Covenant Church

Morning Worship — December 31, 2023

Welcome

Rev. Brooks Pipher

Announcements

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Psalm 100

*Sing: Hymn #1, All People That on Earth Do Dwell

*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

This Afternoon — Last Sunday Lunch

Please plan to stay for our monthly fellowship lunch immediately following the conclusion of *Morning Worship*.

Tonight — Evening Worship

You're invited to return here at 6:00 PM for the *Evening Worship* service with the Lord's Supper. The sermon text this evening is Matthew 16:24- Matthew 17:20.

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 CLEANSES 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

Isaiah 25:8-9 (ESV)

"For He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. ⁹ It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

*Sing: Hymn #457, Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

(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

Matthew 16:13-23 (ESV)

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that

I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar–Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

²¹From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.

²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

Sermon, Rev. Brooks Pipher

"Joy at Christ & His Church"

*Sing: Psalter #67

GOD COMMISSIONS US

*Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

*Sing: Psalter #179			

