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Gospel Centered
CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day

December 6, 2020

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.*

*The Second Sunday in Advent
Peace*

*"Therefore, since we have been justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Romans 5:1*

Prelude

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

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Luke 2:14

*"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth
peace among those with whom he is pleased!"*

*Opening Hymn

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"
(1st stanza)

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

refrain: *Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."*

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Today's Advent Readers are David and Becca Sanders
with Noah, Isaac, Elijah, and Levi

Responsive Reading

Reader: Great peace have they who love Your law,
Congregation: and nothing can make them stumble.
Reader: Those who walk uprightly enter into peace;
Congregation: they find rest as they lie in death.

Advent Scripture Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. ³ You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

⁴ For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Lighting of the Candle

Prayer

Hymn

*“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”
(stanzas 2 and 3)*

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

refrain: *Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King."*

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.

refrain

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Congregational Prayer

Bill Scholl, Ruling Elder

*Scripture Reading

Isaiah 59:1-8

Bill Scholl, Ruling Elder

¹ *Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear;*

² *but your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.*

³ *For your hands are defiled with blood and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies; your tongue mutters wickedness.*

⁴ *No one enters suit justly; no one goes to law honestly; they rely on empty pleas, they speak lies, they conceive mischief and give birth to iniquity.*

⁵ *They hatch adders' eggs; they weave the spider's web; he who eats their eggs dies, and from one that is crushed a viper is hatched.*

⁶ *Their webs will not serve as clothing; men will not cover themselves with what they make. Their works are works of iniquity, and deeds of violence are in their hands.*

⁷ *Their feet run to evil, and they are swift to shed innocent blood; their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; desolation and destruction are in their highways.*

⁸ *The way of peace they do not know, and there is no justice in their paths; they have made their roads crooked; no one who treads on them knows peace.*

Hymn

*“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
(stanzas 1 and 2)*

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear.

refrain: *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
Who to thy tribes, on Sinai's height,
in ancient times didst give the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.

refrain

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Corporate Confession of Sin

God of peace: we confess before You the evil of our hearts; we acknowledge that we are too inclined toward anger, jealousy, and revenge, to ambition and pride, which often give rise to discord and bitter feelings. Too often have we thus both offended and grieved You.

Forgive us this sin and permit us to partake of the blessing You have promised the peacemakers, who shall be called the children of God. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Individual Prayer and Meditation (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Ephesians 2:13-16

¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility

¹⁵ by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace,

¹⁶ and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.

*“ O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
(stanza 3-5)*

O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save,
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

refrain: *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Dayspring from on high
and cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

refrain

O come, thou Key of David, come
and open wide our heav'nly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery.

refrain

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*Scripture Reading

Luke 1:67-79

*67 And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied,
saying,*

*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,*

70 as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

*71 that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who
hate us;*

*72 to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy
covenant,*

73 the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us

*74 that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him
without fear,*

75 in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

76 And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,

77 to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins,

78 because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high

79 to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

Sermon

“The Way of Peace”

Pastor Coyle

Hymn

“What Child Is This”

What Child is this, who laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste, to bring Him laud,
the Babe, the Son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate,
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear, shall pierce Him through;
the cross He borne for me, for you:
hail, hail the Word made flesh,
the Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh;
come, peasant, king to own Him;
the King of kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise a song on high,
the virgin sings her lullaby:
joy, joy for Christ is born,
the Babe, the Son of Mary.

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn

"Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery"

(sheet music pgs. 9 & 10)

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.

text & music: Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, and Michael Bleecker
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arrangement/orchestration: Dan Kreider and Brad Weishaupt/CCLI 209271

Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline
“The Way of Peace”
Luke 1:67-79

I. The Preparation for Peace (v. 76-77).

II. The Pathway to Peace (v. 78-79).

Lead Sheet

"Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery"

♩ = 76 G2 Bm7 G2 Bm G2 Bm7

Piano only

7 Asus G2 **V.1** D *Opt. rhythm* G/D D A

1. Come be - hold the won - drous mys - tery, in the dawn - ing of the King. He, the

13 Bm7 G Em7 Asus D /F# G D/F# /D /C#

theme of heav - en's prais - es, robed in frail hu - man - i - ty. In our long - ing, in our dark - ness, now the

19 Bm G D G2 Em7 /A D G *Guitar in*

light of life has come! Look to Christ who con - de - scend - ed, took on flesh to ran - som us.

26 D G **V.2** D *Rhythm in* G Bm Asus

2. Come be - hold the won - drous mys - tery: He the per - fect Son of Man, In His

32 Bm G Em7 /A D G F#m

liv - ing, in His suf - fer - ing, Nev - er trace nor stain of sin. See the true and bet - ter A - dam, come to

38 Bm /A G D G D/F# Em7 /A D *Rhythm out*

save the hell - bound man, Christ the great and sure ful - fill - ment of the law; in Him we stand.

44 G Bm Asus D G /B Asus

V.3 Bm *Opt. bass in* A/B Bm F#m7 Bm

3. Come be - hold the won - drous mys - tery: Christ the Lord up - on the tree. In the stead of ru - ined

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Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery - Lead Sheet, page 2

56 D/A *Band build* G Asus D G F#m
Full
 sin - ners hangs the Lamb in vic - tor - y! See the price of our re - demp - tion, see the

61 Bm /A G D/A G/B Asus
 Fath - er's plan un - fold, Bring - ing man - y sons to glor - y: grace un - meas - ured, love un -

66 D G Bm Asus G/B Bm G D Asus
 told! 4. Come be -

V.4 D *Hits* G Bm Asus Bm
 hold the won - drous mys - tery: slain by death, the God of life. But no grave could e'er re -

79 G D/F# Em7 /A D /F# G F#m Bm /A
 strain Him; Praise the Lord, He is a - live! What a fore - taste of de - liv' - rance, how un - wav - er - ing our

85 G D/A G/B G Asus D
 hope. Christ in pow - er re - sur - rect - ed, as we will be when He comes. What a

90 G F#m Bm /A G D/A G/B
 fore - taste of de - liv' - rance, how un - wav - er - ing our hope. Christ in pow - er re - sur - rect - ed, as we

96 Asus D G Bm D Asus G D
Rhythm out *Piano only*
 will be when He comes.

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