

## covenant.presbyterian.church

# Gospel Centered CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day
December 31, 2023

### **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, andrelational by encouraging the church family to build community.

### "The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord remains forever." 1 Peter 1:24b-25

Prelude

During the prelude selection, prepare for worship by reflecting on 1 Peter 1:24b-25 printed above.

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Psalm 147:1; 12-13; 19-20

[1] Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

[12] Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

[13] For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you.

[19] He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and rules to Israel.

[20] He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his rules. Praise the LORD!

Invocation

Hymn

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

Come, Thou Almighty King, help us Thy name to sing, help us to praise. Father, all glorious, o'er all victorious, come, and reign over us, Ancient of days.

Come, Thou Incarnate Word, gird on Thy mighty sword, our prayer attend. Come, and Thy people bless, and give Thy Word success; Spirit of holiness, on us descend.

Come, Holy Comforter,
Thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour.
Thou who almighty art, now rule in every heart,
and ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of pow'r.

To the great One in Three eternal praises be, hence evermore. His sovereign majesty may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore.

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[19] Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger;

[20] for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

[21] Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

[22] But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

[23] For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror.

[24] For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like.

[25] But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

**Congregational Prayer** 

William Fennell, Ruling Elder

Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

"Amen! Tell It on the Mountain!" arr. by Mary McDonald

Choir

Amen! Amen, amen! Sing it over: Amen! Go tell it! Go tell it! Amen! Go tell it! Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'ry-where: go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born! While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. Go, tell it on the mountain! Tell it, children! The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo! Above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'ry-where; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born! Go, tell it! Tell it on the mountain! go, tell it! Tell it on the mountain! Down in a lowly manger, the humble Christ was born, And God sent to us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. Go, tell it! Tell it on the mountain! Amen, amen, amen!

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### Psalm 19:7-11

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. By them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

Hymn

"That Man Is Blessed Who Fearing God" (to the tune of "Forever Trusting in the Lord")

That man is blest who, fearing God, from sin restrains his feet, who will not stand with wicked men, who shuns the scorners' seat.

Yea, blest is he who makes God's law his portion and delight, and meditates upon that law with gladness day and night.

That man is nourished like a tree set by the rivers' side; its leaf is green, its fruit is sure, and thus his works abide.

The wicked like the driven chaff are swept from off the land; they shall not gather with the just, nor in the judgment stand.

The Lord will guard the righteous well, their way to Him is known; the way of sinners, far from God, shall surely be o'erthrown.

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### Corporate Confession of Sin

Lord, though You should guide us, we inform ourselves; though You should rule us, we control ourselves; though You should fulfill us, we console ourselves. We think Your truth too high, Your will too hard, Your power too remote, Your love too free. But they are not! And without them, we are of all people most miserable. Now heal our confused minds with Your word, heal our divided wills with Your law, heal our troubled consciences with Your love, heal our anxious hearts with Your presence, all for the sake of Your Son, who loved us and gave Himself for us. Amen.

[6] "Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near;

[7] let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

[8] For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.

[9] For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Hymn

"Speak, O Lord" words and music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

(sheet music pgs. 8&9)

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to receive the food of Your Holy Word.
Take Your Truth, plant it deep in us; shape and fashion us in Your likeness; that the light of Christ might be seen today in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us all Your purposes for Your glory.

Teach us Lord, full obedience,
holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
in the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail;
let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us. Truths unchanged from the dawn of time, that will echo down through eternity. And by grace we'll stand on Your promises; and by faith we'll walk as You walk with us. Speak, O Lord, 'til Your church is built, and the earth is filled with Your glory.

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### Micah 1:1 Jeremiah 26:16-19

Micah 1:1

The word of the LORD that came to Micah of Moresheth in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

Jeremiah 26:16-19

[16] Then the officials and all the people said to the priests and the prophets, "This man does not deserve the sentence of death, for he has spoken to us in the name of the LORD our God." [17] And certain of the elders of the land arose and spoke to all the assembled people, saying, [18] "Micah of Moresheth prophesied in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah, and said to all the people of Judah: 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, "Zion shall be plowed as a field; Jerusalem shall become a heap of ruins, and the mountain of the house a wooded height.' [19] Did Hezekiah king of Judah and all Judah put him to death? Did he not fear the LORD and entreat the favor of the LORD, and did not the LORD relent of the disaster that he had pronounced against them? But we are about to bring great disaster upon ourselves."

Sermon "The Word to Micah" Pastor Coyle

Hymn

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need Thy tender care; in Thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use Thy folds prepare: Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, Thine we are; blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

We are Thine; do Thou befriend us, be the guardian of our way; keep Thy flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray: Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! hear, O hear us when we pray; blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! hear, O hear us when we pray.

Thou hast promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be; Thou hast mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse and pow'r to free: Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! let us early turn to Thee; blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! let us early turn to Thee.

Early let us seek Thy favor; early let us do Thy will; Blessed Lord and only Savior, with Thy love our bosoms fill: Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us, love us still; blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us, love us still.

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**Scriptural Benediction** 

Postlude

### Sermon Outline "The Word to Micah" Micah 1:1 Jeremiah 26:16-19

II. The Word that Saw (v.1b)
III. The Word that Conquered (Jeremiah 26:19)

I. The Word that Came (v.1a)

# Speak, O Lord





### **MEMBERS OF SESSION**

### **RULIING ELDERS**

Class of 2023 Mr. Bruce Hurlbut Mr. Carl Monroe Mr. Jason Van Goor Class of 2024 Mr. Jim Lewis Mr. Josh Sanford Dr. Brandon Walser Class of 2025 Mr. Dan Butkowski Dr. Bob Tramel

### **TEACHING ELDERS**

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

### **BOARD OF DEACONS**

Class of 2023 Mr. Scott Freydl Dr. David Matlock Mr. Jeff Rooker Class of 2024 Mr. David Beuerman Dr. Ken Knecht Mr. Kurt Smith Class of 2025 Mr. Peter Bogaards Dr. Jonathan Goodwin Mr. Jason Guenther

### **STAFF**

Mr. Ben Russ, Bookkeeper Mrs. Peggy Washburn, Administrative Assistant

### **MUSICIANS/VOCALISTS**

Mrs. Liz Baker, Choir Director Mr. David Beuerman, Violinist Mr. Jake Hilburn, Guitarist Mr. Mike Walsh, Pianist Mrs. Roanna Wilson, Vocalist

### COVENANT'S MISSIONARY FAMILLIES

Paul & Connie Backstrom, Bentonville Peter & Jenny Boling, Mexico Dan & Nancy Butkowski, Little Rock Scott & Kathy Craig, Mexico Roger & Laura Dye, South Carolina Jamie & Jacki Gildard, France Rob & Jenny Ilderton, England Darlene Johnson, Japan Tom & Karen Mirabella, Japan Pete & Ruth Mitchell, France Jim & Karan Romaine, New York City Julian & Christiana Russell, Bahamas Jim Wroughton, Peru (retired) Will & Martha, International Wes & Kim, Undisclosed

### **COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

One Covenant Drive • Little Rock, AR 72211 • 501-228-5903 cpc@covenantpca.com • www.covenantpca.com A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America