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Gospel Centered
CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day
April 7, 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.

“Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.”
Proverbs 4:23

Prelude **During the prelude selection, prepare for worship
by reflecting on Proverbs 4:23 printed above.**

Life of the Church

Call to Worship Psalm 119:89-94

*[89] Forever, O LORD, your word is firmly fixed in the heavens.
[90] Your faithfulness endures to all generations; you have estab-
lished the earth, and it stands fast. [91] By your appointment they
stand this day, for all things are your servants. [92] If your law
had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.
[93] I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have given
me life. [94] I am yours; save me, for I have sought your precepts.*

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.

Hymn ***“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”***

Rejoice, ye pure in heart, rejoice, give thanks, and sing;
your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.

refrain: *Rejoice, rejoice,
rejoice, give thanks and sing.*

Bright youth and snow-crowned age, strong men and maidens meek,
raise high your free, exulting song; God’s wondrous praises speak.

refrain

With all the angel choirs, with all the saints of earth,
pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rapture, noblest mirth!

refrain

Yes, on through life’s long path, still chanting as ye go,
from youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe.

refrain

At last the march shall end, the wearied ones shall rest;
the pilgrims find their Father’s house, Jerusalem the blest.

refrain

Then on, ye pure in heart, rejoice, give thanks and sing;
your glorious banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.

refrain

[20] My son, be attentive to my words; incline your ear to my sayings.

[21] Let them not escape from your sight; keep them within your heart.

[22] For they are life to those who find them, and healing to all their flesh.

[23] Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.

[24] Put away from you crooked speech, and put devious talk far from you.

[25] Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you.

[26] Ponder the path of your feet; then all your ways will be sure.

[27] Do not swerve to the right or to the left; turn your foot away from evil.

Congregational Prayer

Dan Butkowski, Ruling Elder

Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering

Jason Guenther, Deacon

Corporate Profession of Faith

Psalm 119:1-3

*(1) Blessed are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the LORD!*

*[2] Blessed are those who keep his testimonies,
who seek him with their whole heart,*

*[3] who also do no wrong,
but walk in his ways!*

Hymn

“The Law of the Lord Is Perfect”

The law of the Lord is perfect,
converting the soul.
The testimony of the Lord is sure,
making wise the simple.

refrain: *More to be desired are they than gold,
yea, than much fine gold.
Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.*

The statutes of the Lord are right,
rejoicing the heart.
The commandments of the Lord are pure,
enlight'ning the eyes.

refrain

The fear of the Lord is clean,
enduring forever.
The judgments of the Lord are true,
and righteous altogether.

refrain

[1] Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem,

[2] they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed.

[3] (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders,

[4] and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.)

[5] And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?”

[6] And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, “This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me;

[7] in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’

[8] You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”

[9] And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition!

[10] For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’

[11] But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, “Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban” (that is, given to God)—

[12] then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother,

[13] thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.”

[14] And he called the people to him again and said to them, “Hear me, all of you, and understand:

[15] There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him.”

[17] *And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable.*

[18] *And he said to them, "Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him,*

[19] since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?" (Thus he declared all foods clean.)

[20] *And he said, "What comes out of a person is what defiles him.*

[21] For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery,

[22] coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness.

[23] All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Sermon

"The Problem of Defilement, the Heart"

Pastor Reed

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Hymn

"What Wondrous Love Is This"

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this, that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on!

Invitation to The Lord's Supper

Corporate Confession of Sin

Merciful God, You pardon all who truly repent and turn to You.
We humbly confess our sins and ask Your mercy.
We have not loved You with a pure heart,
nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves.
We have not done justice, loved kindness,
or walked humbly with You, our God.

Have mercy on us, O God, in Your loving-kindness.
In Your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.
Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.
Do not cast us from Your presence, or take Your Holy Spirit from us.
Restore to us the joy of Your salvation and sustain us with your
bountiful Spirit through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Individual Prayer and Meditation (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Ezekiel 36:25-27

*[25] I will sprinkle clean water on you,
and you shall be clean from all your
uncleannesses, and from all your idols
I will cleanse you.*

*[26] And I will give you a new heart, and
a new spirit I will put within you. And I
will remove the heart of stone from your
flesh and give you a heart of flesh.*

*[27] And I will put my Spirit within you,
and cause you to walk in my statutes and
be careful to obey my rules.*

Prayer of Blessing

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn

“Trust and Obey”

When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word,
What a glory He sheds on our way! While we do His good will,
He abides with us still, and with all who will trust and obey.

refrain: *Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.*

Not a shadow can rise, not a cloud in the skies,
but His smile quickly drives it away; not a doubt or a fear,
not a sigh nor a tear, can abide while we trust and obey.

refrain

Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,
but our toil He doth richly repay; not a grief nor a loss,
not a frown or a cross, but is blest if we trust and obey.

refrain

But we never can prove the delights of His love
until all on the altar we lay; for the favor He shows,
and the joy He bestows, are for them who will trust and obey.

refrain

Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at His feet,
or we'll walk by His side in the way; what He says we will do,
where He sends we will go, never fear, only trust and obey.

refrain

CCLI 209271

Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline
“The Problem of Defilement, the Heart”
Mark 7:1-23

I. The Pharisee’s Charge.

II. Jesus’s Countercharge.

MEMBERS OF SESSION

RULING ELDERS

Class of 2024
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
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Tom & Karen Mirabella, Japan
Pete & Ruth Mitchell, France
Jim & Karan Romaine, New York City
Julian & Christiana Russell, Bahamas
Jim Wroughton, Peru (retired)
Will & Martha, International
Wes & Kim, Undisclosed

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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