



covenant.presbyterian.church

Gospel Centered
CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day
April 21, 2024

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.

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.”
Romans 1:16

Prelude

**During the prelude selection, prepare for worship
by reflecting on Romans 1:16 printed above.**

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Psalm 63:1-8

*[1] O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you;
[2] my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
[2] So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.
[3] Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.
[4] So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands.
[5] My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips,
[6] when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night;
[7] for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I will sing for joy.
[8] My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.*

Invocation

Hymn

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Come, Thou fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God:
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

[8] Then the word of the LORD came to him,

[9] “Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to feed you.”

[10] So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.”

[11] And as she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.”

[12] And she said, “As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. And now I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die.”

[13] And Elijah said to her, “Do not fear; go and do as you have said. But first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son.

[14] For thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, “The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the LORD sends rain upon the earth.”

[15] And she went and did as Elijah said. And she and he and her household ate for many days.

[16] The jar of flour was not spent, neither did the jug of oil become empty, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

[17] After this the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became ill. And his illness was so severe that there was no breath left in him.

[18] And she said to Elijah, “What have you against me, O man of God? You have come to me to bring my sin to remembrance and to cause the death of my son!”

[19] And he said to her, “Give me your son.” And he took him from her arms and carried him up into the upper chamber where he lodged, and laid him on his own bed.

[20] And he cried to the LORD, “O LORD my God, have you brought calamity even upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by killing her son?”

[21] Then he stretched himself upon the child three times and cried to the LORD, “O LORD my God, let this child’s life come into him again.”

[22] And the LORD listened to the voice of Elijah. And the life of the child came into him again, and he revived.

[23] And Elijah took the child and brought him down from the upper chamber into the house and delivered him to his mother. And Elijah said, “See, your son lives.”

[24] And the woman said to Elijah, “Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in your mouth is truth.”

Congregational Prayer

Bob Tramel, Ruling Elder

Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering

Jonathan Goodwin, Deacon 3

Corporate Profession of Faith

Ephesians 2:8-10

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Hymn

“More Love To Thee, O Christ”

More love to Thee, O Christ, more love to Thee!
Hear Thou the prayer I make on bended knee;
this is my earnest plea,

refrain: *more love, O Christ, to Thee,
more love to Thee, more love to Thee!*

Once earthly joy I craved, sought peace and rest;
now Thee alone I seek; give what is best:
this all my prayer shall be,

refrain

Let sorrow do its work, send grief and pain;
sweet are Thy messengers, sweet their refrain,
when they can sing with me,

refrain

Then shall my latest breath whisper Thy praise;
this be the parting cry my heart shall raise,
this still its prayer shall be,

refrain

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Corporate Confession of Sin

Almighty and most merciful Father,
we confess that we have not trusted You
with our whole heart;
we have leaned on our own understanding
and been wise in our own eyes;
in our thoughts, words and deeds
we have not acknowledged You and so
our paths have been crooked before You.
Forgive us our sins and teach us by Your Spirit to fear You
and to turn away from evil, to the glory of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Individual Prayer and Meditation (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Galatians 4:4-5

*[4] But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son,
born of woman, born under the law,*

*[5] to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive
adoption as sons.*

Hymn

“Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!”

Jesus! what a Friend for sinners! Jesus! Lover of my soul;
friends may fail me, foes assail me, He, my Savior, makes me whole.

refrain: *Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end.*

Jesus! what a strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in Him;
tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, He, my strength, my vict'ry wins.

refrain

Jesus! what a help in sorrow! While the billows o'er me roll,
even when my heart is breaking, He, my comfort, helps my soul.

refrain

Jesus! what a guide and keeper! While the tempest still is high,
storms about me, night o'er-takes me, He, my pilot, hears my cry.

refrain

Jesus! I do now receive Him, more than all in Him I find;
He hath granted me forgiveness, I am His, and He is mine.

refrain

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Scripture

Mark 7:24-30

[24] And from there he arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet he could not be hidden.

[25] But immediately a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit heard of him and came and fell down at his feet.

[26] Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophoenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter.

[27] And he said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.”

[28] But she answered him, “Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.”

[29] And he said to her, “For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter.”

[30] And she went home and found the child lying in bed and the demon gone.

Sermon

“A Surprising Encounter”

Pastor Reed

“By Faith”

By faith we see the hand of God
in the light of creation's grand design,
in the lives of those who prove His faithfulness,
who walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith our fathers roamed the earth
with the pow'r of His promise in their hearts,
of a holy city built by God's own hand,
a place where peace and justice reign.

chorus: *We will stand as children of the promise;
we will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward.
Till the race is finished and the work is done,
we'll walk by faith and not by sight.*

By faith the prophets saw a day
when the longed-for Messiah would appear
with the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death
and rise triumphant from the grave.

By faith the church was called to go
in the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost
to deliver captives and to preach good news
in ev'ry corner of the earth.

chorus

By faith this mountain shall be moved
and the pow'r of the Gospel shall prevail,
for we know in Christ all things are possible
for all who call upon His name.

chorus: *We will stand as children of the promise;
we will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward.
Till the race is finished and the work is done,
we'll walk by faith and not by sight.*

*Oh, we will stand as children of the promise;
we will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward.
Till the race is finished and the work is done,
we'll walk by faith and not by sight,
we'll walk by faith and not by sight.*

Brad Weishaupt/CCLI 209271

Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline
“A Surprising Encounter”
Mark 7:24-30

I. A Surprising Love of Sinners.

II. A Surprising Glimmer of Hope.

III. A Surprising Response of Faith.

MEMBERS OF SESSION

RULING ELDERS

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Mr. Jim Lewis
Mr. Josh Sanford
Dr. Brandon Walser

Class of 2025
Mr. J. C. Baker
Mr. Dan Butkowski
Dr. Bob Tramel

Class of 2026
Mr. William Fennell
Mr. Jeff Nissen
Mr. Bill Scholl

TEACHING ELDERS

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

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Dr. Ken Knecht
Mr. Kurt Smith

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

Class of 2023
Mr. Andrew Kinzler
Mr. Mike Lieblich
Dr. David Matlock

STAFF

Rev. Justin Hilliard, Assistant Pastor (Pinnacle Classical Academy)
Mr. Ben Russ, Bookkeeper
Mrs. Peggy Washburn, Administrative Assistant

MUSICIANS/VOCALISTS

Mrs. Roanna Wilson, Choir Director
Mrs. Liz Baker, Vocalist
Mr. David Beurman, Violinist

Mr. Jake Hilburn, Guitarist
Mrs. Valerie Hilliard, Vocalist

COVENANT'S MISSIONARY FAMILIES

Paul & Connie Backstrom, Bentonville
Peter & Jenny Boling, Mexico
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Pete & Ruth Mitchell, France
Jim & Karan Romaine, New York City
Julian & Christiana Russell, Bahamas
Jim Wroughton, Peru (retired)
Will & Martha, International
Wes & Kim, Undisclosed

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