

(Personal quiet confession)

Father, you have heard our confessions. Forgive us, we pray.
Empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service. And we
all agree by saying, **Amen**

Words of Comfort & Affirmation

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins,
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (I John 1:9 KJV)

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: Glory be to God! Amen

Prayers of the People: (see below)

The Peace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be with you always.

People: And also with you (Passing of the Peace)

Corporate Affirmation of Faith: Nicene Creed

Benediction and Sending

Authorities we want to remember specifically in prayer

President- Joseph Biden
Missouri Governor- Michael Parson
St. Peter's Mayor- Len Pagano

Announcements

Our January love feast will be directly after the worship service.
Visitors are welcome to attend.

Discipleship Group Leaders: Don't forget your monthly reports are
due today.



FAITH COVENANT MINISTRIES

LOVE | LIFE | LORDSHIP | LEADERSHIP

faithcovenantstl.com

Purpose Statement:

We exist to glorify God by serving as a conduit for the grace of
God whereby faith the Love, Life, Lordship and Leadership of
the Kingdom of Heaven is revealed and expanded to all nations.

Mission Statement:

We desire to be a multi-cultural, multi-generational conduit of
the grace of God to be used to fulfil our purpose, for the glory
of God.

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 430
St. Charles, MO 63302
636-373-9001

Weekly Corporate Gatherings:

Sunday Worship Service- 10:00 AM
Discipleship Groups (times vary)

Staff:

Rev. Michael Hammond, Sr. - President & Senior Pastor
Rose Hammond- Receptionist

Order of Worship
Sunday, January 1, 2023

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Congregation responses spoken together appear in **bold** print.

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer

In the name of Jesus, I welcome you to worship!! It so great to be together in the house of God. Let them praises give Jehovah, for His name alone is high. And His glory is exalted far above the earth and sky. (prayer)

Worship in Song (click on the song title for a YouTube track)

[Every Praise](#) [Glory and Honor](#) [As the Deer](#)

Prayer for Illumination

Heavenly Father, thank You for making all things new. As another new year begins, help us live each day for You. We pray for Your Spirit to lead us each step of this New Year. We ask that You guide our decisions and turn our hearts to deeply desire You above all else. In Jesus Name we pray and we all agree by saying, **Amen**

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 63:7-14 (NASB95)

Reader: This is the Word of God.

People: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word (reflection)

Responsive Scripture Reading: Psalm 111 (NASB95)

¹ Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with all *my* heart,
In the company of the upright and in the assembly.

² **Great are the works of the Lord;
*They are studied by all who delight in them.***

³ Splendid and majestic is His work,
And His righteousness endures forever.

⁴ **He has made His wonders to be remembered;
The Lord is gracious and compassionate.**

⁵ He has given food to those who fear Him;
He will remember His covenant forever.

⁶ **He has made known to His people the power of His works,
In giving them the heritage of the nations.**

⁷ The works of His hands are truth and justice;
All His precepts are sure.

⁸ **They are upheld forever and ever;
They are performed in truth and uprightness.**

⁹ He has sent redemption to His people; He has ordained His covenant forever; Holy and awesome is His name.

¹⁰ **The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; A good understanding have all those who do *His commandments*; His praise endures forever.**

Worship in Song: Hymn of the Month

[Tis So Sweet To Trust in Jesus](#) | View the lyrics [here](#)

Scripture Reading: Galatians 4:4-7 (NASB95)

Reader: This is the Word of God.

People: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word (reflection)

Sermon (10:30 a.m.) <https://www.facebook.com/fcmstl>

Confession & Prayer of Repentance

Trusting in God's tender mercy, let us confess our sin to God with one another.

God of steadfast love, we confess that we are not steadfast in faith. We succumb to temptations to treat others unfairly. Yet You are not deceived for You see into our hearts. We come now to confess our sins to You and repent from them. God in Your mercy, forgive us and help us live in the abundance of Your steadfast love. We open our hearts to You, O God and we confess

Children, No Longer Slaves
Galatians 4:1-7

1 January 2023
Pastor Michael Hammond

Let Us Keep to the Point

By Oswald Chambers

"...my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death." —

Philippians 1:20

My Utmost for His Highest. "...my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed..." We will all feel very much ashamed if we do not yield to Jesus the areas of our lives He has asked us to yield to Him. It's as if Paul were saying, "My determined purpose is to be my utmost for His highest— my best for His glory." To reach that level of determination is a matter of the will, not of debate or of reasoning. It is absolute and irrevocable surrender of the will at that point. An undue amount of thought and consideration for ourselves is what keeps us from making that decision, although we cover it up with the pretense that it is others we are considering. When we think seriously about what it will cost others if we obey the call of Jesus, we tell God He doesn't know what our obedience will mean. Keep to the point— He does know. Shut out every other thought and keep yourself before God in this one thing only— my utmost for His highest. I am determined to be absolutely and entirely for Him and Him alone.

My Unstoppable Determination for His Holiness. "Whether it means life or death-it makes no difference!" (see Philippians 1:21).

Paul was determined that nothing would stop him from doing exactly what God wanted. But before we choose to follow God's will, a crisis must develop in our lives. This happens because we tend to be unresponsive to God's gentler nudges. He brings us to the place where He asks us to be our utmost for Him and we begin to debate. He then providentially produces a crisis where we have to decide— for or against. That moment becomes a great crossroads in our lives. If a crisis has come to you on any front, surrender your will to Jesus absolutely and irrevocably.