

ORDER OF SERVICE 9th JANUARY 2022

COVENANT SERVICE

Welcome

Call to Worship

Hymn 544 As the Deer pants for the water

Offering

Prayers

**A reading from the Law:
*Deuteronomy 29 v 10 -15***

You stand assembled today, all of you, before the Lord your God—the leaders of your tribes, your elders, and your officials, all the men of Israel, your children, your women, and the aliens who are in your camp, both those who cut your wood and those who draw your water— to enter into the covenant of the Lord your God, sworn by an oath, which the Lord your God is making with you today; in order that he may establish you today as his people, and that he may be your God, as he promised you and as he swore to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. I am making this covenant, sworn by an oath, not only with you who stand here with us today before the Lord our God, but also with those who are not here with us today.

For the wisdom that guides us
we praise you, O God

**A reading from the Prophets
*Jeremiah 31 v 31 – 34***

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt – a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD:

I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the LORD', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

For the word that inspires us
we praise you, O God.

A reading from the Epistles

Romans 12 v 1 – 2

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For the truth that enlightens us
we praise you, O God

Hymn 394 Spirit of God unseen as the wind

A reading from the Gospel

John 15 v 1 - 10

Hear the Gospel of Christ.
Glory to Christ our Saviour.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.

I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.' As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.

This is the Gospel of Christ.
Praise to Christ our Lord.

Sermon

Hymn 545 Be thou my vision

Covenant introduction

Confession

Hymn 549 Come let us use the grace divine

Covenant

Prayers of Intercession

Peace

Hymn 513 Take this moment, sign, and space

Communion

Hymn 476 One more step along the world I go.

Blessing