

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

(cont'd)

Holy Spirit, thank you for abiding with, and within the children of God. May your presence quicken our spirits to a true and living hope. Help us to look with expectation, beyond what we see, and what we face, to a future hope that rest upon what began in Christ so long ago.

Now Father, as we await our Savior's return, open doors, open mouths, open ears, and open hearts, so we may share the message of our living hope with others, and they, along with us, may be changed, for we ask these things in Jesus' name, and we give you thanks. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (liturgy on screen)

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

And also, with You

HOLY EUCHARIST: (liturgy on screen)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you

Surely, the Lord is coming soon.

Amen. Come Lord Jesus! (Revelation 22:20)

THE BLESSING & SENDING

Authorities we want to remember specifically in prayer this week:

MO US House of Rep District 3 – Blaine Luetkemeyer

MO US House of Rep District 4 – Vicky Hartzler

MO State House of Rep District 104 – Adam Schnelting

St Peters Board of Alderman Ward 3 – Melissa Reimer



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, December 3, 2023

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

OPENING DECLARATION & PRAYER

Righteous one, to You alone we lift our souls; in You alone, we place our trust; for You alone we wait all day long. For You are the God of our salvation, abounding in mercy, and steadfast love. As we come to You in worship, help us remain alert and watchful for the one who is coming with all power and glory, In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

WORSHIP IN SONG (click the song title for a YouTube track)

[O Come to the Altar](#) [Agnus Dei](#)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Guiding God, without the presence of Your Holy Spirit, we are hopelessly lost on this Advent journey. Come to us in this place as we gather to hear Your Word. Open our hearts to receive Your Word and our minds to understand it. In Jesus' name we pray, and we all agree by saying, **Amen**.

As we hear the Word of God today, let us make good use of each moment of silence that follows it, by considering whether what we've heard challenges us, comforts us, or convicts us. Let us also ask ourselves, "What is the Holy Spirit saying to me personally, and to us collectively."

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 64:1-9 (NASB95)

Leader: This is the Word of God.

Congregation: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word.

(Quiet Reflection)

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 80:1-7 (NASB95)

Leader: This is the Word of God.

Congregation: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word.

(Quiet Reflection)

WORSHIP IN SONG: HYMN OF THE MONTH

[O Come All Ye Faithful](#) | View the lyrics [here](#)

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 (NASB95)

Leader: This is the Word of God.

Congregation: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word.

(Quiet Reflection)

GOSPEL READING: Mark 13:24-37 (NASB95)

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to You Lord Christ

SERMON (10:45 a.m.) <https://www.facebook.com/fcmstl>

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

As those who have been reminded to be watchful, and of the hope we have in Jesus, let us confess our sin with one another before Almighty God. (quiet personal prayer)

Heavenly Father, we confess that we have allowed temporal things, and the busyness and cares of this life to overwhelm and distract us. We confess that at times our focus on these things has made us complacent and robbed us of the hope that we have in Jesus. Lord God, we repent; please forgive us for this, and for all our sins. (continued on the next page)

Advent Series: Our Spirit Waits | Message: Our Shocking Hope

Pastor Michael Hammond Sr.

12/3/2023

Not by Might nor by Power”

By Oswald Chambers

My speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power...

—1 Corinthians 2:4

If in preaching the gospel you substitute your knowledge of the way of salvation for confidence in the power of the gospel, you hinder people from getting to reality. Take care to see while you proclaim your knowledge of the way of salvation, that you yourself are rooted and grounded by faith in God. Never rely on the clearness of your presentation, but as you give your explanation make sure that you are relying on the Holy Spirit. Rely on the certainty of God’s redemptive power, and He will create His own life in people.

Once you are rooted in reality, nothing can shake you. If your faith is in experiences, anything that happens is likely to upset that faith. But nothing can ever change God or the reality of redemption. Base your faith on that, and you are as eternally secure as God Himself. Once you have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, you will never be moved again. That is the meaning of sanctification. God disapproves of our human efforts to cling to the concept that sanctification is merely an experience, while forgetting that even our sanctification must also be sanctified (see John 17:19). I must deliberately give my sanctified life to God for His service, so that He can use me as His hands and His feet.

Announcements

Agape Meal: Our love feast will be today immediately following our worship gathering. Visitors are welcome to attend.