

Prayer at Covenant

You may email your prayer requests to our electronic prayer chain coordinator, Mary Sue Hyland at mshyland@cox.net. For telephone prayer requests call the church office at 402-498-9000.

Please pray for those in our Armed Forces from CPC: **U.S. Army** - Patrick & Carole Tanner, Kevin Boughton; Matthew Foldenauer; **U.S. Marine Corps** - Aaron Cubrich, Grant Lubeck, Matt Samson, Paul Bidlack, Kristyn Hyland; **U.S. Air Force** - Michael Olson, Jerod Hausmann, Dan Ecklebe, Derek Ecklebe, Kyle Kimberlin, Jennifer Jamison-Gines; Kevin Lindsey; **U.S. Navy** - Shane Tweedy, Dustin Ecklebe, Madalyn Hyland.

Covenant Staff

Ministers.....The Congregation
 Associate Pastor.....Rev. Dr. Kevin McDonald
 Director of Youth MinistriesAnton Reginald
 Director of Children’s MinistriesDan Gruber
 Director of Music Ministries.....Karen Gengenbach
 Director of Congregational Care.....Cindy Waldo
 Business Administrator Stephanie Hawks
 Administrative Assistant.....Lanett Keller
 Office Assistant.....Jackie Hartman
 Nursery Supervisor.....Sandra Hansen
 Covenant Kids Preschool Director.....Diane Fangmeyer
 Covenant Kids Preschool Teacher.....Karen Rosse
 CustodianTom Dods
 Evening Janitor.....Pat Carr
 Evening Janitor.....Garrett Fangmeyer
 Wedding Coordinator.....Jeanne Murphy

Prayer Request for Prayer Chain
 for Pastors Only

Please circle one of the following if you made a decision tonight:



I prayed to receive Jesus Christ into my life for the first time tonight.



I have received Jesus Christ into my life before, but I am rededicating myself to Him tonight.



I am not currently a follower of Jesus Christ, but would like to learn more about Him.

Our Mission
 “To know Christ and to make Him known.”

Our Vision
 “Connecting, Growing, Serving,
 all for the glory of God”

Essential Beliefs

1. We believe in one God, the sovereign Creator and Sustainer of all things, infinitely perfect and eternally existing in three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. To Him be all honor, glory and praise forever!
2. Jesus Christ, the living Word, become flesh through His miraculous conception by the Holy Spirit and His virgin birth. He who is true God became true man united in one Person forever. He died on the cross a sacrifice for our sins according to the Scriptures. On the third day He arose bodily from the dead, ascended into heaven, where, at the right hand of the Majesty on High, He now is our High Priest and Mediator.
3. The Holy Spirit has come to glorify Christ and to apply the saving work of Christ to our hearts. He convicts us of sin and draws us to the Savior. Indwelling our hearts, He gives new life to us, empowers and imparts gifts to us for service. He instructs and guides us into all truth, and seals us for the day of redemption.
4. Being estranged from God and condemned by our sinfulness, our salvation is wholly dependent upon the work of God's free grace. God credits His righteousness to those who put their faith in Christ alone for their salvation, thereby justifies them in His sight. Only such as are born of the Holy Spirit and receive Jesus Christ become children of God and heirs of eternal life.
5. The true Church is composed of all persons who through saving faith in Jesus Christ and the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit are united together in the body of Christ. The Church finds her visible, yet imperfect, expression in local congregations where the Word of God is preached in its purity and the sacraments are administered in their integrity; where scriptural discipline is practiced, and where loving fellowship is maintained. For her perfecting, she awaits the return of her Lord.
6. Jesus Christ will come again to the earth—personally, visibly, and bodily—to judge the living and the dead, and to consummate history and the eternal plan of God. “Even so, come, Lord Jesus.” (Rev. 22:20)
7. The Lord Jesus Christ commands all believers to proclaim the Gospel throughout the world and to make disciples of all nations. Obedience to the Great Commission requires total commitment to “Him who loved us and gave Himself for us.” He calls us to a life of self-denying love and service. “For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” (Eph. 2:10)

15002 Blondo Street, Omaha, NE 68116
 402.498.9000 ~ FAX: 402.498.4475
www.cpcomaha.org

Sunday Worship Times: 8:30 & 11:00 am

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 am- 4:30 pm

Covenant’s 11:00 am Sanctuary worship service is broadcast live and is rebroadcast at 6:00 pm on KCRO AM 660 and 106.5 FM radio.

