## **Covenant Day School**

## What Do We Believe?

As a Christian school, what we believe about faith and life is supremely important. Covenant Day School is a ministry of Christ Covenant Church, a congregation in the Presbyterian Church in America. As a Presbyterian church, Christ Covenant is guided by the Bible and our theological understanding of Scripture is found in the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms. As a ministry of the church, Covenant Day School is guided by the same doctrinal convictions.

Having said that, we realize that many—indeed, most—of our families come from other church traditions. While it is important to understand the school's underlying theological commitments, we are delighted that Christian families from other church traditions who believe the Bible and hold to the historic Christian faith choose CDS for the formal education of their children.

Here is a brief summary of what we believe at Covenant Day School:

We believe the Bible is the written word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit and without error in the original manuscripts. The Bible is the revelation of God's truth and is infallible and authoritative in all matters of faith and practice.

We believe in the Holy Trinity. There is one God, who exists eternally in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

We believe that all are sinners and totally unable to save themselves from God's displeasure, except by His mercy.

We believe that salvation is by God alone as He sovereignly chooses those He will save. We believe His choice is based on His grace, not on any human individual merit, or foreseen faith.

We believe that Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, who through His perfect life and sacrificial death atoned for the sins of all who will trust in Him, alone, for salvation.

We believe that God is gracious and faithful to His people not simply as individuals but as families in successive generations according to His covenant promises.

We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells God's people and gives them the strength and wisdom to trust Christ and follow Him.

We believe that Jesus will return, bodily and visibly, to judge all mankind and to receive His people to Himself.

We believe that all aspects of our lives are to be lived to the glory of God under the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Given the realities of our changing world, it is also important to say something about our understanding of human sexuality. Recently, the Presbyterian Church in America released a study committee report on human sexuality. It's a long document, but at the heart of the report are Twelve Statements. We include parts of the first two statements here so you can understand what we believe as a school.

We affirm that marriage is to be between one man and one woman (Gen. 2:18-25; Matt. 19:4-6). Sexual intimacy is a gift from God to be cherished and is reserved for the marriage relationship between one man and one woman (Prov. 5:18-19). Marriage was instituted by God for the mutual help and blessing of husband and wife, for procreation and the raising together of godly children, and to prevent sexual immorality (Gen. 1:28; 2:18; Mal. 2:14-15; 1 Cor. 7:2, 9). Marriage is also a God-ordained picture of the differentiated relationship between Christ and the Church (Eph. 5:22-33; Rev. 19:6-10). All other forms of sexual intimacy, including all forms of lust and same-sex sexual activity of any kind, are sinful (Lev. 18:22; 20:13; Rom. 1:18-32; 1 Cor. 6:9; 1 Tim. 1:10; Jude 7).

We affirm that God created human beings in his image as male and female (Gen. 1:26-27). Likewise, we recognize the goodness of the human body (Gen. 1:31; John 1:14) and the call to glorify God with our bodies (1 Cor. 6:12-20). As a God of order and design, God opposes the confusion of man as woman and woman as man (1 Cor. 11:14-15). While situations involving such confusion can be heartbreaking and complex, men and women should be helped to live in accordance with their biological sex.

If you have questions, we invite you to reach out to the Human Resources office for additional information.