

A NEW BEGINNING COVENANT



“And I will establish my covenant with you; neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth.”— Genesis 9:11

**The Presbyterian Church of Saint David
Early Morning Service January 08, 2012
Our Covenant with Christ**

Silent Preparation for Worship: Reflect on the statement below from Jeremiah and ask what it means (to you) to be in covenant with God.

“I will be your God and you shall be my people”

Call *(The Lord calls people to assemble.)*
With all my heart I seek you, God. With all our hearts we seek you. Blessed are you, God and blessed are those who learn your ways. I shall not forget your Word. We will treasure your truth in our hearts. I do your will with great delight. We rejoice in your wisdom. With all my heart I seek you, God. With all our hearts we seek you.

Psalm: Sing a Psalm of Joy (1-2) 50

Confession *(God welcomes our prayers as we look deep within to all seeking to separate us from God’s love.)*
O God, Searcher of all our hearts, you have formed us as a people and claimed us for your own. As we come to acknowledge your sovereignty and grace, and to enter anew into covenant with you, reveal any reluctance or falsehood within us. Let your Spirit impress your truth on our inmost being, and receive us in mercy, for the sake of our Mediator, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever.. Amen.

Psalm: Sing a Psalm of Joy (3-5) 50

O righteous God, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, see me as I fall down before you. Forgive my unfaithfulness in not having done your will, for you have promised mercy to me if I turn to you with my whole heart. God requires that you shall put away all your idols. I here from the bottom of my heart renounce them all, covenanting with you that no known sin shall be allowed in my life.

Psalm: Sing a Psalm of Joy (6-7) 50

Friends, will you now risk yourselves for Christ? **As God is my helper, my answer is ‘yes’.**

Covenant: (Together standing):

I am no longer my own, but yours. Use me in your service in whatever way you will. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by you or laid aside by you, exalted for you or brought low for you. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to your pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you are mine, and I am yours. So be it. And the covenant which I have made today, guide me throughout the year. Amen.

You have this threefold assurance: *First*, God's initiative. God has taken the first move. God has appointed and sent Christ into the world to save sinners. Jesus Christ is the One whom God has made our Saviour. He is redeeming and reconciling the world to himself. *Second*, God's command. This is God's commandment, that we should believe on the name of His Son, Jesus Christ and love one another as God has first loved us. *Third*, God's promise. "Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, elect, precious; and whoever believes on him shall not be disappointed.

Hymn: We are God's people

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Consecration.

(The Lord teaches us through the reading and preaching of the holy word. Our custom is to read from the prophetic word which anticipates the coming of the Messiah and from the fulfilled word which declares Jesus Christ as the Messiah.)

Jeremiah 31: 31-34 What it means to make Covenant

Hebrews 8: 6-12 What Jesus has done to renew the Covenant

Communion.

(The Lord communes with His people in a meal designed to build up the individual saints and the corporate church body. This meal emphasizes our unity as brothers and sisters in the faith under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.)