



covenant.presbyterian.church

Gospel Centered
CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day
July 16, 2023

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.

*"But that you may know that the Son of Man
has authority on earth to forgive sins."*

Mark 2:10

Prelude

During the prelude selection, prepare for worship by reflecting on Mark 2:10 printed above.

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Psalm 30:11-12

[11] You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness, [12] that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever!

Invocation

Hymn

"How Great Thou Art"

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the worlds Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow'r thro'out the universe displayed.

refrain: *Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee:
how great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee:
how great Thou art, how great Thou art!*

When thro' the woods and forest glades I wander
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;

refrain

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

refrain

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art.

refrain

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Scripture Reading

Isaiah 35

Brandon Walser, Ruling Elder

[1] The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; [2] it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. [3] Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. [4] Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you."

[5] Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; [6] then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; [7] the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. [8] And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. [9] No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. [10] And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Congregational Prayer

Brandon Walser, Ruling Elder

Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering

David Beurman, Deacon

Corporate Profession of Faith

Psalm 103:8-12

[8] The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. [9] He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. [10] He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. [11] For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; [12] as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Hymn

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to Thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high:
hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm is past
safe into the haven guide, receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none, I helpless, hang on Thee;
leave, ah! leave me not alone, still support and comfort me!
All my trust on Thee is stayed, help from Thee I bring;
cover my defenseless head the shadow of Thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in Thee I find;
raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is Thy name; I am all unrighteousness;
false and full of sin I am, Thou full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with Thee is found, grace to cover all my sin;
let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within:
Thou of life the fountain art, let me take of Thee;
spring Thou up within my heart, to all eternity.

Corporate Confession of Sin

Forgive us our sins, O Lord.
Forgive us the sins of our youth and the sins of our age,
the sins of our soul and the sins of our body,
our secret and our whispering sins,
our presumptuous and our careless sins,
the sins we have done to please ourselves,
and the sins we have done to please others.
Forgive us the sins that we know, and the sins that we know not;
forgive them, O Lord, forgive them all because of Your great
goodness. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Individual Prayer and Meditation (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Acts 10:43

[43] To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Hymn

"My Jesus, I Love Thee"

My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine;
for Thee all the follies of sin I resign.
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou;
if ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love Thee because Thou hast first loved me,
and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree.
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow;
if ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I'll love Thee in life, I will love Thee in death;
and praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath;
and say, when the death-dew lies cold on my brow:
if ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow:
if ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

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Scripture Reading

Mark 2:1-12

Pastor Reed

[1] And when he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. [2] And many were gathered together, so that there was no more room, not even at the door. And he was preaching the word to them. [3] And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. [4] And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and when they had made an opening, they let down the bed on which the paralytic lay.

[5] And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven." [6] Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, [7] "Why does this man speak like that? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" [8] And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question these things in your hearts? [9] Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your bed and walk'?" [10] But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the paralytic—[11] "I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home." [12] And he rose and immediately picked up his bed and went out before them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

Sermon

"Jesus' Authority to Forgive Sins"

Pastor Reed

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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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

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Mr. David Beuerman, Violinist
Mr. Jake Hilburn, Guitarist

Mrs. Cheryl Visser, Flutist
Mr. Mike Walsh, Pianist
Mrs. Roanna Wilson, Vocalist

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COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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