



**Covenant Church**  
**Presbyterian Church in America**  
Fayetteville, Arkansas

**CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP**  
**THE LORD'S DAY**  
**September 10, 2023**  
**10:30 a.m.**

**Welcome & Announcements**

We are offering a variety of Adult Sunday School classes every Sunday morning at 9am. This Fall's Sunday School classes and teachers are as follows:

Philippians, using *In All Things* (Women) Lead by Leslie Shaw, Kristyn Ersteniuk, and Rose Nystrom

Marriage (Men and Women) Lead by Dow Pursley

Sovereignty (Men and Women) Lead by Nathan Jarvis

There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup> convening at 10:30 am concluding at the end of worship, for the purpose of electing new ruling elders. Phil Schenewerk and Nathan Jarvis have been approved by the session to stand for the office of ruling elder.

Women's Bible Study on The Westminster Larger Catechism meets at 9:30am on Thursdays at the church. Childcare is provided.

John & Marianna Smoot are hosting a hymn sing at their home Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 pm. If you are coming you can text your favorite hymn(s) you want to sing to Pamela Andersen (see bulletin for her number).

Men's Bible study of the references to the Westminster Larger Catechism and manly men's breakfast meets on Friday at 6am at the church.

We have a Tuesday Noon men's Bible Study at the church and via Zoom. If you need to be added to the church email list, please fill out a yellow card.

Men are invited to an informal coffee fellowship at Rick's Bakery at 930am on Thursday.

Eli Saldivar is leading a Hispanic/English Bible Study on the Gospel of John at C&A Auto Repair in Springdale at 7am on Saturdays.

There will be a New Members class offered at the church this afternoon at 2:30pm for those wanting to know more about Covenant church and its ministries.

### **†Call to Worship**

1 Chronicles 29:10–13

Blessed are you, O LORD, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all.

In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name.

### **†Invocation & 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.

### **†Hymn of Praise**

#181 (TH #98)

“Now Thank We All Our God”

## **Confession of Sin**

Book of Common Prayer

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbor, in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We are heartily sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of thy name. Amen.

## **Silent Confession**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Isaiah 55:6–7

Seek the LORD while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

### **†Hymn of Assurance**

#276 (TH #308)

“Jesus Paid It All”

### **†Confession of Faith**

Heidelberg Catechism Q. 88-90

**Q88.** What is involved in genuine repentance or conversion?

**A.** Two things: the dying-away of the old self, and the rising-to-life of the new.

**Q89.** What is the dying-away of the old self?

**A.** To be genuinely sorry for sin and more and more to hate and run away from it.

**Q90.** What is the rising-to-life of the new self?

**A.** Wholehearted joy in God through Christ and a love and delight to live according to the will of God by doing every kind of good work.

## **Pastoral Prayer**

## **Scripture Reading**

Ecclesiastes 2:1–11  
Per Bible page number 552

I said in my heart, “Come now, I will test you with pleasure; enjoy yourself.” But behold, this also was vanity. <sup>2</sup> I said of laughter, “It is mad,” and of pleasure, “What use is it?” <sup>3</sup> I searched with my heart how to cheer my body with wine—my heart still guiding me with wisdom—and how to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was good for the children of man to do under heaven during the few days of their life. <sup>4</sup> I made great works. I built houses and planted vineyards for myself. <sup>5</sup> I made myself gardens and parks, and planted in them all kinds of fruit trees. <sup>6</sup> I made myself pools from which to water the forest of growing trees. <sup>7</sup> I bought male and female slaves, and had slaves who were born in my house. I had also great possessions of herds and flocks, more than any who had been before me in Jerusalem. <sup>8</sup> I also gathered for myself silver and gold and the treasure of kings and provinces. I got singers, both men and women, and many concubines, the delight of the sons of man. <sup>9</sup> So I became great and surpassed all who were before me in Jerusalem. Also my wisdom remained with me. <sup>10</sup> And whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I kept my heart from no pleasure, for my heart found pleasure in all my toil, and this was my reward for all my toil. <sup>11</sup> Then I considered all that my hands had done and the toil I had expended in doing it, and behold, all was vanity and a striving after wind, and there was nothing to be gained under the sun.

