Confession & Prayer of Repentance (cont'd)

(Personal quiet confession)

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

Words of Comfort & Affirmation

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: (liturgy on screen)

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

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

Communion: (liturgy on screen)

Benediction and Sending

Authorities we want to remember specifically in prayer
Secretary of Health and Human Services – Xavier Becerra
Missouri State Auditor – Scott Fitzpatrick
St Charles County Executive – Steve Ehlmann

Announcements

<u>Hardee's Rise & Shine</u> – Our 1st quarter outreach will be this Friday Feb 10th from 6a – 10:30a to benefit Heat Up St Louis. Please share information about the event and pray that God will move upon hearts so funds are available to those in need. **Volunteers, please get your greeter kit from Jessica and take pictures while serving.**



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, February 5, 2023

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

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

Call to Worship & Opening Prayer

By the grace of God, we are called to this place. We are summoned to worship with joy and thanksgiving. We are to bring our whole selves to the work of worship. We are welcomed just as we are — beautiful and broken. Let us give praise to our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Come let us worship the Triune God. (prayer)

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

Only A God Like You Hallelujah (Your Love is Amazing)

When I Think About The Lord

Prayer for Illumination

Father in heaven un-stop our ears as we hear Your Word proclaimed. We ask that You help us to hear with our spiritual ears and not lean to our own understanding. Free us from the unclean spirits of worry, fear, destruction, and pride. Teach us, Lord, so that we can follow You more effectively and faithfully. Help us to do and be the disciples that You have called us to be. We ask all these things in the name of Jesus, and we all agree by saying **Amen**

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 58:3-9 (NASB95)

Reader: This is the Word of God.

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

Responsive Scripture Reading: Psalm 112:1-9

¹ Praise the Lord! How blessed is the man who fears the Lord, Who greatly delights in His commandments.

² His descendants will be mighty on earth; The generation of the upright will be blessed.

³ Wealth and riches are in his house, And his righteousness endures forever. ⁴Light arises in the darkness for the upright; *He is* gracious and compassionate and righteous.

⁵ It is well with the man who is gracious and lends; He will maintain his cause in judgment.

⁶ For he will never be shaken; The righteous will be remembered forever.

⁷ He will not fear evil tidings; His heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

⁸ His heart is upheld, he will not fear, Until he looks *with satisfaction* on his adversaries.

⁹ He has given freely to the poor, His righteousness endures forever; His horn will be exalted in honor.

Worship in Song: Special Selection: You've Been So Faithful

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-16 (NASB95)

Reader: This is the Word of God.

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

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:13-20

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.

Loving God, we confess that too often, we live by fear rather than faith. Too often, we have forgotten that we are Yours. Sometimes we carry on with our lives as if there was no God, and we fall short of being credible witnesses to You. For these things, we ask Your forgiveness, and we also ask for Your strength. Give us clear minds and open hearts so we can share Your love. Remind us to be who You created us to be regardless of our actions or who we are with.

Acts 26:1-32 Pastor Michael Hammond	5 February 202		Faithfulness to the Name	
	ıd Sı	Pastor Michael Hammond	cts 26:1-32	

The Compelling Majesty of His Power

By Oswald Chambers

The love of Christ compels us... — 2 Corinthians 5:14

Paul said that he was overpowered, subdued, and held as in a vise by "the love of Christ." Very few of us really know what it means to be held in the grip of the love of God. We tend so often to be controlled simply by our own experience. The one thing that gripped and held Paul, to the exclusion of everything else, was the love of God. "The love of Christ compels us...." When you hear that coming from the life of a man or woman it is unmistakable. You will know that the Spirit of God is completely unhindered in that person's life.

When we are born again by the Spirit of God, our testimony is based solely on what God has done for us, and rightly so. But that will change and be removed forever once you "receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you..." (Acts 1:8). Only then will you begin to realize what Jesus meant when He went on to say, "...you shall be witnesses to Me...." Not witnesses to what Jesus can do that is basic and understood—but "witnesses to Me...." We will accept everything that happens as if it were happening to Him, whether we receive praise or blame, persecution or reward. No one is able to take this stand for Jesus Christ who is not totally compelled by the majesty of His power. It is the only thing that matters, and yet it is strange that it's the last thing we as Christian workers realize. Paul said that he was gripped by the love of God and that is why he acted as he did. People could perceive him as mad or sane— he did not care. There was only one thing he lived for—to persuade people of the coming judgment of God and to tell them of "the love of Christ." This total surrender to "the love of Christ" is the only thing that will bear fruit in your life. And it will always leave the mark of God's holiness and His power, never drawing attention to your personal holiness.