

Proposed
FORM OF COVENANT

Submitted by Synod for the Con-
sideration of the Church

*Copies can be secured from Chairman of Com-
mittee, E. A. Crooks, 605 Oak Street,
New Castle, Pa.*

We, the members of the Covenanter Church of America, coming into the presence of His majesty and holiness, do solemnly declare our faith in God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, the one living and true God. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God and the only rule of faith and conduct. We accept the offer and the terms of salvation which He in His infinite love, has provided for fallen men. We believe that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, became man, lived a perfect life upon earth, bare our sins upon the cross, arose from the dead and now reigns as our living Lord.

We trust the Holy Spirit to convict the world of sin, to enlighten us in the truth, to guide and to comfort us and to apply to us the redemption purchased by Christ.

Confession of Sin

We confess that by nature we are lost

in sin and are unworthy to enter into covenant with God. We have failed to love Him with all our heart and our neighbor as ourselves. We are the more unfit to enter this covenant because of our failure to keep the covenants of the past. With deep humility and sorrow of heart we confess to God these and all other sins, trusting to the cleansing power of the blood of Christ.

Separation from the World

We renew our purpose to live a life of separation from sin. We will seek only such pleasures and amusements as are in harmony with the will of God. We declare our opposition to the traffic in alcohol and tobacco. We will testify against social and economic sins that are bound up in the institutions of men. We will continue our separation from all secret organizations as contrary to the Gospel of light. We will hold fast our testimony against the sins of the nation, and especially the sin of ignoring the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour and King. We will refuse to accept any constitution of government that does not accept Christ the divinely appointed Ruler of Nations.

We will oppose all systems of religion which are undermining the faith of many in the Holy Scriptures, in the deity of Jesus Christ, and his atoning work.

Witness for the Truth

We will make constant effort, by the preaching of the whole Gospel and by personal work, to lead men into the Kingdom of God. To this end we will establish

and sustain missions for the unconverted in this and other lands and will support them with our prayers, our contributions and our personal endeavors.

Christ has set forth principles for the well-being of society. We will labor and pray for the application of these principles which alone can heal our social and economic ills. We will seek to lead the nations to repentance for their sins and to an acceptance of Christ the King and Saviour of Nations. We will also labor and pray for the maintenance of peace among the nations on the basis of the teachings of the Prince of Peace. We will continue to condemn war as a policy for the settlement of international disputes and advocate trust in God rather than in armaments of war.

Position of the Church

The Church is God's witness in the world to testify for all truth and against all evil. It expects its members to be clean in life, upright in conduct, separate from the world and faithful to their Christian profession. We accept the doctrine, duty, devotion, and discipline of the church as set forth in the Holy Scriptures. We will continue to sing the Psalms in the worship of God without the accompaniment of instruments of music.

We declare against the union of Church and State. Neither should invade the rights of the other. Each in its own sphere, should confess allegiance to Christ and co-operate in furthering the interests of His Kingdom.

Obligation as Stewards

Since the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, we acknowledge ourselves as stewards of all that we possess. We will aim to spend our time in accordance with His will and to observe the Sabbath as a day to be kept holy to the Lord. We believe that a Christian should give at least a tithe of his increase to the cause of Christ, the rest to be administered as a sacred trust.

Adherence to the Covenants

We re-affirm our adherence to the Covenant of 1871 in which are embodied the essential principles of the covenants of our fathers. We further declare our adherence to the Westminster Confession of Faith, the Catechisms Larger and Shorter, and the Testimony of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America, and in testimony of our loyalty, we pledge due obedience in the Lord to the Synod of the Covenanter Church.

Growth in Grace

That we may grow in grace, we will study the Scriptures, cultivate private and social prayer, maintain family religion and faithfully attend to the duties of the sanctuary.

For the Glory of God

We enter into this solemn covenant, trusting not in our own strength to keep it, but praying that our Covenant-Keeping God will give us strength by His Holy Spirit and bless our humble efforts to glorify His Holy Name and to further the interests of His Kingdom upon earth.