

We glorify God by loving Him and loving people.



CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP THE LORD'S DAY

**December 28, 2025
10:30AM & 5:00PM**

Rev. Dr. Paul Sagan, Senior Pastor

Covenant Church

A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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Apart from Christ we can do nothing.

MORNING WORSHIP

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

† Call to Worship

Psalm 95:1-3

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our
salvation!

² Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of
praise!

³ For the Lord is a great God,

and a great King above all gods.

† *Please stand if able.*

† Invocation

Minister

† Lord's Prayer

Unison

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.

† Psalm of Praise

TPH 8B

LORD, Our Lord, in All the Earth

† Please stand if able.

*From John
Knox's Liturgy
of 1560*

Prayer of Confession of Sin

Almighty God, we are unworthy to come into Your presence, because of our many sins. We do not deserve any grace or mercy from You, if You dealt with us as we deserve. We have sinned against You, O Lord, and we have offended You. And yet, O Lord, as we acknowledge our sins and offenses, so also do we acknowledge You to be a merciful God, a loving and favorable Father, to all who turn to You. And so we humbly ask You, for the sake of Christ Your Son, to show mercy to us, and forgive us all our offenses. Forgive the sins of our youth, and the sins of our old age. By Your Spirit, O God, take possession of our hearts, so that, not only the actions of our life, but also the words of our mouths, and the smallest thought of our minds, may be guided and governed by You. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with You and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

† *Please stand if able.*

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Joel 2:12-13

“Yet even now,” declares the Lord,
“return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
¹³ and rend your hearts and not your garments.”
Return to the Lord your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love;
and he relents over disaster.

† Hymn of Assurance

TPH 298

Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People

† *Please stand if able.*

† Confession of Faith

*Westminster Confession of Faith
Ch 15, sec 1-2 “Of Repentance Unto Life”*

Repentance unto life is an evangelical grace, the doctrine whereof is to be preached by every minister of the gospel, as well as that of faith in Christ.

By it, a sinner, out of the sight and sense not only of the danger, but also of the filthiness and odiousness of his sins, as contrary to the holy nature, and righteous law of God; and upon the apprehension of His mercy in Christ to such as are penitent, so grieves for, and hates his sins, as to turn from them all unto God, purposing and endeavoring to walk with Him in all the ways of His commandments.

† *Please stand if able.*

Pastoral Prayer

Minister

Scripture Reading

Matthew 3:1-17

*Pew Bible page
number 808*

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Paul Sagan

“The Message of the Messenger of God”

Introduction

I. The Messenger of God (v. 1-3)

II. The method of the Messenger (v. 4-6)

III. The Message of the Messenger (v. 7-12)

IV. The Baptism of Jesus (v. 13-17)

Conclusion

† *Please stand if able.*

Offertory **TPH 332**
Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

Worship with Tithes and Offerings

† Gloria Patri **TPH 571**

† Prayer of Dedication *Minister*

† Hymn of Response **TPH 319**
O Come, All Ye Faithful

† Benediction *Minister*

Postlude

† Please stand if able.

EVENING WORSHIP

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

Minister

† Hymn of Praise

TPH 313

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

Pastoral Prayer

Minister

† Please stand if able.

Scripture Reading

Daniel 4:28-37

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Paul Sagan

“The Proud Will be Humbled”

Introduction

I. God is Patient with the Proud (v. 28-29)

II. The Pride of Nebuchadnezzar (v. 30)

III. Nebuchadnezzar Recovers (v. 34-37)

Conclusion

† *Please stand if able.*

† Psalm of Preparation **TPH 81A**
Sing Aloud to God Our Strength

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

† Hymn of Response **TPH 343**
What Wondrous Love Is This

† Benediction *Minister*

Postlude

† *Please stand if able.*

WEEKLY DEVOTIONS

Monday	Matthew 3:1-3; Isaiah 40:3-6; 2 Samuel 15:23; Ezekiel 18:30-32	How does the person and ministry of John the Baptist fulfill prophecy?
Tuesday	Matthew 3:4-6; 2 Kings 1:8; Zechariah 13:4; Leviticus 11:22; 1 Samuel 14:25-26	In what ways are John's mannerism's prophesied by the scriptures?
Wednesday	Matthew 3:7-10; Galatians 5:22-23; Hebrews 10:28-31	What is the evidence of true repentance?
Thursday	Matthew 3:11-12; Malachi 3:1-3; Psalm 1:4; Isaiah 30:24	What does the baptism of John point towards?
Friday	Matthew 3:13-15; John 8:6-8; Luke 2:21-24	What was the purpose of Jesus' baptism by John?
Saturday	Matthew 3:16-17; Isaiah 42:1; Genesis 8:11; Psalm 68:13; Isaiah 11:2; John 1:32-34	How does the Holy Spirit manifest Himself at Jesus' baptism?

† *Please stand if able.*

PLEASE NOTE

All of our regularly scheduled week-day events will resume in the New Year; specific dates to be provided (Ex. Prayer meeting, Bible studies, Youth Group, etc.).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Ladies Thursday Bible Study will begin a new 19 week Ligonier series January 8th based on the well-known allegory Pilgrims Progress taught by Derek Thomas. Study guides will be available the first week of January. Please contact Denise Sagan for more information.

Church officer nominations are open and will remain open through January 15th. Nomination forms are available at the back of the sanctuary. If you would like to nominate someone, please confirm that he is willing to serve **before** submitting the form.

Mark your calendars for February 27th to March 1st for our annual Missions conference. Dave Culmer, one of the missionaries we support through Faith Promise will be the Plenary speaker. More details to follow.

Ladies, mark your calendars to celebrate the coming Maxey and Gaesswitz babies. Samantha Maxey's Baby shower is on January 10th, and Chandler Gaesswitz's Baby Shower will be on February 7th. More details to come.



The registry link will be included in the weekly email

† *Please stand if able.*

NURSERY SCHEDULE

Date	Worship
Dec. 28	Liesl Jarvis, Wren Golden, Sherri Watson
Jan. 4	Joshua Shaw, Brittney Reynolds, Samantha Maxey

ELDERS & DEACONS OF COVENANT CHURCH

SESSION

Jordan Carl	Jeff Chewning, <i>Stated Clerk of Session</i>
Pete Golden	Harrison Howle
Nathan Jarvis	Rick (Dow) Pursley <i>Emeritus</i>
Paul Sagan, <i>Moderator</i>	Phil Schenewerk

Deacons

Darin Akerman	Ken Andersen
Jim Dooley <i>Emeritus</i>	Mike Golden
John Smith	Dennis Smith <i>Emeritus</i>
Nathan Taylor	