

covenant.presbyterian.church

Gospel Centered CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day
January 12, 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, andrelational by encouraging the church family to build community.

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Acts 1:8

Prelude

During the prelude selection, prepare for worship by reflecting on Acts 1:8 printed above.

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Psalm 145:8-13

[8] The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

[9] The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

[10] All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your saints shall bless you!

[11] They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power,

[12] to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

[13] Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. [The LORD is faithful in all his words and kind in all his works.]

Invocation

Hymn

"Come, People of the Risen King"

Come, people of the risen King, who delight to bring Him praise. Come all, and tune your hearts to sing to the Morning Star of grace. From the shifting shadows of the earth we will lift our eyes to Him, where steady arms of mercy reach to gather children in.

refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice! One heart, one voice; oh, church of Christ, rejoice!

Come those whose joy is morning sun, and those weeping through the night. Come, those who tell of battles won, and those struggling in the fight. For His perfect love will never change, and His mercies never cease, but follow us through all our days with the certain hope of peace.

refrain

Come, young and old from every land, men and women of the faith. Come, those with full or empty hands; find the riches of His grace. Over all the world His people sing; shore to shore we hear them call the Truth that cries through every age; "Our God is all in all."

refrain

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Scripture Reading

Isaiah 49:1-7

Richard Long, Ruling Elder

Congregational Prayer

Richard Long, Ruling Elder

"Day by Day and with Each Passing Moment"

Choir

Day by day and with each passing moment, strength I find to meet my trails here; trusting in my Father's wise bestowment, I've no cause for worry or for fear. He whose heart is kind beyond all measure gives unto each day what He deems best -- lovingly, it's part of pain and pleasure mingling toil with peace and rest.

Every day the Lord Himself is near me with a special mercy for each hour: all my cares He fain would bear, and cheer me, He whose name is Counselor and Pow'r. The protection of His child and treasure is a charge that on Himself He laid; "As your days, your strength shall be in measure," this the pledge to me He made.

Help me then in every tribulation so to trust Your promises, O Lord, that I lose not faith's sweet consolation. offered me within Your holy Word. Help me, Lord, when toil and trouble meeting, e'er to take, as from a father's hand, one by one, the days, the moments fleeting, till I reach the promised land.

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Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering

Mike Lieblich, Deacon

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Corporate Profession of Faith

Westminster Shorter Catechism Q. 28

Wherein consisteth Christ's exaltation?

Christ's exaltation consisteth in his rising again from the dead on the third day, in ascending up into heaven, in sitting at the right hand of God the Father, and in coming to judge the world at the last day.

Hymn

"God's Is Our Refuge and Our Strength"

God is our refuge and our strength, our ever present aid, and therefore though the earth remove, we will not be afraid; though hills amidst the seas be cast, though foaming waters roar, yea, though the mighty billows shake the mountains on the shore.

A river flows whose streams make glad the city of our God, the holy place wherein the Lord Most High has His abode. Since God is in the midst of her, unmoved her walls shall stand, for God will be her early help, when trouble is at hand.

The nations raged, the kingdoms moved, but when His voice was heard, the troubled earth was stilled to peace before His mighty word.

The Lord of hosts is on our side, our safety to secure, the God of Jacob is for us a refuge strong and sure.

O come, behold what wondrous works Jehovah's hand has wrought; come, see what desolation great He on the earth has brought.

To utmost ends of all the earth He causes war to cease; the weapons of the strong destroyed. He makes abiding peace.

"Be still and know that I am God, o'er all exalted high; the subject nations of the earth my name shall magnify." The Lord of Hosts is on our side, our safety to secure, the God of Jacob is for us a refuge strong and sure.

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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 of Confession (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

1 Peter 2:9-10

[9] But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. [10] Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Hymn

"We Are God's People"

We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord, born of His Spirit, established by His Word; our cornerstone is Christ alone, and strong in Him we stand: O let us live transparently, and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.

We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord, for we have known it, the love of God outpoured now let us learn how to return the gift of love once giv'n:

O let us share each joy and care, and live with a zeal that pleases heav'n.

We are the Body of which the Lord is Head, called to obey Him, now risen from the dead;
He wills us to be a family, diverse yet truly one:
O let us give our gifts to God, and so shall His work on earth be done.

We are a temple, the Spirit's dwelling place, formed in great weakness, a cup to hold God's grace; we die alone, for on its own each member loses fire: yet joined in one the flame burns on to give warmth and light, and to inspire.

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Scripture Reading

Acts 1:6-11

"The Church Bears Witness"

"O Church, Arise" by Stuart Townend and Keith Getty

O Church, arise, and put your armor on; hear the call of Christ our captain.

For now the weak can say that they are strong in the strength that God has given.

With shield of faith and belt of truth, we'll stand against the devil's lies.

An army bold, whose battle cry is Love, reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war, to love the captive soul,
but to rage against the captor;
and with the sword that makes the wounded whole,
we will fight with faith and valor.
When faced with trials on every side,
we know the outcome is secure.
And Christ will have the prize for which He died:
an inheritance of nations.

Come, see the cross, where love and mercy meet, as the Son of God is stricken; then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet, for the Conqueror has risen!

And as the stone is rolled away, and Christ emerges from the grave, this victory march continues till the day ev'ry eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit, come, put strength in every stride; give grace for every hurdle, that we may run with faith to win the prize of a servant good and faithful.

As saints of old, still line the way, retelling triumphs of His grace, we hear their calls, and hunger for the day when with Christ we stand in Glory.

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline "The Church Bears Witness" Acts 1:6-11

I. The Church is Called to Wait

II. The Church is Called to Witness

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Mrs. Roanna Wilson, Choir Director Mr. David Beuerman, Violinist Mr. Jake Hilburn, Guitarist Mrs. Valerie Hilliard, Vocalist Mrs. Katie Hughes, Pianist

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COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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