

# covenant christian church



august 28, 2016

We are spiritual seekers  
 working to grow in our love of God,  
 deepening our connection to each other and  
 sharing with the world our passion for justice and peace.

church phone 276-3781

[www.covenant-christian.org](http://www.covenant-christian.org)

2700 72nd street

urbandale, iowa

50322



come journey together . . .

## Educational Ministry

If you are interested in how we provide an educational ministry to our kids, please join us for a brief meeting following worship today. We're working on plans for Sunday School and other Fall Programming.



Please note that our sound system is equipped with a T-Coil hearing loop. If you are wearing hearing aids, please turn on "T Coil" mode for best hearing assistance.

August 28, 2016  
Worship 10:00 a.m.  
Back to School "Blessing the Backpacks"

#### A WORD OF WELCOME

Please take a moment to sign the attendance register in the pew and pass it along your row. If you have prayer requests you'd like lifted up in prayer, please write them on the insert provided.

**PRELUDE** "All Hail the Power" arr Tedd Smith

**\*OPENING HYMN** "All Are Welcome" (see insert)

#### \*GATHERING WORDS (Responsive)

Karen Vroman

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live.

**Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true.**

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat; a banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet.

**Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace.**

**Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:**

All are welcome, all are welcome,  
**all are welcome in this place.**

*Words by Marty Haugen*

#### \*RESPONSE OF PRAISE Verse 5 "All Are Welcome"

**Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.**

**Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace.**

**Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter;**

**all are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

**WITNESS THROUGH MUSIC** "Rhapsody on a theme of Paganini" Rachmaninoff

**TIME WITH THE YOUNG** "Blessing our Backpacks"

**WITNESS OF THE ANCIENT WORD** Luke 14:1, 7-14 pg. 77 Karen Vroman

#### MORNING PRAYERS/THE LORD'S PRAYER (Please share your prayer concerns in writing.)

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

\*Appropriate time for standing, if able.

**Sung Response**  
In my life Lord, be glorified, be glorified.  
In my life Lord, be glorified today.

#### WITNESS OF THE MODERN WORD

"Presence Matters"

Rev. Paul Witmer

**Sung Response**  
In my life Lord, be glorified, be glorified.  
In my life Lord, be glorified today.  
(Deacons may come to the table.)

#### THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

We will come forward to the communion table as a sign of our commitment and response to Christ's gracious invitation and loving presence. If you are unable to come forward, a deacon will bring the elements to you.

#### INVITATION AND PRAYER

Karen Vroman

Gracious God, once again we are guests at your table. You have made a place for us here.

**You remind us with bread and cup, love outpoured, our presence here matters.**

Let us taste and see the goodness of God, who feeds us, fills us, and sends us forth.

**We offer to you our sacrifices—our weak bodies, our divided minds, our broken spirits.**

We know that you can take us in our brokenness and transform us into a living sacrifice, good and acceptable.

**May Christ's love be seen in our daily lives as we move out from this table of love. Amen.**

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

FEAST OF JOY "River Flows in You" Yiruma

**\*SONG OF SENDING FORTH #557 "Just a Closer Walk with Thee"**

**\*POSTLUDE** "Allegro in F" Haydn

#### \*BENEDICTION

*Please join us downstairs for fellowship and refreshments following worship.*

Rev. Paul Witmer, Minister  
Judith Henry, Music Director