

MORNING WORSHIP

Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name. Psalm 100:4

GATHERING TO PRAISE AND ADORE OUR GOD

Man of Sorrows

CALL TO WORSHIP

God's Word

Confession of Sin

Heavenly Father

We praise you for adopting us as your children and making us heirs of eternal life in your Son Jesus Christ, who has freed us from our sins by his blood. Yet we still fail to love you with all our heart, or serve you as we ought. Pardon our offenses, we pray, and make us clean, that we may continue as members of Christ, in whom alone is salvation. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

WORSHIP IN HYMNS AND SPIRITUAL SONGS

All Praise to Him

Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery

WORSHIP THROUGH THE WORD READ PUBLICLY

Romans 13:8-14

WORSHIP THROUGH JOINING OUR HEARTS TOGETHER IN PRAYER

WORSHIP THROUGH THE WORD PROCLAIMED

An American Joy vs. A Christian Joy | Ecclesiastes 1:12-2:26 | Bradley Aucoin

HYMN OF REFLECTION AND RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

Be Thou My Vision

BENEDICTION TO RETURN AS GOD'S AMBASSADORS TO THE WORLD

PRAYER LIST

Members: Brett Babin, Jo Carolyn Houston, Annamarie Pasqua, and Chad Treadaway.

Culture of Evangelism: That we would engage in good deeds that honor God and commend the gospel to those around us and share the gospel boldly and prayerfully with family, friends, and acquaintances.

An American's Joy vs. A Christian's Joy

Ecclesiastes 1:12-2:26

Seeing Life as Gain—The American Dream (1:12-2:23)

The Teacher's Plan of Action (1:12-18)

Pleasures/Hedonism (2:1-11)

Wisdom/Intellect (2:12-16)

Work/Possessions (2:17-23)

“Most people, if they have really learned to look into their own hearts, would know that they do want, and want acutely, something that cannot be had in this world. There are all sorts of things in this world that offer to give it to you, but they never quite keep their promise. The longings which arise in us when we first fall in love, or first think of some foreign country, or first take up some subject that excites us, are longings which no marriage, no travel, no learning, can really satisfy. I am not now speaking of what would be ordinarily called unsuccessful marriages, or holidays, or learned careers. I am speaking of the best possible ones. There was something we have grasped at, in that first moment of longing, which just fades away in the reality. I think everyone knows what I mean. The wife may be a good wife, and the hotels and scenery may have been excellent, and chemistry may be a very interesting job: but something has evaded us.” C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, pp. 120

“[M]any people in the modern world who take the name ‘Christian’ are in many respects indistinguishable (aside from a few personal rules that make them eccentric) from their non-Christian counterparts, for they have largely bought into the secular dream. While talking a good Christian talk, they are in fact pursuing with all their might precisely the same goals as everyone else. They are looking for happiness and fulfillment in his life (albeit with an insurance policy for the next life in their pocket); they are looking to make their mark (or for their children to do so); they are looking to manipulate the world so as to achieve their own personal and family goals.” Iain Provan, *NIVAC: Ecclesiastes/Song of Songs*, p. 63.

Seeing Life as Gift—The Christian's Vision of Life (2:24-26)

“The message of Ecclesiastes isn't that earthly joys are worthless, but that they are not ultimate. When we recognize that no earthly goods are ultimate, we can stop treating them like they are. When we own the fact that death will take everything from us, and take us from everything, we're free to enjoy life's flickering goods for what they are. God richly provides us with everything to enjoy (1 Tim. 6:17). The problem, ultimately, isn't your marriage or career or money, but the weight of expectation and longing you invest in them. Only the new creation is solid enough to bear the full weight of all our yearning. Only the unobstructed sight of the imperishable God is enough to secure our unending happiness.” Bobby Jamieson, “Life is not 'Meaningless' in Ecclesiastes” (The Gospel Coalition)



Questions to Consider as You Respond to the Word of God Preached

1. What do the lives of people you know reveal about what they think will make them happy? How would someone answer that question about you based on what you talk about and do? What do you daydream about?
2. How would you describe where or how “true joy” is found to a friend?
3. What are some ways that pleasure, work, possessions, relationships, etc... pull you away from God? What are some ways you can use these things in fruitful and God-glorifying ways? (See the Yellow Sheet)

Questions to Ask a Friend After the Worship Service (while maintaining social distancing!)

