



*F*or the
Word of God
is living
and powerful.

Hebrews 4:12a NKJV

Covenant Reformed Church

March 21, 2010 AM

MORNING WORSHIP

March 21, 2010

Order of Worship

Prelude *Accompanist, Vicki Van Mersbergen*
Gems - "Come Now is the Time to Worship"

Call to Worship *Micah 6:6-8*

Prayer of Invocation

*Hymn of Praise #**184:1,3,4** *"Now with Joyful Exultation"*

*God's Greeting

Reading of the Law *Deuteronomy 5:23-6:4*

Hymn of Confession #**241** *"Thy Promised Mercies Send to Me"*

Assurance of Pardon *Micah 7:18-20*

Congregational Prayer

*Hymn of Preparation #**226:1,3,5** *"Not unto Us, O Lord of Heaven"*

Scripture Reading *Acts 24*

Scripture Text *Acts 24:10-27*

Sermon *"Paul & The Chains of Providence (Part 2)" page 4*

Prayer of Application

*Hymn of Dedication #**234:1,3-5** *"The Glorious Gates of Righteousness"*

Offertory *The offering is for Gems*
Choir Anthem - "Still the Lord of All" on the back page

*Doxology #**488** *"Now Blessed Be Jehovah God"*
(unannounced)

*Benediction

*Postlude
**Please stand if you are able.*

Today is Gems Sunday. Let us continue to remember in our prayers
the girls and the counselors who give of their time
and talents to instruct them.

Welcome to all who worship with us this morning!
Our services will be led today by our pastor, Rev. Patrick Edouard.

Prayer Matters

Illness

We are thankful for the successful knee replacement surgery of Pat Kamerick (Parish 15). She is expected to return home by the weekend, Lord willing.

Birthday

We wish birthday blessings to Leona Zylstra (Parish 3) who will be 90 on March 27. Leona address is 1109 Boone, Pella.

Classis Central US

This past Tuesday and Wednesday, our church hosted the 27th meeting of Classis Central US, of which we are a member. Providence URC of Des Moines was next in rotation to host the meeting, but due to space constraints, Covenant acceded to a request from Des Moines's consistory to hold it in our premises. The delightful atmosphere of the meeting was aided in no small part by the excellent assistance of our Seek and Serve committee, our very patient and generous janitor, and the accompaniment of Laura Wielard who led us in memorable singing. Classis adjourned after ruling on a number of overtures, rendering advice on several matters of discipline and procedural concerns, and hearing several church reports. Once again, a chief delight in all these meetings is the obvious love of Christ and His Church that is not only evident among the brothers, but also serves as the basis for all transactions. Please continue to remember our churches in your fervent prayers. Remember especially the fledgling churches that at times exist like a candle against the fierce and ceaseless wind of secularism. The next meeting will be held on September 14, Lord willing. Doon URC is next in rotation to host Classis.

Next Week

Our guest minister next week will be Rev. Travis Grassmid of the Bethel United Reformed Church in Jenison, Michigan.

Paul & The Chains of Providence (Part 2)

Scripture Reading: *Acts 24*

Text: *Acts 24:10-27*

Paul courageously bears witness for Christ in Caesarea:

I. By refuting the false righteousness of Judaism; and

II. By establishing the righteousness of Christ

Today at Covenant...

Morning Worship Service

9:30 am

Sunday School & Catechism

10:45 am

March offerings are for Creation Station

Adult Sunday School

"Dust to Glory" - Council Room

"Worldview" - Room 106

10:45 am

Choir Rehearsal

5:00 pm

Evening Worship Service

6:30 pm

Scripture: *Ecclesiastes 2:18-26*

Sermon: *The Crisis of Death*

Fellowship Coffee Time

Will be held following this evening's service

Parish 6 is responsible for cookies

Fellowship Committee Meeting

Will be held following coffee time

Offerings

(am) Gems (pm) CEAF

Infant Nursery

(am) Vickie Van Wyk

(pm) Sandy Kanis, Bev Van Haaften

Toddler Nursery

(am) Chris & Amy Stolfus, Jay Beyer

(pm) Mary Van Steenis, Sarah Posthuma

Floater - (am) Cailee Veenstra (pm) Mary Van Zee

Enfolding

Bob & Mary Vander Wilt

Greeters

Jim & Amy Meinders

Impromptu Hospitality Hosts

Sy & Judy De Vries

Librarians

(am) Elaine Derringer, Marilyn Van Gorp, Ruth Gorter

(pm) Vicki Van Mersbergen, Denise Ver Meer, Darlene Van Hal

Explanation of Our Worship

This brief explanation is intended to help explain the rationale for our mode of worship. In our day, it is customary to classify worship as “traditional” or “contemporary.” Since the God we are worshipping is timeless, we avoid such time-bound references to characterize His worship. We prefer to call our worship “biblical.”

While worship is the highlight of our week, indeed of our lives, and while it reunites us with our church family, the focus of worship is not on ourselves, but on God. There are two fundamental principles involved in biblical worship: (1) Worship is governed by what God has revealed about Himself in His Word. A corollary is that worship is to be in accord with what He has prescribed as acceptable worship. (2) Worship is a dialogue between God and His covenant people. So defined, worship is a communication. In this communication God speaks to us through His Word and we respond to Him either in prayer or in singing. Every aspect of worship must have a biblical reason and a biblical defense. It is of utmost importance that we assume a reverential posture in the presence of God.

