



*Welcome to Covenant Presbyterian Church!
We are delighted that you are worshipping with us this morning.
Thank you for joining us and may you experience
God's blessing in our worship.*

The Lord's Day December 7, 2008

- ◆**Call to Worship:** Psalm 24:7-10
Leader: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
People: Who is this King of glory?
Leader: The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!
**People: Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient
doors, that the King of glory may come in.**
Leader: Who is this King of glory?
All: The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory!

Prayer for God's Blessing

- ◆**Hymn of Adoration:** #194
"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Call to Confession: 1 John 3:4-5
Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices
lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that Jesus appeared to
take away sins, and in him there is no sin.

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon: 1 John 5:11-12
And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this
life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does
not have the Son of God does not have life.

- ◆**Hymn of Praise:** #518
"Christ, of All My Hopes the Ground"

Pastoral Prayer

- ◆**Our Profession of Faith** — from the Heidelberg Catechism

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

- A. That I am not my own,
but belong—
body and soul,
in life and in death—
to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood,
and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.
He also watches over me in such a way
that not a hair can fall from my head
without the will of my Father in heaven:
in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him,
Christ, by his Holy Spirit,
assures me of eternal life
and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready
from now on to live for him.

Worship with Tithes and Offerings

- ◆**Hymn of Preparation:** #647
"How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"

Old Testament: Isaiah 40:1-11
New Testament: Galatians 4:1-7

Sermon: "The Comfort of Christmas"

- ◆**Hymn of Response:** #195
"Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"

◆Benediction

- ◆**Doxology:** #731
"Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow"

Greeter this week: *Angela Belden*

Greeter next week: *Mark Doran*

Pianist: *Marie Stults*

Nursery: *Staff* (as needed)

Flowers for December: *VandenBerg family*

☐ **Brighton Community Group...** meets Wednesday evening, 7-9pm at the Doran's home. Pastor Doll is leading the study by Paul Tripp, *Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands: People in Need of Change, Helping People in Need of Change*. This week's lesson is Chapter 12, "The Process of Speaking the Truth in Love." Please bring a dozen of your favorite cookies and copies of the recipe, to share with the group. This will be our last study for the year until January 7, 2009.

☐ **Ann Arbor Community Group...** meets Wednesday evening, from 6:30-8:30pm, at the Wierzgac's home. We will be having a meal this week, so contact Brian or Ariela if you plan to attend, 734-929-0622. The study is by Jerry Bridges, *Transforming Grace...Living Confidently in God's Unfailing Love*.

☐ **Fellowship Luncheon & Christmas Hymn Sing...** will be held on Sunday, December 21, after the worship service. The Lord's Supper will also be celebrated. Please bring two dishes to pass...one should be a main dish, and the other a salad/side dish or dessert. Following the luncheon, we there will be a time of singing our favorite Christmas hymns.

☐ **New Horizons magazine...** Copies of this month's *New Horizons* magazine are on the Information table. Please feel free to take extra copies to pass out among family, friends, co-workers, etc., or leave a copy at your doctor/dentist's office next time you have an appointment.

Upcoming Events

Wed, Dec 10 - Brighton Community Group, 7pm at Doran's

Wed, Dec 17 - Ann Arbor Community Group, 6:30pm at Wierzgac's

Sun, Dec 21 - The Lord's Supper

Sun, Dec 21 - Christmas Hymn Sing & Fellowship Luncheon

Wed, Jan 7 - Brighton Community Group, 7pm at Doran's

Wed, Jan 7 - Ann Arbor Community Group, 6:30pm at Wierzgac's