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Gospel Centered
CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day
August 10, 2025

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.

*“Whoever is not with me is against me,
and whoever does not gather with me scatters.”*
Matthew 12:30

Prelude

**During the prelude selection, prepare for worship
by reflecting on Matthew 12:30 printed above.**

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Psalm 30:4, 11-12

*[4] Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints,
and give thanks to his holy name.
[11] You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;
you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness,
[12] that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent.
O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever!*

Invocation

Hymn

“All Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

All praise to God, Who reigns above, the God of all creation,
the God of wonders, pow'r, and love, the God of our salvation!
With healing balm my soul He fills, the God who every sorrow stills.
To God all praise and glory!

What God's almighty pow'r hath made His gracious mercy keepeth;
by morning dawn or evening shade His watchful eye ne'er sleepeth;
within the kingdom of His might, Lo, all is just and all is right.
To God all praise and glory!

I cried to Him in time of need: Lord God, O, hear my calling!
For death He gave me life indeed and kept my feet from falling.
For this my thanks shall endless be; O thank Him, thank our God, with me,
to God all praise and glory!

The Lord forsaketh not His flock, His chosen generation;
He is their refuge and their rock, their peace and their salvation.
As with a mother's tender hand He leads His own, His chosen band,
to God all praise and glory!

Ye who confess Christ's holy name, to God give praise and glory!
Ye who the Father's pow'r proclaim, to God give praise and glory!
All idols under foot be trod, the Lord is God! The Lord is God!
To God all praise and glory!

Then come before His presence now and banish fear and sadness;
to your Redeemer pay your vow and sing with joy and gladness:
though great distress my soul befell, the Lord, my God, did all things well,
to God all praise and glory!

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Scripture Reading

Psalm 33:1-12

Bob Tramel, Ruling Elder

Congregational Prayer

Bob Tramel, Ruling Elder

Corporate Profession of Faith

Galatians 4:4-7

- [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.
[6] And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son
into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"
[7] So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son,
then an heir through God.

Hymn

"Be Still, My Soul"

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side; bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
leave to your God to order and provide; in ev'ry change He faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heav'nly Friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: your God will undertake to guide the future as He has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart, and all is darkened in the vale of tears,
then shall you better know His love, His heart, Who comes to soothe your sorrow and your fears.
Be still, my soul: your Jesus can repay from His own fullness all He takes away.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hast'ning on when we shall be for ever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past, all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

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Corporate Confession of Sin

Father in heaven, we need to be forgiven.
We have tried to heal ourselves.
Instead of trusting in the death of Jesus Christ,
we have tried to work off our guilt.
We have tried so hard to pile up good deeds that outweigh our sins.
When this doesn't work, we quickly turn to denial and distraction.
Instead of trusting in the resurrection of Jesus Christ,
we have tried to change through our own efforts.
We have tried to change our hearts through sheer willpower.
This has left some of us arrogant.
This has left most of us anxious and depressed.
Forgive us for trying to heal ourselves.
Forgive us for neglecting Your grace.
Forgive us and heal us, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Individual Prayer of Confession (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Isaiah 1:18

[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.*

Hymn

“God Moves in a Mysterious Way”

God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform;
He plants His footsteps in the sea, and rides upon the storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines of never failing skill
He treasures up His bright designs, and works His sovereign will.

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take; the clouds ye so much dread
are big with mercy, and shall break in blessings on your head.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense, but trust Him for His grace;
behind a frowning providence He hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast, unfolding ev’ry hour;
the bud may have a bitter taste, but sweet will be the flow’r.

Blind unbelief is sure to err, and scan His work in vain;
God is His own interpreter, and He will make it plain.

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Scripture Reading

Mark 14:1-11

Sermon

“The Worst and the Best”

Pastor Reed

Hymn

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of Glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God:
all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down:
did e’er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline
"The Worst and the Best"
Mark 14:1-11

I. The Worst of Fallen Human Nature.

II. The Best of Redeemed Human Nature.

1. Is it possible for a person to be "neutral" (the posture of not believing in Jesus nor being hostile towards Him) towards Jesus? Why or why not. Refer to Matthew 12:30 and today's passage. Give some modern examples of the types of people who may be "against" Jesus.
2. Think of a time when your plans did not turn out as expected. When our plans are superseded by God's plan, how should we respond?
3. How has God's grace made a difference in your life?
4. What does a life fully devoted to Christ look like in your life?

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Dr. Bob Tramel

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Mr. Jake Hilburn, Guitarist

Mrs. Valerie Hilliard, Vocalist
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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