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Gospel Centered
CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day
February 27, 2022

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.

And Jesus said, *“Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”*
Matthew 4:19

Prelude

**During the prelude selection, prepare for worship
by reflecting on Matthew 4:19 printed above.**

Life of the Church and Introduction of Conference Participants

Rev. Clint Wilcke, Conference Speaker
Dan and Nancy Butkowski - FamilyLife/CRU City Arts & Culture
Rob Ilderton - MTW/United Kingdom
Wes and Kim (restricted country access)

Call to Worship

Revelation 5:9-14

⁹And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, ¹⁰and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.” ¹¹Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹²saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” ¹³And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” ¹⁴And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshiped.

Invocation

Hymn

“Christ for the World We Sing”

Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring
with loving zeal; the poor and them that mourn,
the faint and overborne, sin-sick and sorrow-worn,
whom Christ doth heal.

Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring
with fervent pray'r; the wayward and the lost,
by restless passions tossed, redeemed at countless cost
from dark despair.

Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring
with one accord; with us the work to share,
with us reproach to dare, with us the cross to bear,
for Christ our Lord.

Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring
with joyful song; the newborn souls whose days,
reclaimed from error's ways, inspired with hope and praise
to Christ belong.

¹ *Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!*
² *Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.*
³ *Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!*
⁴ *For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.*
⁵ *For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens.*
⁶ *Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.*
⁷ *Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!*
⁸ *Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!*
⁹ *Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth!*
¹⁰ *Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns! Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."*
¹¹ *Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;*
¹² *let the field exult, and everything in it! Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy*
¹³ *before the LORD, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.*

Congregational Prayer

Tom Paulus, Ruling Elder

Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

"He Hideth My Soul"
 arr. by John Carter

Choir

A wonderful Savior is Jesus my Lord, a wonderful Savior to me;
 He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock, where rivers of pleasure I see.

chorus: *He hideth my soul in the cleft of the rock that shadows a dry thirsty land;
 he hideth my life in the depths of his love, and covers me there with his hand,
 and covers me there with his hand.*

A wonderful Savior is Jesus my Lord, He taketh my burden away;
 He holdeth me up and I shall not be moved, He giveth me strength for each day.

chorus

With numberless blessings each moment he crowns, and, filled with his fullness divine,
 I sing in my rapture, "O glory to God for such a Redeemer as mine!"

chorus

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Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering

Ken Knecht, Deacon

Corporate Profession of Faith

Jesus Christ, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be exploited; rather, He made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Hymn

“Before the Throne of God Above”

Before the throne of God above, I have a strong and perfect plea;
a great high Priest whose Name is Love, Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands, my name is written on His heart;
I know that while in Heaven He stands, no tongue can bid me thence depart,
no tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair, and tells me of the guilt within;
upward I look and see Him there, Who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;
for God the just is satisfied, to look on Him and pardon me,
to look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there the risen Lamb, my perfect spotless righteousness;
the great unchangeable I AM, the King of glory and of grace,
One with Himself I cannot die. My soul is purchased by His blood;
my life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Savior and my God,
with Christ my Savior and my God!

written by Charitie L. Bancroft, 1863/tune by Vikki Cook, 1997/CCLI 209271

Corporate Confession of Sin

Gracious Lord, we confess that we have not denied ourselves, taken up the cross and followed You. Instead, clinging to the things of this world and counting them dear, we have grown callous to the needs of the poor, the lonely and the suffering. We have not cared about those who are without Christ and without hope in this world. Lord forgive us for our offenses and grant that by the power of Your Spirit, we might live in light of Your coming again. Amen.

Individual Prayer and Meditation (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

John 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”

Hymn

“His Mercy Is More”

What love could remember, no wrongs we have done
Omniscient, all-knowing, He counts not their sum
thrown into a sea without bottom or shore
our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

chorus: *Praise the Lord His mercy is more
stronger than darkness new every morn’
our sins they are many, His mercy is more.*

What patience would wait as we constantly roam
what Father so tender is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor
our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

chorus

What riches of kindness He lavished on us
His blood was the payment His life was the cost
we stood ‘neath a debt we could never afford
our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

chorus

(2nd time chorus) *Praise the Lord His mercy is more
stronger than darkness New every morn’
our sins they are many, His mercy is more
our sins they are many, His mercy is more
our sins they are many, His mercy is more.*

words and music by Matt Boswell and Matt Papa
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Scripture

Matthew 11:25-30

²⁵ *At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven
and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and
understanding and revealed them to little children;*

²⁶ *yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.*

²⁷ *All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no
one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father
except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him..*

²⁸ Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Sermon

“Shoulders for the Weary”

Reverend Clint Wilcke

Flag Recessional

*Hymn

“Arise, O God, and Shine”

Arise, O God, and shine in all Thy saving might,
and prosper each design to spread Thy glorious light;
let healing streams of mercy flow
that all the earth Thy truth may know.

Bring distant nations near to sing Thy glorious praise;
let every people hear and learn Thy holy ways.
Reign, mighty God, assert Thy cause,
and govern by Thy righteous laws.

Put forth Thy glorious power, that everyone may see
and earth present her store, in converts born to Thee.
God, our own God, His Church will bless,
and fill the world with righteousness.

To God, the only Wise, the one immortal King,
let hallelujahs rise, from every living thing;
let all that breathe, on every coast,
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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*Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Notes
“Shoulders for the Weary”
Matthew 11:25-30

Guest Preacher
Reverend Clint Wilcke
Coordinator for the Mid-South Church Planting Network

Clint serves as Coordinator/Catalyst for the Mid-South Church Planting Network (MSCPN).

This is a network of four presbyteries that partner together by identifying, placing, and training church planters in Arkansas, Mississippi, West Tennessee, and Southeast Louisiana.

Clint has been ordained in gospel ministry for twenty one years. He was the founding pastor of Christ Covenant in Hernando, Mississippi in 2008.

He served on the staffs of Covenant Presbyterian in Nashville, Tennessee, First Presbyterian Church in Jackson, Mississippi, and Reformed University Fellowship on the campus of Southern Mississippi

He graduated from Ole Miss in 1992 and Reformed Theological Seminary, Jackson, Mississippi in 2001.

Clint is married to Kathy of twenty-eight years, they have five children: Kendall (Daniel Myrick), Caleb (Molly Wilcke), Robert, Ben, and Zach.

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COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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