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Gospel Centered
CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day
February 18, 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.

For they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

Mark 6:50

Prelude

During the prelude selection, prepare for worship by reflecting on Mark 6:50 printed above.

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Deuteronomy 4:35-39

[35] To you it was shown, that you might know that the LORD is God; there is no other besides him. [36] Out of heaven he let you hear his voice, that he might discipline you. And on earth he let you see his great fire, and you heard his words out of the midst of the fire. [37] And because he loved your fathers and chose their offspring after them and brought you out of Egypt with his own presence, by his great power, [38] driving out before you nations greater and mightier than you, to bring you in, to give you their land for an inheritance, as it is this day, [39] know therefore today, and lay it to your heart, that the LORD is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; there is no other.

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!

[33:12] Moses said to the LORD, "See, you say to me, 'Bring up this people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.'

[13] Now therefore, if I have found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people."

[14] And he said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

[15] And he said to him, "If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here.

[16] For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?"

[17] And the LORD said to Moses, "This very thing that you have spoken I will do, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name."

[18] Moses said, "Please show me your glory."

[19] And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The LORD.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy.

[20] But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live."

[21] And the LORD said, "Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock,

[22] and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by.

[23] Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen."

[34:1] The LORD said to Moses, "Cut for yourself two tablets of stone like the first, and I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke.

[2] Be ready by the morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai, and present yourself there to me on the top of the mountain.

[3] No one shall come up with you, and let no one be seen throughout all the mountain. Let no flocks or herds graze opposite that mountain."

[4] So Moses cut two tablets of stone like the first. And he rose early in the morning and went up on Mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him, and took in his hand two tablets of stone.

[5] The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD.

[6] The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness,

[7] keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation."

[8] And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped.

Congregational Prayer

Jim Lewis, Ruling Elder

Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

“Our Song from Age to Age”
by Sovereign Grace

Jake Hilburn

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering

Jonathan Goodwin, Deacon

Corporate Profession of Faith

Colossians 1:15-20

Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn over all creation;
In Him all things in heaven and on earth were created,
things visible and invisible.
All things have been created through Him and for Him.
He himself is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.
He is the head of the body, the church; He is the beginning, the firstborn
from the dead, so that He might come to have first place in everything.
For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him
God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven,
by making peace through the blood of His cross. Amen.

Hymn

“Be Still, My Soul”

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side;
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
leave to your God to order and provide;
in ev'ry change He faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heav'nly Friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: your God will undertake
to guide the future as He has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.

Be still, my soul: when dearest friends depart,
and all is darkened in the vale of tears,
then shall you better know His love, His heart,
Who comes to soothe your sorrow and your fears.
Be still, my soul: your Jesus can repay
from His own fullness all He takes away.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hast'ning on
when we shall be for ever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

Corporate Confession of Sin

O my Savior, help me.
I am slow to learn, prone to forget, and weak to climb;
I am in the foothills when I should be on the heights;
I am pained by my graceless heart,
my prayerless days, my poverty of love,
my sloth in the heavenly race, my sullied conscience,
my wasted hours, my unspent opportunities.
I am blind while the light shines around me:
take the scales from my eyes, grind to dust my heart of unbelief.
Make it my highest joy to study You, meditate on You,
gaze on You, sit like Mary at Your feet, lean like John on Your breast,
appeal like Peter to Your love, count like Paul all things but dung.
I believe, help my unbelief. Amen.

Individual Prayer and Meditation (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Romans 5:8-10

[8] but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. [9] Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. [10] For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

Hymn

"How Firm a Foundation"

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
"Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed; for,
I am your God, and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.
"When through the deep waters I call you to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
and sanctify to you your deepest distress.
"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be your supply;
the flame shall not hurt you; I only design
your dross to consume, and your gold to refine.
"E'en down to old age all My people shall prove
My sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;
and when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn,
like lambs they shall still in My bosom be borne.
"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

Scripture

Mark 6:45-52

[45] *Immediately he made his disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd.*

[46] *And after he had taken leave of them, he went up on the mountain to pray.*

[47] *And when evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land.*

[48] *And he saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. He meant to pass by them,*

[49] *but when they saw him walking on the sea they thought it was a ghost, and cried out,*

[50] *for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."*

[51] *And he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded,*

[52] *for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.*

Sermon

"Jesus, the Sovereign Lord"

Pastor Reed

Hymn

"Christ, the Sure and Steady Anchor"

(sheet music pg.8)

Christ the sure and steady anchor in the fury of the storm,
when the winds of doubt blow through me and my sails have all been torn.
In the suffering, in the sorrow, when my sinking hopes are few,
I will hold fast to the anchor; it shall never be removed.

Christ the sure and steady anchor while the tempest rages on,
when temptation claims the battle and it seems the night has won.
Deeper still, then goes the anchor, though I justly stand accused.
I will hold fast to the anchor; it shall never be removed.

Christ the sure and steady anchor through the floods of unbelief.
Hopeless, somehow, O my soul, now lift your eyes to Calvary.
This my ballast of assurance- see His love forever proved.
All my hope is in the anchor; it shall never be removed.

Christ the sure and steady anchor as we face the wave of death,
when these trials give way to glory, as we draw our final breath.
We will cross that great horizon, clouds behind, and life secured.
And the calm will be the better for the storms that we endure.

Christ the shore of our salvation, ever faithful, ever true.
We will hold fast to the anchor, it shall never be removed.

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline
“Jesus, the Sovereign Lord”
Mark 6:45-52

I. The Assurance of Jesus’ Presence.

II. The Terror of Jesus’ Presence.

III. The Astonishment of Jesus’ Presence.

Christ The Sure And Steady Anchor

♩=77

VERSE

C C/B Am G/B C

1. Christ the sure and stead-y an-chor in the fu-ry of the storm, when the winds of doubt blow
 (2. Christ the) sure and stead-y an-chor while the temp-est rag-es on, when temp-ta-tion claims the
 (3. Christ the) sure and stead-y an-chor through the floods of un-be-lief. Hope-less, some-how, O my
 (4. Christ the) sure and stead-y an-chor as we face the wave of death, when these trials give way to

CHORUS

6 G/B Am G G⁷ C/E F² C/E F² G

through me and my sails have all been tom. In the suf-fring, in the sor-row, when my sink-ing hopes are
 bat-tle and it seems the night has won. Deep-er still, then goes the an-chor, though I just-ly stand ac-
 soul, now lift your eyes to Cal-va-ry. This my bal-last of as-sur-ance— see His love for-ev-er
 glo-ry, as we draw our fi-nal breath. We will cross that great hor-i-zon, clouds be-hind, and life se-
 (D.S.) shore of our sal-va-tion, ev-er faith-ful, ev-er

12 Am F² G/B Am Fmaj⁷ G^{sus} C

few, I will hold fast to the an-chor; it shall nev-er be re-moved.
 -cused. I will hold fast to the an-chor; it shall nev-er be re-moved.
 proved. All my hope is in the an-chor; it shall nev-er be re-moved.
 -cured. And the calm will be the bet-ter, for the storms that we en-dured.
 true. We will hold fast to the an-chor; it shall nev-er be re-moved.

17 C/B Am⁷ 1, 2, 3. F² 4. F² C/E D.S. 5. F² C

2.3.4. Christ the Christ the

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