



covenant.presbyterian.church

Gospel Centered
CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day
April 2, 2023

Covenant's Mission Statement

"To build a faithful community of joyful disciples."

Covenant's Values

Covenant is **biblical** by affirming the Bible as the authoritative Word of God,
connectional by affiliating with the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA),
confessional by adhering to the Westminster Standards,
missional by seeking to spread the Gospel worldwide, and
relational by encouraging the church family to build community.

*“Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!”*
Mark 11:9-10

Prelude **During the prelude selection, prepare for worship
by reflecting on Mark 11:9-10 printed above.**

Greeting

Processional Hymn *“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”*

All glory, laud, and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!
Thou art the King of Israel, Thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One!

The people of the Hebrews with palms before Thee went;
our praise and prayer and anthems before Thee we present:
to Thee, before Thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise;
to Thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King!
All glory, laud, and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King,
to Whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!

CCLI 209271

Life of the Church

Call to Worship Zechariah 9:9-10, 17

*⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter
of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and
having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt,
the foal of a donkey.*

*¹⁰ I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from
Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak
peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the
River to the ends of the earth.*

*¹⁷ **For how great is his goodness, and how great his beauty!***

Invocation and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in
Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us
our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the
Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
 Son of God and Son of Man!
 Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,
 Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,
 robed in the blooming garb of spring:
 Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
 Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,
 and all the twinkling, starry host:
 Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
 than all the angels heav'n can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!
 Son of God and Son of Man!
 Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
 now and for evermore be Thine.

CCLI 209271

Scripture Reading

Acts 4:23-31

Jason Van Goor, Ruling Elder

²³ When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them.

²⁴ And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them,

²⁵ who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit, “Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain?

²⁶ The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against the Lord and against his Anointed’—

²⁷ for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel,

²⁸ to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place.

²⁹ And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness,

³⁰ while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

³¹ And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

Congregational Prayer

Jason Van Goor, Ruling Elder

“Sorrow to Joy”

Choir

I will turn your sorrow to joy. I will turn your mourning into celebration.
I will turn your silence to song. I will show my glory to ev'ry nation.
Spread a fest for ev'ry one, rejoice in all the Lord has done.
Time for singing has begun.
O God will turn your sorrow to joy, turn your sorrow to joy.
I will turn your sorrow to joy. I will turn your mourning into celebration.
I will turn your silence to song. I will show my glory to ev'ry nation.
Spread a fest for ev'ry one, rejoice in all the Lord has done.
Time for singing has begun.
O God will turn your sorrow to joy, turn your sorrow to joy.
Celebrate the end of pain and sorrow, celebrate the passing of the night.
Celebrate the promise of tomorrow. Celebrate the coming of the light.
Sing for joy! Sped a feast for ev'ryone, rejoice in all the Lord has done.
Time for singing has begun.
O God will turn your sorrow to joy, turn your sorrow to joy.

Joseph M. Martin/CCLI 209271

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering

Jeff Rooker, Deacon

Corporate Profession of Faith

Westminster Shorter Catechism Question 26

How doth Christ execute the office of a king?

Christ executeth the office of a king, in subduing us to himself, in ruling and defending us, and in restraining and conquering all his and our enemies.

Hymn

“Let Your Kingdom Come”

Your glorious cause, O God, engages our hearts.
May Jesus Christ be known wherever we are.
We ask not for ourselves, but for Your renown.
The cross has saved us so we pray, Your Kingdom come.

chorus: Let Your Kingdom come, let Your will be done,
So that everyone might know Your Name.
Let Your song be heard everywhere on earth,
Till Your sovereign work on earth Is done. Let Your Kingdom come.

Give us Your strength, O God, and courage to speak.
Perform Your wondrous deeds through those who are weak.
Lord, use us as You want, whatever the test.
By grace we'll preach Your Gospel till our dying breath.

chorus

Sovereign Grace Praise (BMA)/CCLI 209271

¹ *Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? ² The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed, saying, ³ "Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us." ⁴ He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. ⁵ Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, ⁶ "As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill." ⁷ I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you. ⁸ Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. ⁹ You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel." ¹⁰ Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. ¹¹ Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. ¹² Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.*

Sermon

"The Blessing of Absolute Power"

Pastor Reed

Hymn

"His Mercy Is More"

What love could remember, no wrongs we have done
Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum
thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

chorus: *Praise the Lord His mercy is more
stronger than darkness new every morn'
our sins they are many, His mercy is more.*

