

## The Hope of the Resurrection

*Why should any of you consider it incredible that God raises the dead? (Acts 26:8)*

It seems incredible. Multitudes just can't believe it. Yet those bodies we lay in the grave and cover with dirt will live again. They will rot and be lost in the dust. And yet they will not vanish forever. The perishable will clothe itself with the imperishable. What we lay aside in weakness and shame will come forth in power and honor. Life will swallow up death and decay.

This was the hope of ancient Israel. It is the hope of all the people of God today. It is the consolation of the bereaved and the comfort of the dying. It guarantees the public vindication of the saints.

This hope is the essence of the good news of Christ. It is questioned and denied only when there is overconfidence in the wisdom of men and disbelief in the glory of God. Preachers evade it or frankly deny it only because of an unwarranted admiration for the opinions of men concerning what can happen in the world, or because of a misconception of what it is to look ridiculous. The apostles preached it boldly even to the Athenian intellectuals, making belief in a bodily resurrection basic to all hope of salvation.

The question of the apostle Paul is still to the point: "Why should any of you consider it incredible that God raises from the dead?" It is the promise of the Savior's empty tomb. Because he arose, his people shall rise at his coming. He is "the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep." Let us hold on to our glorious hope!

*When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."*

1 Corinthians 15:54

*But Christ has  
indeed been raised  
from the dead, the  
first fruits of those  
who have fallen  
asleep.*

*1 Corinthians 15:20*

Covenant Presbyterian Church  
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We extend a cordial welcome to each visitor! We would like to keep in touch with you. Please use the QR code to tell us about yourself.



## THE LORD'S DAY

April 5, 2026

Covenant Presbyterian Church

MORNING WORSHIP – 11:00 A.M.

## THE LORD CALLS US TO HIMSELF

## Salutation and Call to Worship

\*Hymn of Praise # 76                      “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

\*Invocation

\*Hymn of Praise # 31                      *“Have You Not Known, Have You Not Heard”*

## CONFESSION OF SIN AND THE LORD'S ASSURANCE

The Law of God Exodus 20:1-17

Confession of Sin (Congregation in Unison)

Almighty, eternal God and Father, we confess and acknowledge unto thee that we were conceived in unrighteousness and are full of sin and transgression in all our life. We do not fully believe thy Word nor follow thy holy commandments. Remember thy goodness, we beseech thee, and for thy Name's sake be gracious unto us, and forgive us our iniquity which, alas, is great.

## Assurance of Forgiveness

Psalm 103:8      The LORD is merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Psalm 103:10    He does not deal with us according to our sins,  
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

Psalm 103:11    For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

Psalm 103:12    as far as the east is from the west,  
                          so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

## OFFERING OURSELVES IN THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

## Worship in Giving

Hymn of Thanksgiving # 221                      “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

## Worship in Prayer

## Interlude

\*Congregation Standing

## THE LORD FEEDS US FROM HIS WORD

Wayne K. Forkner, Minister

510-928-8024

\*Hymn of Preparation # 598                      “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

Sermon Text Isaiah 47, pew Bible p. 607

Sermon

BABYLON'S FALL

## THE LORD'S TABLE

\*Hymn of Preparation # 425                      “Bread of the World in Mercy Broken”

## Celebrating the Supper

Hymn of Response # 547                      *“With Harps and with Viols”*

Congregation remains seated as an offering for the Deacons

Fund will be received during the singing of this hymn.

## THE LORD DISMISSES US WITH HIS BLESSING

\*Gloria Patri (Praising our Gracious Lord) # 734

\*The Lord's Benediction

## Announcements

Today. We remember the Lord's death in the Communion service during morning worship. Our Communion service is open to those who have been, or are now, communicant members of an evangelical church.

Today. Our quarterly offering for the Deacons Fund will be received during the singing of hymn 547, following the Lord's Supper. Please remain seated for the singing of the hymn and then stand for the singing of the Gloria Patri and pronouncement of the Lord's Benediction.

Today, 12:30pm. A potluck luncheon will be held in the church. All are welcome.

Tuesday, 7:30pm. Weekly Bible Study at the church or via Zoom. We are studying the book of Deuteronomy. Our Bible study at the church begins with dinner at 7:00pm, followed by a time of study at 7:30pm. For information on attending the study via Zoom, please send an email to Pastor Wayne at [wforkner86@mac.com](mailto:wforkner86@mac.com).