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*Gospel Centered*  
CHRIST EXALTING

*The Lord's Day*  
December 28, 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.

*“For we walk by faith, not by sight.”*

2 Corinthians 5:7

Prelude

**During the prelude selection, prepare for worship  
by reflecting on 2 Corinthians 5:7 printed above.**

Call to Worship

Psalm 18:1-3

*[1] I love you, O LORD, my strength. [2] The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. [3] I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies.*

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

2 Corinthians 5:1-10

J. C. Baker, Ruling Elder

Congregational Prayer

J. C. Baker, Ruling Elder

*“We Have Come This Far by Faith”*

Choir

We have come this far by faith, gently carried in the arms of love.  
We have come this far with confidence our hope in God alone.  
And though the road is long, in His strength we carry on.  
We have come this far by faith and faith will lead us home.

A simple childlike faith, a tiny mustard seed,  
can change the world and move a mountain, calm the raging sea.  
Blessed are the ones who trust in Christ the Lord,  
those who believe in His promises, those who believe in His word,  
for great is their reward.

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Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering

Scott Freydl, Deacon

Corporate Profession of Faith

Revelation 7:10

“Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

Hymn

*“I Lift My Eyes up to the Hills (Psalm 121)”*  
(to the tune, “God Moves in a Mysterious Way”)

I lift my eyes up to the hills, from where shall come my aid?  
My help comes from the Lord above, Who heav’n and earth has made.

He will not let your foot be moved, your Keeper will not sleep.  
Behold, He slumbers not, nor sleeps, for He will Isr’el keep.

At your right hand the Lord, your Keeper is your constant shade.  
The moon shall strike you not by night, nor sun by light of day.

The Lord will keep you from all harm; He keeps your life secure.  
Your going out and coming in, the Lord keeps evermore.

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Corporate Confession of Sin

I, a poor sinner, confess before You, my God and Creator,  
that I have sinned gravely and in various ways against You,  
not only with outward gross sins, but much more with internal,  
innate blindness, unbelief, doubts, faintheartedness, impatience,  
pride, evil, greed, secret envy, hatred and jealousy,  
as well as other evil emotions.  
You, my Lord and God, recognize this in my very well,  
but sadly I cannot recognize them sufficiently.  
I feel sorrow and regret for them and whole heartedly desire grace  
through Your dear Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

Individual Prayer of Confession (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 5:1-2

[1] *Therefore, since we have been justified by faith,  
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*  
[2] *Through him we have also obtained access by faith into  
this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of  
the glory of God.*

Hymn

*“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”*

Comfort, comfort ye my people, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;  
comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.  
Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;  
tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.

Yea, her sins our God will pardon, blotting out each dark misdeed;  
all that well deserved His anger He no more will see or heed.  
She hath suffered many a day now her griefs have passed away;  
God will change her pining sadness into ever-springing gladness.

For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near,  
bidding all men to repentance, since the kingdom now is here.  
O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;  
let the valleys rise to meet Him, and the hills bow down to greet Him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain;  
let your hearts be true and humble, as befits His holy reign.  
For the glory of the Lord now o'er earth is shed abroad;  
and all flesh shall see the token, that His word is never broken.

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Scripture Reading

1 Samuel 14:1-46

Sermon

*"A Prince with Faith vs. A King with Sight"*

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 high tow'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  
*"A Prince with Faith vs. A King with Sight"*  
1 Samuel 14:1-46

I. The Prince Leads with Conviction (v.1-15; 43-46)

II. The King Responds with Chaos (v.16-42)

III. The Lord Stays Constant (v.23, 45)

1. How does Jonathan (his faith, his actions, his results) point forward to Christ?
2. How does Saul (his actions, his decisions, his results) appear Pharisee-like?
3. What comfort and assurance are we given by knowing the Lord is faithful to save?

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Mr. Dan Butkowski  
Dr. Bob Tramel

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

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Rev. Derek W. Coyle, Associate Pastor

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Mr. David Beurman, Violinist  
Mr. Jake Hilburn, Guitarist

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

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Will & Martha	International
Wes & Kim	Undisclosed

## **COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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