



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

Hebrews 4:12a NKJV

Covenant Reformed Church
December 13, 2009 PM

EVENING WORSHIP

December 13, 2009

Order of Worship

- Prelude *Accompanist, Laura Wielard*
Variations on "Away in a Manger"
- Call to Worship *Psalm 146:1-5*
- Prayer of Invocation
- *Hymn of Praise #417 *"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"*
- *God's Greeting
- Reading of the Law *Exodus 20*
- Congregational Prayer
- *Hymn of Preparation #449 *"Fill Thou My Life"*
- Scripture Reading *John 15:1-10*
- Text - **PH, Page 83** *Belgic Confession, Article 29*
- Sermon *"The Church Amidst the World (Part 3b)" page 4*
- Prayer of Application
- *Hymn of Dedication #437 *"More Love to Thee, O Christ"*
- Offertory *The offering is for Christian Education Assistance Fund*
"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"
(words on the back page)
- *Doxology #469:3 *"By the Sea of Crystal"*
(unannounced)
- *Benediction
- *Postlude
- *Please stand if you are able.

*“In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith—
the salvation of your souls.”
I Peter 1:6-9*

Welcome to all who worship with us this evening!

Our service will be led tonight by our pastor, Rev. Patrick Edouard.

Prayer Matters

Illness

Marion Wichhart (Parish 8) is now receiving hospice care at Comfort House.

Council Members

Council members must return the policy manuals tonight, Sunday December 13.

The Church Amidst the World (Part 3b)

Scripture Reading: *John 15:1-10*

Text: *Belgic Confession, Article 29*

The Covenant community evidences itself by fruits of regeneration:

I. The marks of the true church; and

II. The marks of the true Christian.

Tonight at Covenant...

Evening Worship Service

6:30 pm

Choir Rehearsal

7:45 pm, in the sanctuary

Offering

CEAF

Infant Nursery: Jon & Jocelyn Meinders

Toddler Nursery: Carolyn Ver Meer, Cailee Veenstra

Floater: Jan Dieleman

Enfolding

Terry & Nancy Robinson

Greeters

Tim & Jeana Van Voorst

Librarians

Mary Van Zee, Bill & Marilyn Ver Meer

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

Dear Visitor,
We heartily welcome you. The Lord will richly bless you and avail ourselves to help you and us more aware of His love. Please take a moment to fill out this card.

Name

Mr.

Mrs.

Ms. _____

Address:

City _____

Phone number: (_____) _____

I am currently a member of _____

Future Contact

I live in the area, _____

I live in the area, _____

I am just passing through _____

I just moved here _____

I would like a visit _____

I would like a visit _____

I would like to be contacted _____

Please let us know _____

Comments:

me you to our worship service today. It is our prayer that the
s us as we worship Him. In our attempt to get to know you,
s of your spiritual needs, we have designed this form to make
your presence, and if desired to establish contact with you.
ment to fill it out, and drop it in the offering plate.

_____ (Last) _____ (First)

_____ Apt. # _____

_____ State _____ Zip Code _____

) _____

member of:

and do not belong to any church.

and belong to a local church.

through town on a visit, business, or vacation.

e and am looking for a church to affiliate with.

t from the deacons.

t from an elder or the pastor.

tain literature about your church.

in what way we may be of service to you:

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.*

*King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture,
in the Body and the Blood
he will give to all the faithful*

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 - 1:00pm

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.