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*Gospel Centered*  
CHRIST EXALTING

*The Lord's Day*  
December 1, 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.

***The First Sunday in Advent***  
**Hope**

*The LORD swore to David a sure oath from which he will not turn back:  
“One of the sons of your body I will set on your throne.”* Psalm 132:11

Prelude

**During the prelude selection, prepare for worship  
by reflecting on Psalm 132:11 printed above.**

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Luke 1:68-69

*[68] “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people  
[69] and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David.*

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

*“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”*

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel’s strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
Dear desire of ev’ry nation, Joy of ev’ry longing heart.  
Joy to those who long to see Thee, Dayspring from on high, appear;  
come, Thou promised Rod of Jesse, of Thy birth we long to hear!  
O’er the hills the angels singing news, glad tidings of a birth;  
“Go to Him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth.”  
Come to earth to taste our sadness, He whose glories knew no end;  
by His life He brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.  
Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall;  
this the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all.  
Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,  
born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
by Thine all sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne.

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Today’s Advent Readers are the Fennell Family

Responsive Reading

Reader: Blessed is the man who hopes in the Lord,  
whose confidence is in Him.

**Congregation: He will be like a tree planted by the water  
that sends out its roots by the stream.**

Reader: It does not fear when heat comes;  
its leaves are always green.

**Congregation: It has no worries in a year of drought  
and never fails to bear fruit.**

[15] *He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.*  
 [16] *For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities - all things were created through him and for him.*  
 [17] *And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.*  
 [18] *And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.*  
 [19] *For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,*  
 [20] *and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.*  
 [21] *And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds,*  
 [22] *he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him,*  
 [23] *if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.*

## Lighting of the Advent Candle

## Prayer

## Hymn

*“Doxology”*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
 Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
 Praise Him above ye, heav'nly host:  
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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## Scripture Reading

Acts 2:29-36

Dan Butkowski, Ruling Elder

## Congregational Prayer

Dan Butkowski, Ruling Elder

## Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

*“When Emmanuel Has Come”*

Choir

All the world is waiting for a savior. All the world is waiting for a king.  
 Soon we will behold what the prophets have foretold.  
 Soon we will receive the gift He brings.

All the world is waiting for Messiah. All the world is waiting for God's Son.  
 Soon he will appear for the time is drawing near.  
 Soon we all will greet the Promised One.

(refrain) There will be joy, joy, joy when Emmanuel has come.  
 Heaven will rejoice and praise His name.  
 There will be joy, joy, joy when Emmanuel has come,  
 and the world will never be the same.

All the world is waiting for an answer. All the world is waiting for a light.  
 Soon it will be saw. And the darkness will be gone.  
 Soon a king will come to make things right.

(refrain) We will never be the same.

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Corporate Profession of Faith

John 1:14

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,  
and we have seen his glory,  
glory as of the only Son from the Father,  
full of grace and truth.*

Hymn

*“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”*

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;  
ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in His hand,  
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood;  
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,  
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,  
as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,  
that the pow'rs of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim, with sleepless eye,  
veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,  
“Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord Most High!”

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Scripture Reading

Psalms 132

Sermon

*“Hope Restored”*

Pastor Coyle

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Hymn

*“Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery”*

Come behold the wondrous mystery, in the dawning of the King.  
He, the theme of heaven's praises, robed in frail humanity.  
In our longing, in our darkness, now the light of life has come!  
Look to Christ who condescended, took on flesh to ransom us.

Come behold the wondrous mystery: He the perfect Son of Man,  
in His living, in His suffering, never trace nor stain of sin.  
See the true and better Adam, come to save the hell-bound man,  
Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law; in Him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous mystery: Christ the Lord upon the tree.  
In the stead of ruined sinners hangs the Lamb in victory!  
See the price of our redemption, see the Father's plan unfold,  
bringing many sons to glory: grace unmeasured, love untold!

Come behold the wondrous mystery: slain by death, the God of life.  
But no grave could e'er restrain Him; Praise the Lord, He is alive!  
What a foretaste of deliv'rance, how unwavering our hope.  
Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when He comes.  
What a foretaste of deliv'rance, how unwavering our hope.  
Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when He comes.

## Invitation to The Lord's Supper

### Corporate Confession of Sin

Almighty God, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ  
You have given us a sure hope and future,  
yet we confess that we have set our hope on other things:  
money, family, success, pleasure.  
Forgive us for breaking Your Law and putting these things ahead of You.  
By Your Spirit, help us to set our hope fully on Your promises  
and to lead holy lives as we await Christ's return.  
In Jesus name, Amen.

### Individual Prayer of Confession (Silent Prayer)

#### Assurance of Pardon

Titus 2:11-14

*[11] For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, [12] training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, [13] waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, [14] who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.*

### Prayer of Blessing

### Distribution of the Elements

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

### Hymn

*"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"*

Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free,  
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

He comes with comfort speedy to those who suffer wrong;  
to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;  
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,  
whose souls, condemned and dying, were precious in His sight,

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;  
and love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in His path to birth;  
before Him on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go;  
and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.

O'er ev'ry foe victorious, He on His throne shall rest,  
from age to age more glorious, all-blessing and all-blessed;  
the tide of time shall never His covenant remove;  
His Name shall stand for ever— that Name to us is Love.

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### Scriptural Benediction

### Postlude

Sermon Outline  
*“Hope Restored”*  
Psalm 132

I. Jesus Christ, the Fulfillment of David’s Prayer (v.1-10)

II. Jesus Christ, the Fulfillment of the Lord’s Promise (v.11-18)

## **MEMBERS OF SESSION**

### **RULING ELDERS**

**Class of 2024**  
Mr. Jim Lewis  
Mr. Josh Sanford  
Dr. Brandon Walser

**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

### **TEACHING ELDERS**

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

### **BOARD OF DEACONS**

**Class of 2024**  
Mr. David Beurman  
Dr. Ken Knecht  
Mr. Kurt Smith

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

**Class of 2026**  
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  
Mr. David Beurman, Violinist  
Mr. Jake Hilburn, Guitarist

Mrs. Valerie Hilliard, Vocalist  
Mrs. Katie Hughes, Pianist

### **COVENANT'S MISSIONARY FAMILIES**

Paul & Connie Backstrom, Bentonville  
Peter & Jenny Boling, Mexico  
Dan & Nancy Butkowski, Little Rock  
Scott & Kathy Craig, Mexico  
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Rob & Jenny Ilderton, England

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

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