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
what Father so tender is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor
our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

chorus

What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment His life was the cost
we stood 'neath a debt we could never afford
our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

chorus

(2nd time chorus) *Praise the Lord His mercy is more
stronger than darkness New every morn'
our sins they are many, His mercy is more
our sins they are many, His mercy is more
our sins they are many, His mercy is more.*

words and music by Matt Boswell and Matt Papa
© 2016 Getty Music Songs/CCLI209271

Invitation to The Lord's Supper

Corporate Confession of Sin

O King of Glory,
we confess that our praise of Your majesty has often been faint,
our performance as citizens of Your kingdom treasonous,
for we have surrendered to the enemy by our secret and our
known sins.

For our treason You died, Lord Jesus.
For our restoration, You rose again.
Draw us closer to You in this holy week,
that our eyes may catch the vision of Your tears,
and our hearts, the wonder of Your grace.
By the Holy Spirit's continuing discipline,
let us be loyal and loving servants of the King.
Praise be to You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Individual Prayer of Confession (silent prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Isaiah 1:18

*Come now, let us reason together, says the
LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they
shall be as white as snow; though they are red
like crimson, they shall become like wool.*

Prayer of Blessing

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn

“Jesus Shall Reign”

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does His successive journeys run;
His kingdom spread from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.

For Him shall endless prayer be made and praises throng to crown His head;
His name like sweet perfume shall rise with every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of ev'ry tongue dwell on His love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on His name.

Blessing abound where're He reigns the pris'ner leaps to lose his chains
The weary find eternal rest and all the sons of want are blessed.

Where He displays His healing power death and the curse are known no more
In Him the tribes of Adam boast more blessings than their father lost.

Let ev'ry creature rise and bring his grateful honors to our King;
Angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud “Amen!”

Public domain

Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline
“The Blessing of Absolute Power”
Psalm 2

Psalm 2 has four stanzas with three verses each. We will follow this structure.

Stanza 1 – Futility: It is futile for nations to rebel against Christ’s rule and Kingdom.

Stanza 2 – Sovereign: God’s plan to fulfill His promise to establish David’s throne.

Stanza 3 – Promise: The Davidic King recalls God’s promise at his coronation that his heir will reign forever over a people gathered from the nations.

Stanza 4 – Submission: The nations are called to submit to and take refuge in the Davidic King for blessing.

MEMBERS OF SESSION

RULING ELDERS

Class of 2023
Mr. Bruce Hurlbut
Mr. Carl Monroe
Mr. Jason Van Goor

Class of 2024
Mr. Jim Lewis
Mr. Josh Sanford
Dr. Brandon Walser

Class of 2025
Mr. Dan Butkowski
Dr. Bob Tramel

TEACHING ELDERS

Rev. Dr. Tim J. Reed, Senior Pastor
Rev. Derek W. Coyle, Associate Pastor

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2023
Mr. Scott Freydl
Dr. David Matlock
Mr. Jeff Rooker

Class of 2024
Mr. David Beuerman
Dr. Ken Knecht
Mr. Kurt Smith

Class of 2025
Mr. Peter Bogaards
Dr. Jonathan Goodwin
Mr. Jason Guenther

STAFF

Mr. Ben Russ, Bookkeeper
Mrs. Peggy Washburn, Administrative Assistant

MUSICIANS/VOCALISTS

Mrs. Liz Baker, Choir Director
Mr. David Beuerman, Violinist
Mr. Jake Hilburn, Guitarist

Mrs. Becca Sanders, Vocalist
Mr. Mike Walsh, Pianist
Mrs. Roanna Wilson, Vocalist

COVENANT'S MISSIONARY FAMILIES

Paul & Connie Backstrom, Bentonville
Peter & Jenny Boling, Mexico
Dan & Nancy Butkowski, Little Rock
Scott & Kathy Craig, Mexico
Roger & Laura Dye, South Carolina
Del & Hazel Farris, MNA Ministry to State
Jamie & Jacki Gildard, France
Rob & Jenny Ilderton, England

Darlene Johnson, Japan
Tom & Karen Mirabella, Japan
Pete & Ruth Mitchell, France
Jim & Karan Romaine, New York City
Jim Wroughton, Peru (retired)
Will & Martha, International
Wes & Kim, Undisclosed

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

One Covenant Drive • Little Rock, AR 72211 • 501-228-5903
cpc@covenantpca.com • www.covenantpca.com
A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America