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*Gospel Centered*  
CHRIST EXALTING

*The Lord's Day*  
August 24, 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.

*“Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.”*

1 Corinthians 5:7

Prelude

**During the prelude selection, prepare for worship  
by reflecting on 1 Corinthians 5:7 printed above.**

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

1 Peter 1:3-5

*[3] Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!  
According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born  
again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ  
from the dead, [4] to an inheritance that is imperishable,  
undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, [5] who by  
God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation  
ready to be revealed in the last time.*

Invocation

Hymn

*“The Steadfast Love of Christ”*

Once my heart was a prison defiled and cold,  
where sin and the enemy reigned  
I was bound by the chains that enslaved my soul;  
no hint of repentance or shame  
But then Jesus appeared like the morning sun,  
defeating the shadows with light  
And forgiveness flowed through His precious blood,  
Oh, the steadfast love of Christ

Though redeemed, I still battle the lies within  
that silently war in my soul  
In my weakness I yield to the power of sin  
and desperately cry out for hope  
But then grace rushes in like a mighty flood,  
new strength to engage in the fight  
And I taste the freedom the cross has won  
through the steadfast love of Christ

All the world is accursed and in sorrow still,  
as heartache and suffering remain  
But the hope of creation will be fulfilled:  
Our Savior is coming to reign  
I believe in the justice of God the Son,  
I know faith will turn into sight  
Every tear stain dried, every wound undone  
by the steadfast love of Christ

TAG: All of heaven will quake when we see our King,  
the Lamb on the throne lifted high  
We'll behold in awe and forever sing  
of the steadfast love of Christ  
Oh, the steadfast love of Christ,  
Oh, the steadfast love of Christ

Scripture Reading

Exodus 12:1-20

Jeff Nissen, Ruling Elder

Congregational Prayer

Jeff Nissen, Ruling Elder

Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering

David Matlock, Deacon

Corporate Profession of Faith

Westminster Confession of Faith 27.1

Sacraments are holy signs and seals of the covenant of grace, immediately instituted by God, to represent Christ and His benefits; and to confirm our interest in Him: as also to put a visible difference between those that belong to the church, and the rest of the world; and solemnly to engage them to the service of God in Christ according to His Word.

Hymn

*“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”*

Jesus, keep me near the cross; there a precious fountain,  
free to all- a healing stream- flows from Calv’ry’s mountain.

**refrain:** *In the cross, in the cross, be my glory ever;  
till my raptured soul shall find rest beyond the river.*

Near the cross, a trembling soul, love and mercy found me;  
there the Bright and Morning Star shed its beams around me.

**refrain**

Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes before me;  
help me walk from day to day with its shadow o’er me.

**refrain**

Near the cross I’ll watch and wait, hoping, trusting ever,  
till I reach the golden strand just beyond the river.

**refrain**

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Corporate Confession of Sin

O merciful God, full of compassion and of great pity,  
who spares us from the fullness of suffering when we deserve punishment.  
Make us earnestly to repent. Make the remembrance of our sin so burdensome  
that we may flee to you with a troubled spirit and contrite heart.  
O merciful Lord, visit, comfort, and relieve us  
that we might live toward your glory and for grace toward others.  
Cast us not from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from us,  
but excite in us true repentance that receives the righteousness of Jesus. Amen.

Individual Prayer of Confession (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Isaiah 1:18

*“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

*“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”*

Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I fain would take my stand,  
the shadow of a mighty Rock  
within a weary land;  
a home within the wilderness,  
a rest upon the way,  
from the burning of the noon-tide heat  
and the burden of the day.

Upon the cross of Jesus  
mine eye at times can see  
the very dying form of One  
who suffered there for me:  
and from my stricken heart with tears  
two wonders I confess,  
the wonders of redeeming love  
and my unworthiness.

I take, O cross, thy shadow  
for my abiding place:  
I ask no other sunshine than  
the sunshine of His face;  
content to let the world go by,  
to know no gain nor loss;  
my sinful self my only shame,  
my glory all the cross.

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Scripture Reading

Mark 14:12-25

Sermon

*“Jesus’ Last Passover”*

Pastor Reed

Hymn

*“Amidst Us Our Beloved Saints”*

Amidst us our Beloved stands,  
and bids us view His pierced hands;  
points to the wounded feet and side,  
blest emblems of the Crucified.

What food luxurious loads the board,  
when at his table sits the Lord!  
The wine how rich, the bread how sweet,  
when Jesus deigns the guests to meet!

If now, with eyes defiled and dim,  
we see the signs, but see not Him;  
O may His love the scales displace,  
and bid us see Him face to face!

O glorious Bridegroom of our hearts,  
Your present smile a heav’n imparts!  
O lift the veil, if veil there be,  
let every saint Your glory see!

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline  
*“Jesus’ Last Passover”*  
Mark 14:12-25

I. The Passover.

II. The Betrayal.

III. The Sacrament.

1. What does “For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him” (verse 21) mean?  
How might it be encouraging in the context of Jesus being betrayed?
2. Why is self-examination important as we live the Christian life and as we prepare for observing the Lord’s Supper (see also, 1 Corinthians 11:27-32)?
3. What are the implications of the Lord’s Supper being a bloodless sacrament?

## MEMBERS OF SESSION

### RULING ELDERS

**Class of 2025**  
Mr. J. C. Baker (sabbatical)  
Mr. Dan Butkowski  
Dr. Bob Tramel

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

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

### TEACHING ELDERS

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

### BOARD OF DEACONS

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

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

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

### 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, Bentonville  
Dan & Nancy Butkowski, Little Rock  
Scott & Kathy Craig, Mexico (retired)  
Frank & Daisy Du, Little Rock  
Roger & Laura Dye, South Carolina  
Jamie & Jacki Gildard, France  
Rob & Jenny Ilderton, England

Darlene Johnson, Japan  
Tom & Karen Mirabella, Japan  
Pete Mitchell, France  
Jim Wroughton, Peru (retired)  
Will & Martha, International  
Wes & Kim, Undisclosed

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