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Gospel Centered
CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day

January 2, 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.

*"It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man.
It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes."*

Psalm 118:8-9

Prelude

**During the prelude selection, prepare for worship
by reflecting on Psalm 118:8-9 printed above.**

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Revelation 7:10, 12

*¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs
to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"*

*¹² saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and
thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to
our God forever and ever! Amen."*

Invocation and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Hymn

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
our helper He amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
his craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He,
Lord Sabaoth His name, from age to age the same,
and He must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure;
one little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sideth;
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
the body they may kill: God's truth abideth still;
His kingdom is for ever.

Revelation 4:1-11

¹ *After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this."*

² *At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne.*

³ *And he who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian, and around the throne was a rainbow that had the appearance of an emerald.*

⁴ *Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders, clothed in white garments, with golden crowns on their heads.*

⁵ *From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings^[a] and peals of thunder, and before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God,*

⁶ *and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal. And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind:*

⁷ *the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like an eagle in flight.*

⁸ *And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!"*

⁹ *And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever,*

¹⁰ *the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying,*

¹¹ *"Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."*

Congregational Prayer

Bill Scholl, Ruling Elder

Corporate Profession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

“Beautiful Savior”

Choir

Beautiful Saviour, King of Creation,
Son of God, and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee; truly I'd serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my Joy, my Crown!
Fair are the meadows; fair are the woodlands,
robed in flowers of blooming spring.
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer.
He makes our sorrowing spirits sing.
Beautiful Saviour, Lord of the nations,
Son of God, and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
now and forever, forevermore be Thine!
Now and forevermore be Thine!

arr. by Tom Fettke/CCLI 209271

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering

Bob Davis, Deacon

Hymn

“O Father, You Are Sovereign”

O Father, You are sovereign in all the worlds You made;
Your mighty Word was spoken and light and life obeyed.
Your voice commands the seasons and bounds the ocean's shore,
sets stars within their courses and stills the tempest's roar.

O Father, You are sovereign in all affairs of man;
no pow'rs of death or darkness can thwart Your perfect plan.
All chance and change transcending, supreme in time and space,
You hold Your trusting children secure in Your embrace.

O Father, You are sovereign the Lord of human pain,
transmuting earthly sorrows to gold of heav'nly gain.
All evil overruling, as none but Conqu'ror could,
Your love pursues its purpose - our souls' eternal good.

O Father, You are sovereign! We see You dimly now,
but soon before Your triumph earth's every knee shall bow.
With this glad hope before us our faith springs up anew:
our Sovereign Lord and Savior, we trust and worship You!

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Scripture Reading

Psalm 11

¹ *In the LORD I take refuge; how can you say to my soul, “Flee like a bird to your mountain,*

² *for behold, the wicked bend the bow; they have fitted their arrow to the string to shoot in the dark at the upright in heart;*

³ *if the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?”*

4 The LORD is in his holy temple; the LORD's throne is in heaven; his eyes see, his eyelids test the children of man.

5 The LORD tests the righteous, but his soul hates the wicked and the one who loves violence.

6 Let him rain coals on the wicked; fire and sulfur and a scorching wind shall be the portion of their cup.

7 For the LORD is righteous; he loves righteous deeds; the upright shall behold his face.

Sermon

“A Song of Confidence”

Pastor Coyle

The Sacrament of The Lord's Supper

Hymn

“Behold Our God”

Who has held the oceans in His hands?
Who has numbered every grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice.
All creation rises to rejoice.

Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One Who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?

chorus: *Behold our God, seated on His throne. Come, let us adore Him, behold our King, nothing can compare, come, let us adore Him!*

Who has felt the nails upon His hands,
bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal, humbled to the grave,
Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign!

chorus

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Invitation to The Lord's Supper

Corporate Confession of Sin

Our Father, forgive us for thinking small thoughts of You and for ignoring Your immensity and greatness.

Lord Jesus, forgive us when we forget that You rule the nations and our small lives. Holy Spirit, we offend You in minimizing Your power and squandering Your gifts.

We confess that our blindness to Your glory, O triune God, has resulted in shallow confession, tepid conviction, and only mild repentance. Have mercy upon us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Individual Prayer and Meditation (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Ephesians 1:7-8

7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8 which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight.

Prayer of Blessing

Distribution of the Elements

Please hold the elements when received that we may partake of them in unison. The grape colored cups in the outer ring of each tray contain wine. The clear cups in the remainder of each tray contain grape juice. Gluten free bread is available in the foyer.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

chorus: *On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.
chorus

His oath, His covenant, His blood support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.
chorus

When He shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found;
dressed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.
chorus

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline
“A Song of Confidence”
Psalm 11

I. Fearful Guidance

II. Fixed Gaze

III. Firm Ground

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Bill Scholl

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Bruce Hurlbut
Carl Monroe
Jason Van Goor

Class of 2024
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Liz Baker, Choir Director

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