

# Covenant Mission and Identity Statement—2025

## Preface: Overheard at Covenant

“My church family loves me!” This was the conclusion of one young member of Covenant after her evening worship piano piece did not go well and she received a phone call from a charter member of the congregation thanking her for playing and telling her to do it again.

“We find compassionate warmth and Christ-centered joy,” says a family newer to Covenant; another says, “We find a church home brimming with warmth, love, and compassion.”

At Covenant, says one member, “doubts can be explored, questions answered, faith deepened; there is an openness toward and inclusiveness of those who might not fit in as readily elsewhere in the community.”

“We have learned to work together, respect our differences, and maintain the primary goal of imperfect humans representing a perfect God.” This from a charter member who has seen it all.

## Mission Statement

Covenant CRC is a community of believers gathered through grace and called to a ministry of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:18) that finds expression in our love for one another, for our community, and for the world. We proclaim the gospel as part of the worldwide church and our Reformed fellowship. With the *Contemporary Testimony* (Article 43), we proclaim,

Jesus Christ rules over all.  
To follow this Lord is  
to serve him wherever we are  
without fitting in,  
light in darkness,  
salt in a spoiling world.

We pray and work as members of the kingdom of God—which is already among us.

Our life together is centered in our corporate worship, where in word and sacrament we are nurtured into new life as God’s people. It extends as well to our education and outreach programs, to the stewardship of our gifts and resources, and to our welcoming and inclusive fellowship.

## Identity Statement

Covenant Christian Reformed stands in the historic tradition of Reformed churches, founded upon and committed to the belief that Christ is the Creator, Sustainer, and Redeemer of all things (Colossians 1:15-20) and that the true meaning of our existence can be found only in a faithful response to his Word. As part of the Church universal—stretching over time and space—our primary calling is to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed. This gospel is the good news that though this world experiences the brokenness of sin in every area of life, healing and restoration arrives through Christ’s redemptive work.

## **We want our church to exhibit these characteristics:**

*Faithfulness to a biblical-reformational worldview* so that our belief, worship, and daily lives demonstrate our collective certainty that the cosmos in its totality belongs to God. The Lord has taught us not to compartmentalize our lives into “sacred” and “secular” but rather to embrace with boldness our task of bringing healing to every area of life and to all creation.

*Biblically-grounded worship* that responds to the variety of worship styles practiced in the diverse Body of Christ and is sensitive to our own traditions as well as to the needs of those outside the Body of Christ who long for meaning in their lives. Our liturgy deliberately seeks to evoke from the worshiper awe, repentance, wonder, praise, thanksgiving, and the desire to live in joyful obedience to God’s Word, while resisting the self-serving spirits of the age.

*A love and unity* characterized by Christ-like love and mutual accountability, a renunciation of individualism, and a willingness on the part of our members to use their gifts both locally and globally. Especially in divided times, we pray that our unity, respectful of diversity, will both draw us together and offer a witness to the world. Our unity is expressed in our rich fellowship and our care for members of all ages, including the youngest and most vulnerable.

*An active word/deed witness* that is increasingly sensitive to the needs of our neighbors and of the creation. We seek to become increasingly generous and self-sacrificing to help meet those needs.

*Support for and promotion of other expressions of the Body of Christ* including Christian organizations that promote justice, relieve the suffering of the impoverished, and support the flourishing of all humans, particularly those on the margins. This support extends to Christian education at every level.

*A place for the gathering of God’s people* that facilitates the proclamation of the Gospel in the geographic heart of the Sioux Center community, is attractive and welcoming to visitors, seekers, and members of the congregation, and is functional for a wide range of congregational and community activities.

With believers everywhere, we pray, worship, serve, and love as we long for, even as we labor for, the renewal and consummation of all things. As *Our World Belongs to God* puts it in its final section (Article 58):

With the whole creation  
we join the song:  
“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,  
to receive power and wealth  
and wisdom and strength  
and honor and glory and praise!”  
He has made us a kingdom of priests  
to serve our God,  
and we will reign on earth.  
God will be all in all,  
righteousness and peace will flourish,  
everything will be made new,  
and every eye will see at last  
that our world belongs to God.  
Hallelujah! Come, Lord Jesus!