

January 3, 2021 Covenant Renewal Service



WELCOME OF OUR GUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to our covenant worship.

We invite you to join us in this celebration

even if you are not a member of our congregation, but a guest. The covenant we are celebrating today is not a covenant among us, but a covenant between each of us individually and God Godself. You received a copy of the text before this worship and were invited to read over the words of this service.

PRELUDE

ENTRANCE OF THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

OPENING PRAYER:

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secret is hidden: Clean the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. AMEN.

*HYMN #606 *“Come Let Us Use the Grace Divine”*

SCRIPTURE READING 1 John 1:5–2:6 (ESV)

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

*HYMN #2068 *“I Love You, Lord”*

SCRIPTURE READING Acts 8:26-40 (ESV)

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.” And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask

you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?" And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

YOUNG DISCIPLES

MESSAGE: ONWARD & UPWARD Pastor J. Paul Bruhn

COVENANT Follow the slides

ADORATION

THANKSGIVING

CONFESSION

THE COVENANT PRAYER:

I am no longer my own, but Yours. Put me to what You will, rank me to what You will, put me to doing, put me to suffering; let me be employed for You or set aside for You, let me be exalted for You or brought low for You; let me be full, let me be empty; let me have all things, let me have nothing; I freely and heartily yield all things to Your pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, You are mine, and I am Yours. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

BAPTISM Follow the slides

HOLY COMMUNION Follow the slides

HYMN #2269 *"Come Share the Lord"*

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING: Eternal God, we give You thanks for this holy mystery in which You have given Yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of Your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN #667 TWICE ENGLISH** *"Shalom"*

TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Rev. J. Paul Bruhn
Leon Steward, Choir Director
Victoria Reed, Accompanist
No Children's Church today

Ruth Blanton, Liturgist
Tricia Boll, Lay Leader
Tom Stoner & Tricia Boll, Counters

PRAYER CONCERNS:



Robert Clopton, Hilo DelBosque, Debbie Dryden, Jeff Friesenhahn, Ralph Gilliam, Tracy Halliburton, Will Hartnett, Dante Hoelting, Angie Hawley, David Howard, Barbara Ledbetter, Rosa Martinez, David McGehee, Meghan Moss, Sarah Moss, Melissa Murry, Helen Nagy, Jennifer Parsons La Porte, Roy Rivera, Sandy Robinson, J.D. Schmidt, Eva Schuh, Rhonda Sutherly, Shaylene Voigt, Mary Zdeb, Tom and family

Nursing Home: Joe Kailipaka,

Our Troops: Erik Arias, William E. Bryant, Logan Dean, Bryan Franklin, Joe Frank Garcia, III, Benjamin Highsmith, Kevin Rothe

Church nursery will be available 9:30-11:30 AM starting with January 10, 2021.