## **Sermon**

“The Problem of Pleasure”

Rev. Dr. Jay Bruce

## **Worship with Tithes & Offerings**

### **†Doxology**

“Doxology”

#567 (TH #731)

### **†Prayer of Dedication**

### **†Closing Hymn**

“Be Thou My Vision”

#446 (TH #642)

### **†Benediction**

**SERMON OUTLINE**  
**September 10, 2023**  
**10:30 a.m.**

**Ecclesiastes 2:1-11**  
**“The Problem of Pleasure”**

Introduction

I. Bodily Pleasures (vv. 1–3)

II. Bold Projects (vv. 4–8)

III. Barren Pursuits (vv. 9–11)

Conclusion

## Now Thank We All Our God

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1. Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,  
 2. O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
 3. All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,

who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices;  
 with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;  
 the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven—

who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way  
 and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
 the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;

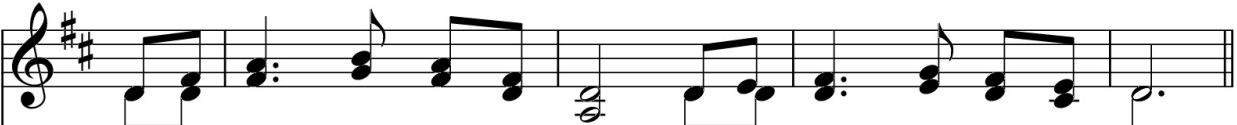
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.  
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.  
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

## Jesus Paid It All

276



1. I hear the Sa - vior say, "Your strength in - deed is small,  
 2. Lord, now in - deed I find your pow'r and yours a - lone,  
 3. For noth - ing good have I, where - by your grace to claim—  
 4. And when, be - fore the throne, I stand in him com - plete,

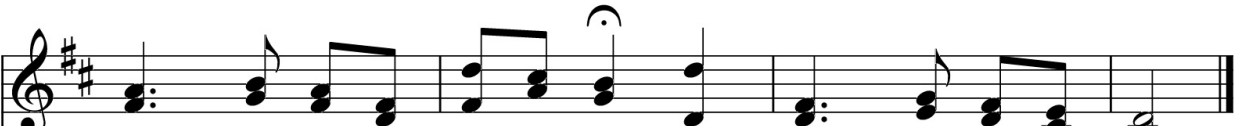


child of weak - ness, watch and pray, find in me your all in all."  
 can change the le - per's spots and melt the heart of stone.  
 I'll wash my gar - ments white in the blood of Cal - v'ry's Lamb.  
 "Je - sus died my soul to save," my lips shall still re - peat.

Refrain



Je - sus paid it all, all to him I owe;



sin had left a crim - son stain, he washed it white as snow.

567

## Doxology

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all

crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:

praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Thomas Ken, 1674

OLD HUNDREDTH L.M.  
Louis Bourgeois, 1551



## Be Thou My Vision

1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart; naught be all  
 2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word; I ev - er  
 3. Be thou my bat - tle shield, sword for my fight; be thou my  
 4. Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise, thou mine in -  
 5. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won, may I reach

else to me, save that thou art— thou my best thought by  
 with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my great Fa - ther,  
 • dig - ni - ty, thou my de - light, thou my soul's shel - ter,  
 her - i - tance, now and al - ways: thou and thou on - ly,  
 heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart, what -

day or by night, wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 I thy true son; thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.  
 • thou my high tow'r: raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.  
 first in my heart, High King of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 ev - er be - fall, still be my vis - ion, O Rul - er of all.

Ancient Irish poem, ca. 8th cent.  
 Tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1905  
 Vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1912

SLANE 10.10.10.10.  
 Traditional Irish melody  
 Harm. OPC/URCNA 2016  
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