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# Gospel Centered CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day

# July 13, 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.

	"Looking to Jest	us, the founder and perfecter of our faith." Hebrews 12:2		
Prelude	by reflecting on Hebrews 12:2 printed above.			
Life of the Church				
Call to Worship		Philippians 2:9-11		
	that is above every nan should bow, in heaven	highly exalted him and bestowed on him th ne, [10] so that at the name of Jesus every and on earth and under the earth, [11] and us Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the F	knee 1 every	
Invocation				
Hymn	"Cro	own Him with Many Crowns"		
	hark! how the hea awake, my so	many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne; av'nly anthem drowns all music but its own oul, and sing of Him who died for thee, s thy matchless King through all eternity.	own:	
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 p His reign shall know no end; and round His pierced feet fair flow'rs of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.				
			raise:	
	Creator of t all hail, Rede	he Lord of years, the Potentate of time; the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime: eemer, hail! for Thou hast died for me: all never, never fail throughout eternity. CCLI 209271		
Scripture Reading		Psalm 123	Carl Monroe, Ruling Elder	
Congregational Praye	er		Carl Monroe, Ruling Elder	
Offertory and Collect	ion of Tithes and Offerin	ıgs		
Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering		Andrew Kinzler, Deacon		
Corporate Profession	ı 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				

whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of His cross. Amen. "Jesus, I Am Resting, Resting"

Jesus, I am resting, resting in the joy of what Thou art; I am finding out the greatness, of Thy loving heart. Thou hast bid me gaze upon Thee, and Thy beauty fills my soul, for by Thy transforming power, Thou hast made me whole. Jesus, I am resting, resting in the joy of what Thou art; I am finding out the greatness of Thy loving heart.

O how great Thy loving kindness, vaster, broader than the sea! O how marvelous Thy goodness, lavished all on me! Yes, I rest in Thee, Beloved, know what wealth of grace is Thine, know Thy certainty of promise, and have made it mine. Jesus, I am resting, resting in the joy of what Thou art; I am finding out the greatness of Thy loving heart.

Simply trusting Thee, Lord Jesus, I behold Thee as Thou art, and Thy love, so pure, so changeless, satisfies my heart; satisfies my deepest longings, meets, supplies its every need, 'compasseth me round with blessings, Thine is love indeed! Jesus, I am resting, resting in the joy of what Thou art; I am finding out the greatness of Thy loving heart.

Ever lift Thy face upon me, as I work and wait for Thee; resting 'neath Thy smile, Lord Jesus, earth's dark shadows flee. Brightness of my Father's glory, sunshine of my Father's face, keep me ever trusting, resting, fill me with Thy grace. Jesus, I am resting, resting in the joy of what Thou art; I am finding out the greatness of Thy loving heart.

> arr. Northland Community Church, Inc. David B. Hampton & Jean S. Pigot/CCLI 209271

Corporate Confession of Sin

Father in heaven, we thank You for the freedom You have given us through the life, death and resurrection of Your Son. But we confess today that we often live like slaves. Instead of living like You delight in us, we avoid You in shame and guilt. Instead of receiving Your favor as a gift, we try to earn it with our efforts. Instead of accepting Your freedom, we prefer our chains. Instead of pursuing Your purposes, we cling to our short-sighted agendas. Forgive us. Embrace us. Cleanse us. Heal us. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Individual Prayer of Confession (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

1 Peter 2:24-25

[24] He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. [25] For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls. "Afflicted Saint, to Christ Draw Near"

Afflicted saint, to Christ draw near, your Savior's gracious promise hear, His faithful Word, you can believe, that as your days- your strength shall be.

Your faith is weak, your foes are strong, and if the conflict should be long, the Lord will make the tempter flee, that as your days- your strength shall be.

> **chorus:** So, sing with joy, afflicted one; the battle's fierce, but the victory's won; God shall supply all that you need. Yes, as your days- your strength shall be.

Should persecution rage and flame, still trust in your Redeemer's name; in fiery trials you shall see, that as your days- your strength shall be. **chorus** 

When called to bear your weighty cross, or sore affliction, pain, or loss, or deep distress or poverty, still as your days- your strength shall be. **chorus** 

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Scripture Reading

Hebrews 12:1-3

Sermon

"The Race of Faith"

Rev. Steve Sanford

Hymn

"Lead On, O King Eternal"

Lead on, O King eternal, the day of march has come; henceforth in fields of conquest Thy tents shall be our home: through days of preparation Thy grace has made us strong, and now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease, and holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace; for not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums, but deeds of love and mercy, the heav'nly kingdom comes.

Lead on, O King eternal: we follow, not with fears; for gladness breaks like morning where'er Thy face appears; Thy cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light: the crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might. CCLI 209271

Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

<u>Sermon Outline</u> *"The Race of Faith"* Hebrews 12:1-3

## **MEMBERS OF SESSION**

## **RULIING ELDERS**

**Class of 2025** Mr. J. C. Baker (sabbatical) Mr. Dan Butkowski Dr. Bob Tramel **Class of 2026** Mr. William Fennell Mr. Jeff Nissen Mr. Bill Scholl Class of 2027 Dr. Ken Knecht Mr. Richard Long Mr. Carl Monroe

# **TEACHING ELDERS**

Rev. Dr. Tim J. Reed, Senior Pastor (sabbatical) Rev. Derek W. Coyle, Associate Pastor

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# STAFF

Rev. Justin Hilliard, Assistant Pastor (Pinnacle Classical Academy) Mr. Ben Russ, Bookkeeper Mrs. Peggy Washburn, Administrative Assistant

## MUSICIANS/VOCALISTS

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

#### COVENANT'S MISSIONARY FAMILLIES

Paul & Connie Backstrom, Bentonville Dan & Nancy Butkowski, Little Rock Scott & Kathy Craig, Mexico (retired) Frank & Daisy Du, Little Rock Roger & Laura Dye, South Carolina Jamie & Jacki Gildard, France Rob & Jenny Ilderton, England Darlene Johnson, Japan Tom & Karen Mirabella, Japan Pete Mitchell, France Jim Wroughton, Peru (retired) Will & Martha, International Wes & Kim, Undisclosed

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