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*Gospel Centered*  
CHRIST EXALTING

*The Lord's Day*  
April 26, 2026

**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.

*“And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,  
to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.”  
Ephesians 4:11-12*

Prelude

**During the prelude selection, prepare for worship  
by reflecting on Ephesians 4:11-12 printed above.**

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Revelation 1:5-6

*[5] To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood [6] and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

Invocation

Hymn

*“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near, join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee!  
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;  
ponder anew what the Almighty will do, if with His love He befriend thee!

Praise to the Lord, who with marvelous wisdom hath made thee,  
decked thee with health, and with loving hand guided and stayed thee. How oft in  
grief hath not He brought thee relief, spreading His wings to o'ershade thee!

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.  
Let the Amen sound from His people again; gladly for e'er we adore Him.

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Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 23:1-8

Carl Monroe, Ruling Elder

Congregational Prayer

Carl Monroe, Ruling Elder

Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering

Bryant Young, Deacon

Corporate Profession of Faith

Ephesians 4

There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—  
one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,  
to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,

until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Hymn

*“May the Mind of Christ My Savior”*

May the mind of Christ my Savior live in me from day to day,  
by His love and pow’r controlling all I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,  
so that all may see I triumph only through His pow’r.

May the peace of God my Father rule my life in everything,  
that I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea;  
Him exalting, self abasing, this is victory.

May His beauty rest upon me as I seek the lost to win,  
and may they forget the channel, seeing only Him.

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Corporate Confession of Sin

Jesus, forgive my sins. Forgive the sins that I remember,  
and the sins I have forgotten.

Forgive my many failures in the face of temptation,  
and those times when I have been stubborn in the face of correction.

Forgive the times I have been proud of my own achievements and  
those when I have failed to boast in Your works.

Forgive the harsh judgments I have made of others,  
and the leniency I have shown myself.

Forgive the lies I have told to others, and the truths I have avoided.

Forgive me the pain I have caused others and the indulgence  
I have shown myself. Jesus, have mercy on me and make me whole. Amen.

Individual Prayer of Confession (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

1 Peter 3:18

*[18] For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous,  
that he might bring us to God,  
being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.*

Hymn

*“God Is Known among His People”*

God is known among His people, every mouth His praises fill;  
from of old He has established His abode on Zion's hill;  
there He broke the sword and arrow, bade the noise of war be still.

Excellent and glorious are You, with Your trophies from the fray;  
You have slain the mighty warriors, wrapped in sleep of death are they;  
when Your anger once is risen, who can stand in that dread day?

When from heav'n Your sentence sounded, all the earth in fear was still,  
while to save the meek and lowly God in judgment wrought His will;  
e'en the wrath of man shall praise You, Your designs it shall fulfil.

Vow and pay unto Jehovah, Him your God forever own;  
all men, bring your gifts before Him worship Him, and Him alone;  
mighty kings obey and fear Him, princes bow before His throne.

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Scripture Reading

Titus 1:5-9

Sermon

*“Leading in Godliness”*

Pastor Coyle

Hymn

*“O Church, Arise”*

by Stuart Townend and Keith Getty

O Church, arise, and put your armor on; hear the call of Christ our captain.  
For now the weak can say that they are strong in the strength that God has given.  
With shield of faith and belt of truth, we'll stand against the devil's lies.  
An army bold, whose battle cry is Love, reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul, but to rage against the captor;  
and with the sword that makes the wounded whole, we will fight with faith and valor.  
When faced with trials on every side, we know the outcome is secure.  
And Christ will have the prize for which He died: an inheritance of nations.

Come, see the cross, where love and mercy meet, as the Son of God is stricken;  
then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet, for the Conqueror has risen!  
And as the stone is rolled away, and Christ emerges from the grave,  
this victory march continues till the day ev'ry eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in every stride; give grace for every hurdle,  
that we may run with faith to win the prize of a servant good and faithful.  
As saints of old, still line the way, retelling triumphs of His grace,  
we hear their calls, and hunger for the day when with Christ we stand in Glory.

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline  
*“Leading in Godliness”*  
Titus 1:5-9

I. Elders are a must (v.5)

II. Elders lead as models (v.6-8)

III. Elders fulfill a mission (v.9)

1. How are elders designed to be God's gracious provision for the church (see Exodus 18, 1 Peter 5:1-5 as well)?
2. For leaders, where might you need to grow in the example you are setting before the flock?
3. For the flock, where might you be lacking in these same qualities that should also be yours in Christ?
4. Why is holding firm to the truth critical for both elders and those they are called to lead?

## **RULING ELDERS**

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

**Class of 2027**  
Dr. Ken Knecht  
Mr. Richard Long  
Mr. Carl Monroe

**Class of 2028**  
Mr. Jim Lewis  
Dr. Tom Paulus

## **TEACHING ELDERS**

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

## **BOARD OF DEACONS**

**Class of 2026**  
Mr. Andrew Kinzler  
Mr. Mike Lieblich  
Dr. David Matlock

**Class of 2027**  
Mr. Bob Davis  
Mr. Scott Freydl  
Mr. Jeff Rooker

**Class of 2028**  
Mr. Steve Nielson  
Mr. Zachary Wagers  
Mr. Bryant Young

## **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  
Mr. David Beurman, Violinist  
Mr. Jake Hilburn, Guitarist

Mrs. Valerie Hilliard, Vocalist  
Mrs. Katie Hughes, Pianist

## **COVENANT'S MISSIONARY FAMILIES**

Paul & Connie Backstrom	FamilyLife/Bentonville
Dan & Nancy Butkowski	CRU Arts & Culture/Little Rock
Gabriel & Olga Diaz	Church Planting - MTW/Mexico
Frank & Daisy Du	Church Planting/Little Rock
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Tom & Karen Mirabella	MTW/Japan
Pete Mitchell	MTW/France
Ben & Kirstin Spivey	MTW & RUF/London
Raimo & Annemari Survo	MTW/Finland
Will & Martha	International
Wes & Kim	Undisclosed

## **COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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