

Covenant Renewal



FIRST METHODIST CHURCH — OF ZEPHYRHILLS —

a Global Methodist Family

Invitation

Let us, gathered here before the Lord now in covenant,
commit ourselves to Christ as His servants.

Let us give ourselves to Him

so that we may fully belong to Him.

Christ has left us with many services to be done.

Some of these services are easy and honorable,
but some are difficult and disgraceful.

Some line up with our desires and interests,
others are contrary to both.

In some we please both Christ and ourselves,
but then there are other works
where we cannot please Christ
except by denying ourselves.

Jesus Christ, we offer You this prayer:

Let me be Your servant

Let me follow Your commands.

I will no longer follow my own desires.

I give myself completely to Your will.

The power and strength to live as true servants
is given to us in Christ.

We accept the place and work that He gives us,
acknowledging that He alone will be our reward.

I am not my own. I am Yours alone.

Make me into what You will.

Rank me with those You will.

Put me to use for You.

Put me to suffering for You.

Let me be employed for You.

Let me be laid aside for You.

Let me be lifted high for You.

Let me be brought low for You.

Let me be full or let me be empty.

Let me have all things or let me have nothing.

**With a willing heart, I freely give everything
To Your pleasure and disposal.**

Christ is Savior to those who are His true servants.
He is the source of salvation to those who obey.

To be His servant is to consent fully to His will.

Christ accepts nothing less.

Christ will be all in all, or He will be nothing.

Now confirm this truth in holy covenant.

Make it a reality in your life in these ways:

First, set apart time in your day, more than once,
to be spent alone with the Lord.

Seek to perceive God's special care for you
and gracious acceptance of you;

Carefully think through the words of this covenant
and its conditions.

Examine your heart, even if you have freely
given your life to Christ.

Name the sins in your life.

Reflect on whether you are willing to choose
Christ's holy laws and strict commands.

Be sure you are clear in all of these
so that you do not lie to God!

Second, uphold a serious spirit
of holy awe and reverence.

Third, claim God's covenant.

Do not trust in your own strength and power
but rely upon God's promise
of giving grace and strength.

In this way, He will empower you
to keep your promise.

Fourth, be determined to be faithful.

You have given your heart and life to God.

You have opened your mouth
to dedicate yourself to the Lord.

With God's power, never go back
to your former way of living.

And last, be prepared

to renew your covenant with God.

Fall on your knees. Lift up your hands.

Open your hearts.

Let us pray together:

COVENANT PRAYER

My righteous God,
for the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ,
see me now as I fall down before You.
Forgive my unfaithfulness
when I have not done Your will.
You promise mercy to me
if I turn to you with my whole heart.

God requires that you rid yourself
of every idol in your life.

From the bottom of my heart, I here and now
renounce every idol in my life,
covenanting with You
that I will not commit any known sin.
By turning against Your will
I have turned my love toward the world.
In Your power I will watch for any temptation
that will lead me away from You.

Through Jesus Christ,
God offers to be your God again,
if you would let Him.

Before all heaven and earth,
I here and now acknowledge You,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
as my Lord and God.
I vow to give all of myself, body and soul,
to be Your servant and
to serve You in holiness and righteousness
all the days of my life.

Jesus Christ is the only way and means to God.
God has given us Jesus
as the way and means to salvation.

Jesus, I here and now accept You
as the only new and living Way.
I join myself in covenant with You.
I come to You hungry, sinful, miserable,
blind, and naked,
unworthy even to wash the feet
of your servants.
With all my power, I accept you
as my Lord and Leader.
I renounce my own unworthiness,
and vow that You are the Lord,
my righteousness.
I renounce my own wisdom
and take You for my only guide.
I renounce my own will
and take your will as my law.

Christ has told you that you must suffer with Him.

Jesus, I here and now
make this covenant with You
and accept whatever comes in life.
Through your grace I promise that
neither life nor death
will separate me from You.

God has given holy laws as the rule of your life.

Jesus, I here and now willingly take on
Your yoke and burden.
All Your laws are holy, just, and good.
I accept them as the rule
for my words, thoughts, and actions,
promising I will strive to order my whole life
around to Your direction.
I will not allow myself to neglect
anything I know to be my duty.

The Almighty God searches and knows you,
even the thoughts of your heart.

O God, you know that we have made
this covenant today in sincerity,
without deceit or reluctance.
If you find anything false in us,
guide us and help us to set it right.
And now, glory be to You, God the Father.
From this day forward, I shall look upon You
as my God and Father.
Glory be to You, God the Son.
You have loved me and washed me from my sins
in Your own blood.
From this day forward, I shall look upon You
as my Savior and Redeemer.
Glory be to You, God the Holy Spirit.
By your almighty power,
You have turned my heart from sin to God.
From this day forward I shall look upon You
As my Comforter and Guide.

Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
You have now become my Covenant Friend.
And I, through Your infinite grace,
have become Your covenant servant.
You are mine, and I am yours. So be it.
May this covenant I have made here on earth
be ratified in heaven. Amen.

I have recommitted my life to God by making this
covenant on Sunday, December 29, 2024.

Signature