

The Second Congregational Church Covenant

We the members of this church severally and collectively declare our serious belief in the Christian religion as contained in the sacred Scriptures and as set forth generally in the well-known Westminster Catechism and particularly in the confession of faith in this church.

We acknowledge our everlasting and indispensable obligation to glorify our God in all duties of a godly, sober and religious life and conform ourselves to the rules of Christ's holy religion so long as we shall live in the world.

In pursuance hereof in the presence of God, angels and men, we now give ourselves to the Lord God who is the Father, Son and Holy Ghost forever:

- We avouch him to be our God and Father, our Savior and Leader, our sanctifier and comforter.
- We receive him as our portion forever and we engage to love him and to walk with him with all our heart and with all our soul.
- We give up ourselves to the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the true God and eternal life, believing him to be head over all things in the church.
- We engage and seal ourselves to him in the covenant of his grace and rely upon him as our prophet, priest and king to bring us unto eternal blessedness.

We especially promise and engage, depending on his powerful grace, that as a church of the Lord Jesus Christ

- We will walk together in communion with one another and very particularly in all the duties of a church state according to the faith and order of the gospel so far as the same is revealed to us in the Holy Scriptures
- We will conscientiously sanctify the Lord's day; attend the public worship of God; observe the sacraments of the New Testament and all the institutions of our holy religion; that we will watchfully avoid all stumbling blocks;
- We will contend with all tenderness and love to mutually watch over and help each other under trials and afflictions by advice and reproof in the spirit of meekness, as there shall be occasion to the utmost of our power.

So far as lies in our power we will strive together for the peace, purity and abasement of the church maintaining its discipline by a willing and active cooperation. We will also cheerfully submit ourselves to the same group encouraging and helping each other especially in all matters pertaining to the kingdom of God.

We also present our offspring to the Lord purposing by his help to do our duty in the method of a religious education by:

- Catechizing, teaching and exhorting them by praying with them and for them and walking exemplary before them.
- Striving to our utmost to convince them of sin of their original corruption and of the necessity of their being 'born again' in order to see the kingdom of God.
- Keeping them back from all unchristian levities and irregularities and to this end using our utmost endeavors to discountenance and suppress vicious practices and those amusements wherein carnal gratification is the object contrary to Christian sobriety and calculated to defeat the instructions of wisdom and to destroy their immortal souls forever.
- Pressing and urging them to faith and repentance and to a godly life and by wrestling with God in prayer (night and day) that he would of his mercy in the way of his covenants, pour out his spirit upon our seed and his blessing upon offspring.

All this we do with our souls bowed down before God relying upon his sovereign grace as our only comfort, flying to the blood of the everlasting covenant for the pardon of our many sins and praying that the glorious Lord, the great shepherd and Bishop of souls would prepare and strengthen us “in every good work to do his will working in us that which is well pleasing in his sight” to whom be glory in the church world without end.

Amen