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Gospel Centered
CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day

August 29, 2021

Covenant's Mission Statement

Covenant seeks to glorify God by
Establishing Disciples biblically,
Engaging Culture redemptively,
Expanding Christ's Church faithfully.

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 families to build community.*

*"Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts."
Malachi 3:7*

Prelude

During the prelude selection, prepare for worship by reflecting on Malachi 3:7 printed above.

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Psalm 34:1-3

¹ I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

² My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

³ Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!

Invocation

Hymn

Hymn #75

"O Father, You Are Sovereign"

O Father, You are sovereign in all the worlds You made;
Your mighty Word was spoken and light and life obeyed.
Your voice commands the seasons and bounds the ocean's shore,
sets stars within their courses and stills the tempest's roar.

O Father, You are sovereign in all affairs of man;
no pow'rs of death or darkness can thwart Your perfect plan.
All chance and change transcending, supreme in time and space,
You hold Your trusting children secure in Your embrace.

O Father, You are sovereign the Lord of human pain,
transmuting earthly sorrows to gold of heav'nly gain.
All evil overruling, as none but Conqu'ror could,
Your love pursues its purpose - our souls' eternal good.

O Father, You are sovereign! We see You dimly now,
but soon before Your triumph earth's every knee shall bow.
With this glad hope before us our faith springs forth anew:
our Sovereign Lord and Savior, we trust and worship You!

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

- 6 The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.*
- 7 Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*
- 8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.*
- 9 As it is written, "He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."*
- 10 He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.*
- 11 You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.*
- 12 For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God.*
- 13 By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ, and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others,*
- 14 while they long for you and pray for you, because of the surpassing grace of God upon you.*
- 15 Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!*

Westminster Larger Catechism Question 7

What is God?

God is a Spirit, in and of himself infinite in being, glory, blessedness, and perfection; all-sufficient, eternal, unchangeable, incomprehensible, every where present, almighty, knowing all things, most wise, most holy, most just, most merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth.

“Thy Mercy, My God, Is the Theme of My Song”

Thy mercy, my God is the theme of my song,
the joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue.

Thy free grace alone from the first to the last
hath won my affections and bound my soul fast.

Without Thy sweet mercy I could not live here:
sin would reduce me to utter despair;
but through Thy free goodness my spirits revive
and He that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart
which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
dissolved by Thy goodness I fall to the ground
and weep for the praise of the mercy I’ve found.

Great Father of mercies Thy goodness I own,
and the covenant love of Thy crucified Son;
all praise to the Spirit whose whisper divine
seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine!

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Corporate Confession of Sin

Almighty God, we thank You for your gracious promise
of eternal life through Christ.

We confess that we have stored up treasures on earth,
rather than in heaven; we have not fixed our eyes on
Your coming kingdom; we have sought to serve other
'gods' alongside You like money, pleasure, security and
control. Please forgive us and cleanse us through the
Lord Jesus Christ.

By Your Spirit, renew our hearts to seek You and Your
kingdom first. In Jesus name, Amen.

Individual Prayer and Meditation (silent prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Ephesians 1:7

*In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness
of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.*

Hymn

“Amazing Grace!”

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound-
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved!
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

Thro' many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be,
as long as life endures.

And when this flesh and heart shall fail,
and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil,
a life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we've first begun.

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Scripture

Malachi 3:6-12

⁶ “For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.

⁷ From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts. But you say, ‘How shall we return?’

⁸ Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, ‘How have we robbed you?’ In your tithes and contributions.

⁹ You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you.

¹⁰ Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

¹¹ I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the LORD of hosts.

¹² Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the LORD of hosts.

Sermon

“Let the Thief No Longer Steal”

Pastor Coyle

Hymn

“Be Thou My Vision”

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that Thou art-
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Be Thou my battle shield, sword for my fight;
be Thou my dignity, Thou my delight,
Thou my soul’s shelter, Thou my hightow’r:
raise Thou me heav’nward, O Pow’r of my pow’r,

Riches I heed not, nor man’s empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
may I reach Heaven’s joys, O bright Heaven’s sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline
“Let the Thief No Longer Steal”
Malachi 3:6-12

I. Return to me (v.6-7).

II. Bring the full tithe (v.8-10a).

III. Put me to the test (v.10b-12).

A9/C#



THY MERCY MY GOD IS THE THEME OF MY SONG

Words by John Stoker

Music by Sandra McCracken

1. Thy mer - cy, my God, is the theme of my song, the
 out thy sweet mer - cy I could not live here; the
 mer - cy is more than a match for my heart; which
 fath - er of mer - cies thy good - ness my I heart own and the

4 joy of my re - heart and the boast of my tongue. Thy
 Sin would re - duce me its to ut - ter des - pair; but
 won - ders to feel its of thy hard - ness de - part; dis -
 cov - e - rant love of thy cruc - i - fied son; all

6 free grace a - lone from the first to the last hath
 through thy free good - ness my spir - its re - vive and
 praise by thy good - ness I fall to the ground and
 to the spi - rit whose whis - per di - vine seals

8 won he my af - fec - tions and bound my soul
 he weep that for first the and made praise me of don still the and keeps mer - cy a
 mer - cy and and par - don and right - eous - ness I've
 ness

10 fast. live. found. 2. With 3. Thy

14 mine. All praise to the spir - it whose whis - per di - vine seals

18 mer - cy and par - don and right - eous - ness mine!

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Jerry Potts

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Tom Paulus, Clerk
Bill Scholl

Class of 2023

Bruce Hurlbut
Carl Monroe
Jason Van Goor

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Tim J. Reed, Senior Pastor

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Liz Baker, Choir Director

Mike Walsh, Pianist
Ben Russ, Bookkeeper
Peggy Washburn, Administrative Assistant

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COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America