

Identity, Intention, & the Inexorableness of God's Timing

John 7:25-36 (NASB95)

6 April 2025

Pastor Michael Hammond Sr.



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 April 6, 2025

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

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

OPENING DECLARATION & PRAYER

Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord God, the Almighty, who was and who is and who is to come. (Revelations 4:8)

Let us pray. Worthy are You our Lord, to receive glory and honor and power. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Magnify the Lord with me and let us exalt his name together. It is in the name of Jesus we pray, and we all agree by saying, **Amen**.

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

[Worthy Is Your Name](#) [He Is Exalted](#) [Only One](#)

[Revelation 19:1](#)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of compassion, we ask for your grace to transform our hearts and minds. May we become more like your Son, Jesus, in our thoughts, words, and actions. Help us to repent sincerely, to embrace your forgiveness, to cling to the cross to find joy in the promise of eternal life and to walk with renewed hope toward the light of the resurrection. Draw all people to yourself, that we who confess Jesus as Lord may put aside the deed of death and accept the life of your kingdom. In the name of Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord we pray, (and we all agree by saying) **Amen**.

SCRIPTURE READING: Zephaniah 3:1-10 (NASB95)

Leader: This is the Word of God.

Congregation: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word.

(Quiet Reflection)

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 147 (NASB95)

1. Praise the Lord! for it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant and praise is becoming.
2. **The Lord builds up Jerusalem; He gathers the outcasts of Israel.**
3. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.
4. **He counts the numbers of stars; He gives names to all of them.**
5. Great is our Lord and abundant in strength; His understanding is infinite.
6. **The Lord supports the afflicted; He brings down the wicked to the ground.**
7. sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; sing praises to our God on the lyre,
8. **Who covers the heavens with clouds, who provides rain for the earth, who makes grass to grow on the mountains.**
9. He gives to the beast its food, and to the young ravens which cry.
10. **He does not delight in the strength of the horse; He does not take pleasure in the legs of a man.**
11. The Lord favors those who fear Him, those who wait for His lovingkindness.
12. **Praise the Lord, O jerusalem! Praise your God, Oh Zion!**
13. For He has strengthened the bars of your gates; He has blessed your sons within you.
14. **He makes peace in your borders; He satisfies you with the finest of the wheat.**
15. He sends forth His command to the earth; His word runs very swiftly.
16. **He gives snow like wool; He scatters the frost like ashes.**
17. He casts forth His ice as fragments; who can stand before His cold?
18. **He sends forth His word and melts them; He causes His wind to blow and the waters to flow.**
19. **He declares His words Jacob, His statutes and His ordinances to Israel.**
20. **He has not dealt thus with any nation; and as for His ordinances, they have not known them. Praise the Lord!**

(Quiet Reflection)

WORSHIP IN SONG: HYMN OF THE MONTH

Jesus Paid It All | View the lyrics [here](#)

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Peter 1:1-9 (NASB95)

Leader: This is the Word of God.

Congregation: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word.

(Quiet Reflection)

GOSPEL READING John 7:25-36 (NASB95)

Leader: This is the Word of God.

Congregation: Thank you Lord for your Holy Word.

(Quiet Reflection)

SERMON: <https://www.facebook.com/fcmstl>

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE:

HOLY COMMUNION: Liturgy on screen

BLESSING AND SENDING

ANNOUCEMENTS

Outreach update: Faith Covenant is recognized as proud supporters (Community Champion) of the Community Council of St. Charles County and the ministry logo now appears on their site (bottom of their page). Check it out and learn more about what that means by checking out their website

<https://www.communitycouncilstc.org/>

Easter Love Feast: Our monthly agape meal will be immediately following service, all are welcome!

Calendar updates: There will be no corporate gatherings on Mother's Day (May 11) or Father's Day (June 15).

Authorities we want to specificgally pray for this week:

US Attorney General – Pam Bondi

Chief of Staff of the Army – General Randy George

Adjutant Gen. of MO Nat Guard – Brig. Gen. Charles D. Hausman

St Charles County Sheriff – Scott Lewis

Executive Dir. of St Charles Community Council – Todd Barnes

I have visited the Grand Canyon several times. Each time is breathtaking. I notice people want to get as close as possible to the edge to peer into the depths. Some even try to climb the barriers for a closer look. They fear falling into the abyss, but they still want to get as close as possible. They know they could die, but they go as far as they dare. Facing something so awesome, their fear makes them respectful even as they're drawn to the dangerous beauty.

This is like the biblical fear of God. Psalm 33 calls us to praise God's faithfulness, righteousness, and justice. This is the almighty Creator whom we should fear and in whom we stand in awe (v. 8). The One who judges nations; the One who delivers his people; our just and righteous God.

But never take this One for granted. Always respect God's power. Fear God—our hope and shield against all that the world, the flesh, and the devil throw at us. God who comes to us, invites us to draw as close as we dare to him—with his awesome power and steadfast love.

Prayer: Your Word says the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom. And it says that in the end, the greatest thing is love. Awesome and loving God, help us to fear you more than any person or thing. Help us to open ourselves to your love that surpasses knowledge. Fill us with wisdom and love. Fill us with yourself. Amen.

-----Tom McCrossan