



covenant.presbyterian.church

Gospel Centered
CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day
August 2, 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.

*“Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you,
I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”*

Isaiah 41:10

Prelude

**During the prelude selection, prepare for worship
by reflecting on Isaiah 41:10 printed above.**

Life of the Church

Preparation for Worship

Call to Worship

Psalm 46:1-7

[1] God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. [2] Therefore we will not fear though the earth give way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, [3] though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling. [4] There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. [5] God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns. [6] The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts. [7] The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

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

“How Great Thou Art”

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy pow'r thro'out the universe displayed.

refrain: *Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee: how great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee: how great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

When thro' the woods and forest glades I wander and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur, and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;

refrain

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing, sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, He bled and died to take away my sin.

refrain

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration, and there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art.

refrain

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Scripture Reading

Matthew 10:26-33

Jeff Nissen, Ruling Elder

Congregational Prayer

Jeff Nissen, Ruling Elder

Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

Laura McCullar, flutist

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering

Mike Lieblich, Deacon

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell¹. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic² church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

¹ that is He remained under the power of death until the third day (WCFLC #50)

² "catholic" means universal

Hymn

"Though Troubles Assail Us"

Though troubles assail us and dangers affright,
though friends should all fail us and foes all unite,
yet one thing secures us, whatever betide,
the promise assures us, "The Lord will provide."

The birds, without garner or storehouse, are fed;
from them let us learn to trust God for our bread.
His saints what is fitting shall ne'er be denied
so long as 'tis written, "The Lord will provide."

When Satan assails us to stop up our path,
and courage all fails us, we triumph by faith.
He cannot take from us, though oft he has tried,
this heart-cheering promise, "The Lord will provide."

No strength of our own and no goodness we claim;
yet, since we have known of the Savior's great name,
in this our strong tower for safety we hide:
the Lord is our power, "The Lord will provide."

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Scripture Reading

Nehemiah 6

Sermon

"Three Failed Strategies Against Nehemiah"

Pastor Reed

Hymn

"All the Way My Savior Leads Me"

All the way my Savior leads me; what have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt His tender mercy, Who through life has been my Guide?
Heav'nly peace, divinest comfort, here by faith in Him to dwell;
for I know, whate'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well.

All the way my Savior leads me, cheers each winding path I tread,
gives me grace for ev'ry trial, feeds me with the living Bread.
Though my weary steps may falter, and my soul athirst may be,
gushing from the rock before me, lo, a spring of joy I see!

All the way my Savior leads me O the fullness of His love!
Perfect rest to me is promised in my Father's house above:
when my spirit, clothed, immortal, wings its flight to realms of day,
this my song through endless ages: Jesus led me all the way!

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Invitation to The Lord's Supper

Corporate Confession of Sin

Almighty God, gracious Father, we confess that we are not worthy of Your presence, but we look now to the Lamb of God, Who takes away our sin. Through Him we would now come near to You, listening to Your voice, trusting in Your love, delighting in Your Word, and leaning on Your arm. We joyfully beg to see Your face! Now cleanse our minds of all error and our hearts of all idols, that we may shine in the world with the radiant light of Your Spirit and Your character. In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Individual Prayer of Confession (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

1 John 1:9

[9] If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Prayer of Blessing

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline
“Three Failed Strategies Against Nehemiah”
Nehemiah 6

I. Assassination.

II. Deception.

III. Intimidation.

1. Why is fear so detrimental to living the Christian life?
2. Refer to Nehemiah 6. What were the strategies the enemies of Nehemiah used to cause him to fear and how did he stand firm against these attacks?
3. Read Isaiah 41:10, I Peter 3:8-18 and Matthew 10:26-33. How do these Scriptures encourage us to not fear?

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 (sabbatical)

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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. David Linn, Intern
Mr. Ben Russ, Bookkeeper
Mrs. Peggy Washburn, Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Roanna Wilson, Choir Director
Mrs. Anna Allen, Nursery Coordinator

MUSICIANS/VOCALISTS

Mr. Terry Allenbaugh, Guitarist
Mr. David Beuerman, Violinist
Mr. Jake Hilburn, Guitarist

Mrs. Valerie Hilliard, Vocalist
Mrs. Katie Hughes, Pianist
Mrs. Roanna Wilson, Choir Director, Vocalist

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
Roger & Laura Dye	FamilyLife/Latin America
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Pete Mitchell	MTW/France
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Ben & Kirstin Spivey	MTW & RUF/London
Raimo & Annemari Survo	MTW/Finland
Will & Martha	International
Wes & Kim	Undisclosed

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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