



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

**CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP
THE LORD'S DAY
October 15, 2023
5:00 p.m.**

Welcome & Announcements

There will be a Couples Come & Go Wedding Shower for Nathan Taylor & Bethany Miller at the home of John & Marianna Smoot on October 20th from 6 to 8pm.

The annual Wilkie Peterson Hayride will take place on Saturday, October 28th at 5pm. BYO hot dogs & buns and one dish of finger food to potluck. Hot apple cider, hot chocolate and coffee will be provided. More information and directions to the event can be found in the back of the sanctuary. Contact Chuck or Gail Peterson if you have any questions.

Please join us for our fifth Sunday fellowship meal on October 29th.

Kelvin Crombie, an expert in Messianic Jews and the Holocaust will be giving a weekend seminar on *God's Sovereignty in History and Geography* on November 3 - November 5 at Covenant Church. The proposed schedule is as follows:

Thursday, November 2 9:30-11:30am lecture at Women's Bible Study

Friday November 3 6:30-8:30am talk at Men's Bible Study

Friday November 3 6pm Pizza Fellowship followed lectures 6:30-9pm

Saturday November 4 Donuts and Danish and 8:30am-12pm lectures

Sunday November 5 9AM Sunday School 10:30am message on the New Covenant, and 6PM message.

We as a church will pack shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child on November 11th. In preparation for this event, please see the information in the back of the sanctuary for ideas on items to include.

Contact Jan House for more information.

Ladies of Covenant, please pray and consider where God has gifted you to serve here at Covenant and then sign up for one of the following areas: Administrative, Fellowship, Funerals, Helping Hands, Showers, Church Interiors, and Nursery.

Leadership for the WIC committees will be determined at a later date. Sign-up sheets are in the foyer and the sign-up deadline is October 22nd. If you have any questions, please call or text Denise Sagan or Rose Nystrom.

Grace and Truth Church in Israel pastored by David Zadok is on the frontlines of bringing relief to those suffering as a result of the invasion of Israel by Hamas. If you would like to support efforts to feed and clothe and protect those who have been devastated, you can do so by designating an offering through Covenant Church for Israel relief. If you designate an offering funds will be sent asap through usual channels for the purpose of relief via Grace and Truth church in Israel. Continue to pray for all Israel to be saved and come to the knowledge of the Messiah Jesus through this suffering.

† Opening Prayer

† Hymn of Praise

#381 (TH#300)

“Blessing and Honor and Glory and Power”

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading

Ecclesiastes 7:1-14

Pew Bible page number 556

A good name is better than precious ointment, and the day of death than the day of birth. ² It is better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting, for this is the end of all mankind, and the living will lay it to heart. ³ Sorrow is better than laughter, for by sadness of face the heart is made glad. ⁴ The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning, but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth. ⁵ It is better for a man to hear the rebuke of the wise than to hear the song of fools. ⁶ For as the crackling of thorns under a pot, so is the laughter of the fools; this also is vanity. ⁷ Surely oppression drives the wise into madness, and a bribe corrupts the heart. ⁸ Better is the end of a thing than its beginning, and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit. ⁹ Be not quick in your spirit to become angry, for anger lodges in the heart of fools. ¹⁰ Say not, “Why were

the former days better than these?” For it is not from wisdom that you ask this. ¹¹ Wisdom is good with an inheritance, an advantage to those who see the sun. ¹² For the protection of wisdom is like the protection of money, and the advantage of knowledge is that wisdom preserves the life of him who has it. ¹³ Consider the work of God: who can make straight what he has made crooked? ¹⁴ In the day of prosperity be joyful, and in the day of adversity consider: God has made the one as well as the other, so that man may not find out anything that will be after him.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Paul Sagan

“The Superiority of God’s Wisdom”

† Closing Hymn

#514 (TH #708)

“O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”

† Benediction

SERMON OUTLINE

October 15, 2023

5:00 p.m.

Ecclesiastes 7:1-14
“The Superiority of God’s Wisdom”

Introduction

- I. The Value of a Good Name (v. 1)
- II. The Value of Mourning (v. 2-4)
- III. The Foolishness of Fools (v. 5-6)
- IV. The Causes of Corruption (v. 7)
- V. The Value of Finishing Well (v. 8-9)
- VI. Life Under the Hand of God (v. 11-14)

Conclusion

381 Blessing and Honor and Glory and Power

1. Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and pow'r,
 2. Sound - eth the heav'n of the heav'ns with his name;
 3. Ev - er as - cend - eth the song and the joy;
 4. Give we the glo - ry and praise to the Lamb;

wis - dom and rich - es and strength ev - er - more
 ring - eth the earth with his glo - ry and fame;
 ev - er de - scend - eth the love from on high;
 take we the robe and the harp and the palm;

give ye to him who our bat - tle hath won,
 o - cean and moun - tain, stream, for - est, and flow'r
 bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and praise—
 sing we the song of the Lamb that was slain,

whose are the king - dom, the crown, and the throne.
 e - cho his prais - es and tell of his pow'r.
 this is the theme of the hymns that we raise.
 dy - ing in weak - ness, but ris - ing to reign.

Horatius Bonar, 1866; alt.

O QUANTA QUALIA 10.10.10.10.
 La Feillée, *Méthode du plain-chant*, 1808
 Harm. David Evans, 1874-1948

Tune from the *Revised Church Hymnary*; used by permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

5. Hasten on from grace to glory,
 armed by faith and winged by prayer;
 heav'n's eternal day's before thee,
 God's own hand shall guide thee there.
 Soon shall close thy earthly mission,
 swift shall pass thy pilgrim days;
 hope shall change to glad fruition,
 faith to sight, and prayer to praise.

Henry F. Lyte, 1824, 1833
 Alt. 1990

ELLESDIE 8.7.8.7.D.
 Joshua Leavitt, *Christian Lyre*, 1831
 Alternate tune: EIFIONYDD

O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

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1. O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my
 2. O Light that fol - low'st all my way, I yield my
 3. O Joy that seek - est me through pain, I can - not
 4. O Cross that lift - est up my head, I dare not

wea - ry soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe,
 flick - 'ring torch to thee; my heart re - stores its bor - rowed ray,
 close my heart to thee; I trace the rain - bow thro' the rain,
 ask to fly from thee; I lay in dust life's glo - ry dead,

that in thine o - cean depths its flow may rich - er, full - er be.
 that in thy sun - shine's blaze its day may bright - er, fair - er be.
 and feel the prom - ise is not vain that morn shall tear - less be.
 and from the ground there blos - soms red, life that shall end - less be.

George Matheson, 1882

ST. MARGARET 8.8.8.6.
 Albert L. Peace, 1885