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*Gospel Centered*  
CHRIST EXALTING

*The Lord's Day*  
December 7, 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.

*The Second Sunday in Advent  
Peace*

*"For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."  
Matthew 2:2b*

Prelude

**During the prelude selection, prepare for worship  
by reflecting on Matthew 2:2b printed above.**

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Zephaniah 3:14-15

*[14] Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! [15] The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil.*

Invocation

Hymn

*"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"*

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
ye who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:

**refrain:** *Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn King.*

Shepherds in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with man is now residing, yonder shines the infant light:

**refrain**

Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great Desire of nations; ye have seen His natal star:

**refrain**

Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,  
suddenly the Lord, descending, in His temple shall appear:

**refrain**

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son;  
evermore your voices raising to th'eternal Three in One:

**refrain**

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Today's Advent Readers are John and April Vance

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 ramping 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 Advent Candle

Prayer

Hymn

*“Good Christian Men, Rejoice”*

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart, and soul, and voice;  
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;  
earth and heav'n before Him bow, and He is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart, and soul, and voice;  
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He hath opened heaven's door, and man is blessed evermore.  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart, and soul, and voice;  
now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain His everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

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Scripture Reading

Micah 5:2-5a

Ken Knecht, Ruling Elder

Congregational Prayer

Ken Knecht, Ruling Elder

Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

*“A Song for Peace”*

Choir

On this silent night, through the dark comes a light.  
Mary cradles her baby with delight,  
and her eyes well up with the wonder of grace.  
Through the fear, Christ is here, now in this place.  
Then her heart is calm with a song of peace, a song of peace tonight.  
Dona nobis pacem  
[Grant us peace]

Touch this world. Fill our hearts with peace.  
On this glorious night, angels sing in the skies.  
Fearful shepherds, now bowing, hide their eyes,  
for they catch a glimpse of this radiant sight,  
and they know it's the glow of love's pure light  
Then their souls are calmed with a song of peace tonight.

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Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering

Jeff Rooker, Deacon

Corporate Profession of Faith

Westminster Larger Catechism Question 37

*Q. How did Christ, being the Son of God, become man?*

Christ the Son of God became man, by taking to Himself a true body, and a reasonable soul, being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost in the womb of the virgin Mary, of her substance, and born of her, yet without sin.

Hymn

*“The Lord’s My Shepherd”*

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want; He makes me down to lie  
in pastures green; He leadeth me the quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again; and me to walk doth make  
within the paths of righteousness, e'en for His own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear none ill,  
for Thou art with me; and Thy rod and staff me comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnished in presence of my foes;  
my head Thou dost with oil anoint, and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me:  
and in God's house for evermore my dwelling place shall be.

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Scripture Reading

Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon

*"Let Earth Receive Her King"*

Pastor Coyle

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

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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Invitation to The Lord's Supper

Corporate Confession of Sin

Almighty God, we confess that we have not loved You with our whole heart, soul, mind and strength.  
We admit that our hearts are full of idols.  
Even when we worship You, we are half-hearted; our thoughts of You are too small;  
we make You in our own image rather than worship You in spirit and in truth.  
Thank You that You have saved us and make us true worshipers through Jesus Christ.  
By Your Spirit, help us to offer our whole lives in heartfelt worship.  
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

*“Crown Him with Many Crowns”*

Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne;  
hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own:  
awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee,  
and hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of love; behold His hands and side,  
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:  
no angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bends His burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of peace; whose pow'r a scepter sways  
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and  
praise:

His reign shall know no end; and round His pierced feet  
fair flow'rs of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown Him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time;  
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime:  
all hail, Redeemer, hail! for Thou hast died for me:  
Thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline  
*“Let Earth Receive Her King”*  
Matthew 2:1-12

I. Asking about the King (v.1-2)

II. Avoiding King (v.3-8)

III. Adoring the King (v.9-12)

1. Where do you see similar responses of avoiding Christ in our world? In your social circles? In your own life?
2. How does the magi's joyful and sacrificial worship of Christ inform our own worship of Christ?
3. Read Psalm 72. How does this psalm encourage joyful worship of Christ?

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Mr. Dan Butkowski  
Dr. Bob Tramel

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

**Class of 2027**  
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Mr. Richard Long  
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Rev. Derek W. Coyle, Associate Pastor

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**Class of 2027**  
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Mr. Ben Russ, Bookkeeper  
Mrs. Peggy Washburn, Administrative Assistant

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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**

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Wes & Kim	Undisclosed

## **COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America