Covenant Presbyterian Church
 Christmas Eve • December 24, 2016
 11:00 pm

Welcome to Worship!

Christmas Eve 11:00 pm December 24, 2016

Welcome! On Christmas Eve, we are grateful that you are here to worship God and to celebrate the birth of Christ into the world. As a part of worship, let us also open our hearts to the living Christ to be with us in our lives tonight and to receive Him as our Lord and Savior. If you are a visitor, we extend a warm welcome to you. If you do not have a church home, we invite you to come and be a part of our church family here at Covenant Presbyterian Church. We have a 123 year history of ministry for Christ and His Church here in Omaha and around the world in fulfillment of the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20).

**Welcome

Please take a moment to fill out the tear-out card and, if you wish, fill out a prayer card and place it in the offering plate to let us know of a prayer need.

The Victorian Era saw the beginning of Advent and Christmas services made up of Scripture lessons. The present traditional "Lessons and Carols" format dates back to 1918 at Kings College, Cambridge, England.

Music As We Gather
"Sounds of the Seasons"

The Lighting of the Advent and Christ Candles (see insert)

**Singing in Joy #270 "Joy to the World"

Message Through Music

"Still, Still, Still" - arr. Bacak Robin Johnson, *vocal solo*

We Hear God's Word

**Prayer for Illumination (Unison):

Gracious Father, ever-present God, who from the womb of the Virgin Mary brought new life to all humanity. Grant to us your Holy Spirit, that hearing Your Word we might receive it by faith, and thereby be born again, born from on high, and so be your daughters and sons for eternity. Through Jesus Christ, Son of Mary, the Messiah, Savior of the world, who saves us from our sins, we pray. Amen.

First Lesson: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

(The Messiah's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah the prophet)

Carol #245 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" verse 1 & 2

Second Lesson: Micah 5:2-5a

(The prophet foretells the glory of Bethlehem)

Carol # 250 "O Little Town of Bethlehem" verses 1 & 4

Third Lesson: Luke 1:26-38

(The Angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary)

Carol # 251 "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" verses 1 & 4

Fourth Lesson: Matthew 1:18-25

(Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus)

Carol #262 "Away In a Manger" verses 1 & 3

Fifth Lesson: Luke 2:8-20

(The Shepherds go to the manger)

Carol #277 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" verses 1, 2, & 3

Sixth Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12

(The Magi are led by the celestial guide to Jesus)

Seventh Lesson: John 1:1-14; 3:16-17, 8:12

(John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation)

"O Holy Night" - Adam Robin Johnson, *vocal solo*

Proclaiming God's Word

"The Birth of Jesus Christ" Rev. Dr. Kevin McDonald

We Respond to God's Word

Sharing Our Tithes and Offerings in Gratitude
"Manger Medley" - arr. Hayes

**Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow #815

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

**Prayer of Dedication

The Celebration of the Lord's Supper

(All who confess Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior are invited in His name to share Holy Communion.)

The Invitation and Words of Institution

Serving the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving, The Lord's Prayer (Debts/Debtors)

The Candlelight Celebration

** "Silent Night, Holy Night"

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright
'Round yon virgin mother and Child,
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Al-le-lu-ia,
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, Love's pure light,
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

**Music As We Depart

** Indicates congregation to stand, if able.

Help for our Guests

Those who desire to receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, want to renew their relationship with Him, or wish to express interest in joining the membership of Covenant Presbyterian Church are invited to fill out the card below and place it in the offering plate.

You are invited to join our church family in our mission . . .

"To know Christ and to make Him known" in 2017.

Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms.

Name _____

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ I am a guest of _____

Email _____

Home Church _____

Visitor for first time Have ___ children of school age or under

New in community Would like to know more about church

Would like to join with church Would like a minister to call

Please Circle Your Age Group or School Grade

-Age-	-School Grade-	-Age-
0-3 4-5	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	18-23 24-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60+