



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: Tuesday-Friday : 9:00 am-1:00 pm

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.

For the
Word of God
is living
and powerful.

Hebrews 4:12a NKJV

Covenant Reformed Church

October 9, 2011 PM

EVENING WORSHIP

October 9, 2011

Order of Worship

Prelude Organist, Ruth De Vries
"All Creatures of Our God and King"

Hymn Sing: #350, 417:1-3, 462:1, 5, 6 Leader: Rachel De Jong

Call to Worship Psalm 99:9

Prayer of Invocation

*Hymn of Praise #194 "Jehovah Reigns In Majesty"

*God's Greeting

*Apostles' Creed - **PH, inside front cover**

*Gloria Patri #491 "Glory Be to the Father"
(unannounced)

Congregational Prayer

*Hymn of Preparation #437 "More Love to Thee, O Christ"

Scripture Reading & Text: Page 1204 Luke 15:25-32

Sermon "The Amazing Love of the Father: The Older Brother" page 4

Prayer of Application

*Hymn of Dedication #410 "Come to the Savior Now"

Offertory The offering is for M.E.R.F.
"If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee"

*Doxology #490 "Praise Ye the Lord, Ye Hosts Above"
(unannounced)

*Benediction

*Postlude "Jesus Shall Reign"

*Please stand if you are able.

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:

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. 6

"And the Lord, He is the One who goes before you. He will be with you,
He will not leave you nor forsake you; do no fear nor be dismayed."
Deuteronomy 13:8

Welcome to all who worship with us this evening!

Our service will be led this evening by Rev. Keith Davis from the Lynwood United Reformed Church in Lynwood, Illinois. Rev. Davis met with the Search Committee yesterday. His wife Laura and their children join us also.

Prayer Matters

Tracy Faro, husband of Brenda Faro (Parish 9), has recently been diagnosed with prostate cancer that has metastasized to the lower spine and other areas as well as to lymph nodes. He will be undergoing androgen deprivation treatments to starve the cancer in an attempt to slow down or stop the cancer growth. He is in good spirits, knowing he is in God's hands and is enjoying time with his family. The support of family and friends has given much strength to Tracy, Brenda, and the girls. They appreciate all the prayers and thoughts of concern.

Ty and Megan Gross (Parish 15) have set up a page on the Caring Bridge website for family and friends to follow the progress of their daughter Evelyn. Type in her name, evelyngross, and that will take you to her page.

Sympathy

We express Christian sympathy to Steve and Sara Runner and family (Parish 5) in the death of Sara's grandfather, Charles Andringa. He passed away this past Wednesday in Sanborn, Iowa.

We express Christian sympathy to Curt and Julie Hooyer and family (Parish 11) in the death of their 12 year old nephew, Dillon Hooyer, who was involved in an accident this past Tuesday. The funeral was this past Friday in Sioux Center.

Birthday

We wish birthday blessings to Bernice Dieleman (Parish 4) who will be 85 years old on October 13. Bernice's address is 910 West First Street, Pella.

Dr. Godfrey will lead the post-worship time for adult members of the congregation following the service next Sunday morning. You are encouraged to remain for this time of teaching. We will meet in the sanctuary. The children's Sunday School and Catechism classes will proceed as normal. 3

The Amazing Love of the Father: The Older Brother

Scripture Reading & Text: Luke 15:25-32, Page 1204

Theme: *The Father's Amazing Love*

I. The Son's Resentment is Expressed

II. The Son's Heart is Exposed

III. Our Heart is Exposed

Tonight at Covenant...

Evening Worship Service
6:30 pm

Fellowship Coffee Time
Will be held following this evening's service.

Offering
MERF

Infant Nursery
Bob & Kathy Van Donselaar
Toddler Nursery
Darlene Van Hal, Bethany Spencer
Floater: Jenna Horstman

Enfolding
Sy & Judy De Vries

Greeters
Bruce & Marla Schiebout

Librarians
Linda De Jong, Jan Dieleman, Michelle Meinders