



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

**CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP
THE LORD'S DAY
November 19, 2023
10:30 a.m.**

Welcome & Announcements

There will be a New Member's class this afternoon at 2pm for those who would like to learn more about what Covenant Church believes.

The annual Christmas women's gathering this year will be Monday, December 4th from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Please bring a finger food to share and if you would like, something to add to our silent auction. Money raised will be donated to the Mission to North America ESL Curriculum Project. We will meet in the church sanctuary this year! There will be food, singing, a devotion and a wonderful time of fellowship. This is a great opportunity to invite or bring a friend to this festive event!

† Call to Worship

Romans 11:33–36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways! For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been His counselor? Or who has given a gift to Him that he might be repaid? For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen.

† 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

#220

“Give Praise to God”

Confession of Sin

Adapted from Romans 3:10–18
and Romans 8:1–2

We confess that none is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together we have become worthless; no one does good, not even one. Our throats are open graves; we use our tongues to deceive. The venom of asps is under our lips. Our mouths are full of curses and bitterness. Our feet are swift to shed blood; in our paths are ruin and misery, and the way of peace we have not known.

There is no fear of God before our eyes. But we know that there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, for the law of the Spirit of life has set us free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 8:37–39

In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

† Hymn of Assurance

#436 (TH #468)

“My Faith Has Found a Resting Place”

† Confession of Faith

Westminster Larger Catechism #195

Q. 195. What do we pray for in the sixth petition [of the Lord’s Prayer]?

A. In the sixth petition (which is, *And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil*), acknowledging that the most wise, righteous, and gracious God, for divers holy and just ends, may so order things, that we may be assaulted, foiled, and for a time led captive by temptations; that Satan, the world, and the flesh, are ready powerfully to draw us aside, and ensnare us; and that we, even after the pardon of our sins,

by reason of our corruption, weakness, and want of watchfulness, are not only subject to be tempted, and forward to expose ourselves unto temptations, but also of ourselves unable and unwilling to resist them, to recover out of them, and to improve them; and worthy to be left under the power of them; we pray, that God would so overrule the world and all in it, subdue the flesh, and restrain Satan, order all things,

bestow and bless all means of grace, and quicken us to watchfulness in the use of them, that we and all His people may by His providence be kept from being tempted to sin; or, if tempted, that by His Spirit we may be powerfully supported and enabled to stand in the hour of temptation; or when fallen, raised again and recovered out of it, and have a sanctified use and improvement thereof:

that our sanctification and salvation may be perfected, Satan trodden under our feet, and we fully freed from sin, temptation, and all evil, forever.

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture Reading

Ecclesiastes 10:1-11

Pew Bible page number 558

Dead flies make the perfumer's ointment give off a stench; so a little folly outweighs wisdom and honor. A wise man's heart inclines him to the right, but a fool's heart to the left. Even when the fool walks on the road, he lacks sense, and he says to everyone that he is a fool. If the anger of the ruler rises against you, do not leave your place, for calmness will lay great offenses to rest. There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, as it were an error proceeding from the ruler: folly is set in many high places, and the rich sit in a low place. I have seen slaves on horses, and princes walking on the ground like slaves. He who digs a pit will fall into it, and a serpent will bite him who breaks through a wall. He who quarries stones is hurt by them, and he who splits logs is endangered by them. If the iron is blunt, and one

does not sharpen the edge, he must use more strength, but wisdom helps one to succeed. If the serpent bites before it is charmed, there is no advantage to the charmer.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Jay Bruce

“Don’t Judge a Life by Worldly Consequences”

Worship with Tithes & Offerings

† **Doxology**

“Doxology”

#567 (TH #731)

† Prayer of Dedication

† **Hymn of Preparation**

#200 (TH #421)

“Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness”

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

† **Closing Hymn**

#170 (TH #141)

“God, in the Gospel of His Son”

† Benediction

SERMON OUTLINE
November 19, 2023
10:30 a.m.

