

Covenant Church

Christmas Eve Morning Worship 2023

Welcome

Damian Giammichele

Announcements

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Isaiah 9:6-7

***Sing: Psalm #100**

***Invocation**

***Confession of Faith (Unison)**

The Apostles' Creed

(Copied from *The Reformation Study Bible, 2015*)

I believe in God the Father, Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
Born of the virgin Mary;
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, dead, and buried;
He descended into hell.
The third day He arose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven;
And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father
Almighty;
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the
Dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;
The holy catholic* church; the communion of saints;
The forgiveness of sins;
The resurrection of the body;
And the life everlasting. Amen.

* The word "catholic" refers to the universal church

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We're very glad to worship with you this morning. Covenant Church is a church of **Prayer, Worship, and Love for Our City**, while rejoicing and resting in God — to his glory.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Tonight — Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service.**

You're invited to return here at 6:00 PM for the *Christmas Eve Candlelight Service*. Hot chocolate and desserts to follow.

**Sunday (12/31) —
Last Sunday Lunch.**

On the last Sunday of each month, Covenant Church enjoys a fellowship lunch immediately following the conclusion of *Morning Worship*. The Lord's Supper is celebrated in *Evening Worship* on these Sundays.

**Thursday (1/4 + 1/11) —
Women's Study and Fellowship.**

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM at Brooks/
Amanda's home in Burbank,
620 E. Angeleno Ave.

**Tuesday (1/16) —
Men's Study and Fellowship.**

7:30 PM - 9:00 PM in Burbank.

GOD CLEANSSES US

Confession of Sin (*Unison*)

Psalm 51:7-12 (ESV)

⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice. ⁹ Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. ¹¹ Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

*Scriptural Assurance of Pardon

1 John 1:9 (ESV)

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

***Sing: Hymn #208, O Come, All Ye Faithful (Stanzas 1, 3, & 4)**
(Children Come Forward on Last Stanza)

Children's Message

GOD CONSECRATES US

Worship of God with Tithes & Offerings

Jeffrey Kusumi

***Sing: Hymn #731, The Doxology**

Pastoral Prayer (& 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 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.*

Reading of Scripture

Luke 2:22-40 (ESV)

²² And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." ²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶ And it had been

revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.²⁷ And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law,²⁸ he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹ "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,

according to your word;

³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation

³¹ that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles,

and for glory to your people Israel."

³³ And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him.³⁴ And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed³⁵ (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

³⁶ And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin,³⁷ and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day.³⁸ And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Sermon, Rev. Brooks Pipher

"The Savior: All-Sufficient"

***Sing: Hymn #195, Joy to the World!**

GOD COMMUNES WITH US AT THE LORD'S TABLE

The Invitation and Words of Institution

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Giving of the Bread and the Cup

The bread is vegan and gluten-free. The cup is grape juice. It is our custom to hold the elements, and partake together. Please leave your glass cup at your seat.

