

12.29.24




Covenant
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome to Covenant Presbyterian!

We are glad to welcome you to worship this Sunday. We know that “church” doesn’t just happen in a building. That’s why our mission is to build a community that is encouraging one another to follow Jesus wherever we live, work, and play. We have had this focus since we were founded in 1960, when we first began showing our love for Jesus by serving Austin and the world.

 covenant

Encouraging one another to follow Jesus
wherever we live, work, and play.

Preparation & Praise

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise God in the heavens.

People: Praise the Lord from the earth!

Leader: Young and old alike, men and women together. Praise the Lord!

People: Raise up your horns, lift up your voice,

All: for God is exalted in heaven and earth! Hallelujah!

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Once In Royal David's City

Hymn 183

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(silent confession. . .) **God of wonder, you surround us with signs of your glory and surprise us with your presence, yet we often miss the marvels you place before us. Forgive our dullness and make us alert to the ways you make yourself known, that we might be witnesses to your good news and proclaim your love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

RESPONSE

Lord Have Mercy

Craig Phillips

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, _____ have mer-cy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE

Gloria Patri

Hymn 734

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Ministry of the Word

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 19:1-4

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SERMON

Just So You Know

Stephen Murray

Response to the Word

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

Joy To The World

Hymn 179

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING OF OUR LIVES AND GIFTS

Joy to the World!

arr. Bethany K. Smith

*RESPONSE

Doxology

Hymn 147

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

*PARTING HYMN

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Hymn 185

*BLESSING

Preparation & Praise

CALL TO WORSHIP

SONG Hope Has A Name arr. Passion

WELCOME & PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SONG Light Of The World (Sing Hallelujah) arr. We the Kingdom

SONG Hark! the Herald Angels Sing Traditional

OFFERING

Ministry of the Word

SCRIPTURE Psalm 19: 1-4

SERMON Just So You Know
Stephen Murray

Response to the Word

SONG Go Tell It On The Mountain arr. Mercy Me

BLESSING

Psalm 19: 1-4

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy. Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat.

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults. Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Assisting in Worship

ASSISTING Thomas Daniel (9:30 and 11:00), Allen Hilton (9:30)

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Call to Worship and Prayer of confession from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion Year C, Vol. 1.



Hevel Sermon Series

BEGINS SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

Hevel—a Hebrew word meaning "smoke" or "breath"—captures life's most profound mystery. Repeated throughout Ecclesiastes, this powerful term reveals how careers, wealth, and pleasure are as fleeting as morning mist. Over five weeks, we'll dive into ancient wisdom that doesn't dismiss life as meaningless, but invites us to embrace its beautiful impermanence. Join us to discover how accepting life's uncertainty can lead to deeper gratitude, purpose, and trust in something greater than ourselves. The series kicks off on Sunday, January 12, with traditional services at 8:15 & 9:30 a.m. and a contemporary service at 11:00 a.m.

Explore Membership Class

BEGINS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

The Explore Membership class is designed for those interested in joining the church. In 4 sessions, attendees become familiar with our mission, connect with the pastoral staff, meet new people, and learn about serving opportunities. The next class will take place Sundays in February at 9:30 a.m. Learn more at covenant.org/membership.

Congregational Meeting

TODAY, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting for the purpose of approving the pastor's 2025 terms of call today, Sunday, December 29. We will meet in FE200 following the 11:00 a.m. worship service.

All Things New Psalms Project

BEGINS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

Join pastor Ben Davison for an exploration of the Psalms beginning Wednesday, January 29 at 5:30p.m. in FE200. Over three sessions we'll engage the Psalms, place them in conversation with our lives, respond with creative practices and projects, and gather to share what we've learned in the process. All ages are welcome. Details and registration at the covenant.org/psalms.

Protecting Young Eyes, Technology Parenting Course

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

Covenant is hosting a Technology Parenting Course on Thursday, January 30, from 5:30-7:30 PM in FE200. Michele Lothschutz from Protect Young Eyes will share practical tips and solutions to help parents and caregivers create a "tech-ready home" in today's digital world. Learn why your router is the most important device in your home, what's more effective than parental controls, and how to navigate challenges like TikTok's appeal and the "toxic trio." Dinner is provided, and childcare is available for kids 5th grade and younger. Register now at covenant.org/PYE.

End of Year Giving

As 2024 comes to a close, our financial office reminds you that gifts of appreciated stocks to Covenant can help you avoid capital gains taxes. Additionally, those 70½ or older can make a tax-free gift directly from their retirement account. To count toward your 2024 giving statement, gifts must be postmarked by December 31. Visit covenant.org/giving for details and consult your tax advisor.



Scan to sign up for our
weekly newsletter or visit:
covenant.org/newsletter

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