1. How did God's Word encourage, challenge or speak to you today?
2. How can I pray for you this week?

Next Week: Ecclesiastes 3:1-15 (e-mail the elders any questions you may have about the sermons)

WELCOME TO CHRIST COVENANT CHURCH

1700 Lee Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808 | 225.924.2269 | christcovenantchurch.net

If you have questions about following Christ, reach out to a pastor, elder or even a church member sitting near you. Our church family would love to help you in any way that we can.

Pastor: Bradley Aucoin | **Assoc. Pastor:** Shawn Branscum
Pastoral Assistant: Josh Motta | **Pastor Emeritus:** Phill Yoho
Pianist: Vasil Cvetkov
Current Elders: Bradley Aucoin, Shawn Branscum, Matt Edwards, Scott Gendron, Bob Welch, and Casey Williamson
Deacons: Bill Stickle and Mark Tiller

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

- Bulletins and Bibles are located in the entrance area.
- Hand sanitizer stations are located throughout the building.
- An Offering will not be taken during the service, but you can use the Offering Box to make a donation.
- We will share the Lord's Table again when we are back together as one body in the sanctuary.

TODAY AND THIS WEEK

GEORGIA BARNETTE OFFERING: This annual offering, taken during September, supports SBC church planting efforts in Louisiana as well as disaster relief and crisis pregnancy. Please consider supporting this offering (which is over and above normal budget needs). Giving envelopes are on the Resource Table and you can also give online. Please use the Prayer Guides to pray for these efforts to bear gospel fruit.

DISASTER RELIEF EFFORTS: (1) Non-perishable items will be collected through Wednesday; (2) If you want to actually travel to Lake Charles to help on a Saturday, please contact Shawn at thebranscum3@gmail.com.

WOMEN'S STUDY TO BEGIN SEPT. 16: Women and teenage girls are invited to participate in this Bible study that will meet every other Wednesday from 7:00-8:30. Please buy a copy of *Jude: Contending for the Faith in Today's Culture* by Jackie Hill Perry online or at the CCC Book Cart and read through the Book of Jude before our first meeting. Email Lynn (lynnhodesaucoin@yahoo.com) with questions.

"ENGAGE"—COLLEGE STUDENTS—FRIDAY, SEPT. 18 FROM 6:00-9:00 PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL: All college students are invited to this workshop to help you learn how to more effectively communicate and live out the gospel among your peers. Dinner is provided so RSVP to Casey at 985-634-9178.

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE NURSERY—TRAINING MEETING SEPT. 20 AT 4:30 P.M. IN FELLOWSHIP HALL: If you are a member of CCC and have been serving in this area or would like to serve, please email Chris at wacoshiplay@hotmail.com. The nursery is set to re-open for the 2nd Service Only (10:45-12:15) on Sept. 27.

Q&A TIME ABOUT BAPTISM /THE LORD'S TABLE—SEPT. 27 FROM 4:00-5:30 PM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL: In addition to Q&A, we will think specifically about how to disciple our young children toward baptism, church membership and taking the Lord's Table. If you have questions you'd like addressed, please contact Shawn.

BOOK STUDY ON DEPRESSION: Ed Welch's *Depression* is a short (*only 25 pages*), Bible rich book that has proved to be fruitful in the lives of many Christians. Depending upon interest, there will be both men and women discussion groups. If you would like to participate, contact Shawn at thebranscum3@gmail.com.

BOOK STUDY ADDRESSING THEMES IN ECCLESIASTES: On Tuesday, Sept. 29, from 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, we will discuss Ernest Hemmingway's *The Sun Also Rises* in relationship to themes that come up in our fall sermon series in the Book of Ecclesiastes. So buy a copy online and come ready to discuss.

BOOK STUDY ADDRESSING THEMES IN ECCLESIASTES: On Wednesday, Oct. 7, 28 and Nov. 11, from 7-8:30 p.m., We will meet to discuss Peter's Kreeft's book, *Christianity for Modern Pagans: Pascal's Pensees*, and how Pascal's *Pensees* relates to themes raised in our fall sermon series in the Book of Ecclesiastes. Location: TBD. Email Bradley at jamesbradleyaucoin@gmail.com to get the reading schedule.



CHRIST COVENANT CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 13, 2020

ECCLESIASTES 2:24-25

A MAN CAN DO NOTHING BETTER THAN TO EAT AND DRINK AND FIND SATISFACTION IN HIS WORK. THIS TOO, I SEE, IS FROM THE HAND OF GOD, FOR WITHOUT HIM, WHO CAN EAT OR FIND ENJOYMENT?

FINANCIAL UPDATE

as of 9/1/20 (rounded)

Budgeted Giving

\$469,081.00

Actual Giving

\$373,360.00

Surplus (Deficit)

(\$107,890.00)