepting its values, showing loyalty to its gods.**

God who blesses the meek, the peacemakers, the merciful,
**forgive us when we lose sight of these qualities,
when we misunderstand their role in the world.**

...time of silent prayer...

Rejoice and be glad!

God is gracious and God offers blessings.

God calls us to be saints in the world,

God offers us the chance to explore how to live out God's vision.

We are called, we are forgiven, we are blessed to be a blessing.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

*HYMN *Rejoice in God's Saints* Hymn #761

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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 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.

CHORAL ANTHEM *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* Medema/Schrader

THE WORD OF GOD Mike Bassett

Gospel Reading: *John 17:20-21 (NRSV)* N.T. Page 111

¹⁸ As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

²⁰ "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

Epistle Reading: *Ephesians 2:19-22 (NRSV)* N.T. Page 193

¹⁹ Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, ²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, ²² in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Ephesians 4:1-6 (NRSV)

¹ I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

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

SERMON *Our Covenant of GRACE: Expressing Unity* Pastor Jason

*RESPONSE SONG *Jesus, Lord, We Look to Thee* Hymn #586

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* arr. Vogt

*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

*CLOSING SONG	<i>Cornerstone</i>	Insert
*BENEDICTION		Pastor Jason
*BENEDICTION RESPONSE	<i>Go Now In Peace</i>	Sleeth
*POSTLUDE	<i>Forward in His Name</i>	arr. Boesiger

*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. We would like you to join us for fellowship and light refreshments after services today in the Fireside Room.



Welcome to Covenant Congregational Church
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