Ecclesiastes 10:1-11
“Don’t Judge a Life by Worldly Consequences”

Introduction

I. The Requirement of Wisdom (v. 1)

II. The Results of Wisdom and Folly (vv. 2–4)

III. The Reality of Life (vv. 5–11)

Conclusion

Give Praise to God

1. Give praise to God, who reigns a - bove, for per - fect
 2. No one can coun - sel God all - wise or truths un -
 3. Noth - ing ex - ists that God might need, for all things
 4. Cre - a - tion, life, sal - va - tion too, and all things

know - ledge, wis - dom, love; his judg - ments are di -
 veil to his sharp eyes; he marks our paths be -
 good from him pro - ceed. We praise him as our
 else both good and true, come from and through our

vine, de - vout, his paths be - yond all trac - ing out.
 hind, be - fore; he is our stead - fast Coun - sel - or.
 Lord, and yet we nev - er place God in our debt.
 God al - ways, and fill our hearts with grate - ful praise.

Refrain

Come, lift your voice to heav'n's high throne, and glo - ry give to God a - lone!

436

My Faith Has Found a Resting Place

1. My faith has found a rest - ing place, from guilt my soul is freed;
 2. E - nough for me that Je - sus saves, this ends my fear and doubt;
 3. My heart is lean - ing on the Word, the writ - ten Word of God,
 4. My great Phy - si - cian heals the sick, the lost he came to save;

I trust the ev - er - liv - ing One, his wounds for me shall plead.
 a sin - ful soul, I come to him, he'll nev - er cast me out.
 sal - va - tion by my Sa - vior's name, sal - va - tion thro' his blood.
 for me his pre - cious blood he shed, for me his life he gave.

Refrain
 I need no oth - er ar - gu - ment, I need no oth - er plea,

it is e - nough that Je - sus died, and that he died for me.

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

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

200

1. Soul, a - dorn your-self with glad - ness, leave the gloom-y haunts of sad - ness,
 2. Has - ten as a bride to meet him, ea - ger - ly and glad - ly greet him.
 3. Now in faith I hum-bly pon - der o - ver this sur-pass-ing won - der
 4. Je - sus, source of last - ing plea - sure, tru - est friend and dear-est trea - sure,

come in - to the day-light's splen-dor, there with joy your prais-es ren - der.
 There he stands al-read - y knock-ing; quick - ly, now, your gate un - lock - ing,
 that the bread of life is bound-less, though the souls it feeds are count - less;
 peace be - yond all un - der - stand - ing, joy in - to all life ex - pand - ing:

Bless the One whose grace un - bound - ed this a - maz-ing ban-quet found-ed;
 o - pen wide the fast-closed por - tal, say - ing to the Lord im - mor - tal:
 with the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to us is giv - en.
 hum - bly now, I bow be - fore you, love in - car - nate, I a - dore you;

he, tho' heav'n - ly, high and ho - ly, deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
 "Come, and leave your loved one nev - er; dwell with - in my heart for - ev - er."
 Oh, most glo - rious con - so - la - tion, pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion.
 wor - thi - ly let me re - ceive you, and, so fa - vored, nev - er leave you.

Johann Franck, 1649

Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1858; alt.

Rev. in *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978

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SCHMÜCKE DICH L.M.D.

Johann Crüger, 1649

God, in the Gospel of His Son

1. God, in the gos - pel of his Son, makes his e -
 2. Here sin - ners of a hum - ble frame may taste his
 3. The pris - 'ner here may break his chains; the wea - ry
 4. Here faith re - veals to mor - tal eyes a bright - er
 5. O grant us grace, al - might - y Lord, to read and

ter - nal coun - sels known; where love in all its
 grace and learn his name; may read, in char - ac -
 • rest from all his pains; the cap - tive feel his
 world be - yond the skies; here shines the light which
 mark your ho - ly Word; its truths with meek - ness

glo - ry shines, and truth is drawn in fair - est lines.
 ters of blood, the wis - dom, pow'r, and grace of God.
 • bon - dage cease; the mourn - er find the way of peace.
 guides our way from earth to realms of end - less day.
 to re - ceive, and by its ho - ly pre - cepts live.