The Consistory supervises and is responsible for every aspect of our worship service. The pastor, or guest pastor, leads us in worship, under the authority of the Consistory.

The songs we sing are chosen primarily for their theology or biblical accuracy. Biblical worship is aware of the importance of music to God, and has always appreciated melody, harmony, and rhythm. But all of that is secondary to a higher, primary concern: faithfulness to Scripture. Our songs are intended to complement, support, and apply the theme of the message.

1. *Call to Worship*: The Lord officially summons us to worship Him. This is usually done with the reading of an appropriate Scripture passage.
2. *Prayer of Invocation*: We call upon the Lord to assist and prepare us for the solemn task of worshipping Him; that our worship would be acceptable to Him.
3. *Hymn of Praise*: We extol the Lord in singing.
4. *God's greeting*: God welcomes us in His house of worship, and greets with His “Grace, Peace, and Mercy.”
5. *Reading of the Law*: Here we hear God's law proclaimed to us. The Law is normative for our lives and reveals God's will for Christian living.
6. *Hymn of Confession*: In acknowledgement of our failure to keep the Law, we implore the Lord's mercy, or sing of His mercy. In some cases, a song of gratitude may also be sung at this point.
7. *Assurance of Pardon*: In response to our song of penitence, the Lord responds with the assurance that our sins are forgiven in Christ, wholly by grace.
8. *Congregational Prayer*: Here, the worship leader addresses the Lord with the petitions of the congregation. Prayer is often composed of Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Supplication, or ACTS.
9. *Hymn of Preparation*: This song prepares us to hear the word of God, often anticipating the theme of the sermon.
10. *Sermon*: This is the center of the worship service. It is not because we place a premium on oration or human eloquence. It is because at this point the Lord speaks to His people, through His word and servant. The purpose of a sermon is to focus on Christ and His finished work. The desired response is *never* “what a preacher,” but *always* “what a Savior!”
11. *Hymn of Response*: We respond with appropriate singing, again emphasizing the theme of the sermon.
12. *Offerings*: This is an offering to the Lord, usually for a cause we support.
13. *Doxology*: This is a song in which we celebrate the glory and supreme majesty of God, while accentuating our complete dependence on Him and His goodness to us.
14. *Benediction*: The worship service is officially over. The Lord dismisses us with His blessing.

If you have any further questions about our church or ministries, please do not hesitate to contact one of our elders or the Pastor.

Dear Visitor,

We heartily welcome you to our worship service today. It is our prayer that the Lord will richly bless us as we worship Him. In our attempt to get to know you, and avail ourselves of your spiritual needs, we have designed this form to make us more aware of your presence, and if desired to establish contact with you. Please take a moment to fill it out, and drop it in the offering plate.

Name

Mr.

Mrs.

Ms.

_____ (Last) _____ (First)

Address: _____ Apt. # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone number: () _____

I am currently a member of:

Future Contact

- I live in the area, and do not belong to any church.
- I live in the area and belong to a local church.
- I am just passing through town on a visit, business, or vacation.
- I just moved here and am looking for a church to affiliate with.
- I would like a visit from the deacons.
- I would like a visit from an elder or the pastor.
- I would like to obtain literature about your church.

Please let us know in what way we may be of service to you:

Comments:

Still the Lord of All by Lloyd Larson

*Though the season yields no harvest and the olive trees are bare;
though the earth is dry and thirsty and the future holds despair;
though the fig tree fails to blossom and the rains refuse to fall,
I rejoice, Lord of the harvest, You are still the Lord of all.*

*Lord of all in times of plenty, Lord of all in times of need,
Living Water, You sustain me, Bread of Life, my soul you feed.
When the greatness of my trials leaves me weak and feeling small,
I rejoice, Lord of the harvest, You are still the Lord of all.*

*Though a killing frost comes early and the grapes die on the vine;
though the barns contain no barley and the cellar holds no wine;
and although the fields are empty and so too the cattle stall,
I rejoice, Lord of the harvest, You are still the Lord of all.*

*You are Lord in times of comfort, and You are Lord when comforts cease.
You are Lord in times of struggle, and Lord in times of ease;
Lord in ev'ry time and season, Lord of ev'rything!*

Covenant Reformed Church

2805 Fifield Road, Pella, IA 50219

Phone: 641/620-1777

Worship Times: 9:30 am and 6:30 pm

E-mail: covenant@iowatelecom.net

Website: www.covenantpella.org

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Pastor: Rev. Patrick Edouard

Phone: 641/621-1438

E-mail: edouardness@mchsi.com

Covenant's Media Ministry

In addition to our downloadable internet sermons,
Covenant Radio Ministry can be heard on KCWN 99.9 FM
Our worship services are broadcast live every Sunday at
9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

We also sponsor the Reformed Pulpit heard every weeknight
on KCWN at 8:05 p.m.

Our services can also be heard on KCOB 95.9 FM or 1280 AM
at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday Mornings.

The congregation is requested to be seated at 9:25 am and 6:25 pm
so that they can enjoy the prelude and adopt a
worshipful attitude in preparation for the service.

Although Covenant Reformed Church is equipped with ample nursery capacity for
both infants and toddlers, parents who wish to take their young children to the
sanctuary during worship are welcome to do so. However, if a child becomes
disruptive at any time during the service, parents are urged to remove the child
promptly in order that the congregation may worship undisturbed.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Covenant Reformed Church
or for more information about our church or its ministries,
please contact the pastor or the elder at the door.