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Gospel Centered
CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day
July 23, 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.

*"I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."
Mark 2:17*

Prelude **During the prelude selection, prepare for worship by reflecting on Mark 2:17 printed above.**

Life of the Church

Call to Worship Psalm 25:8-10

*[8] Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
[9] He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.
[10] All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.*

Invocation

Hymn *"Fairest Lord Jesus"*

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor,
Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,
and all the twinkling, starry host:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
than all the angels heav'n can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
now and for evermore be Thine.

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Scripture Reading

Isaiah 55

Bruce Hurlbut, Ruling Elder

[1] "Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. [2] Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. [3] Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. [4] Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.

[5] Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know, and a nation that did not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. [6] "Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; [7] let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. [8] For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. [9] For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. [10] "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, [11] so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. [12] "For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. [13] Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the LORD, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

Congregational Prayer

Bruce Hurlbut, Ruling Elder

Offertory and Collection of Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Presentation of the Offering

Jeff Rooker, Deacon

Corporate Profession of Faith

1 Timothy 1:15

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.

Hymn

"Nothing but the Blood"

What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
what can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

refrain: *Oh! precious is the flow that makes me white as snow;
no other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

For my cleansing, this I see - nothing but the blood of Jesus;
for my pardon this my plea - nothing but the blood of Jesus.

refrain

Nothing can for sin atone - nothing but the blood of Jesus;
naught of good that I have done - nothing but the blood of Jesus.

refrain

This is all my hope and peace - nothing but the blood of Jesus;
this is all my righteousness - nothing but the blood of Jesus.

refrain

Now by this I'll overcome - nothing but the blood of Jesus,
now by this I'll reach my home - nothing but the blood of Jesus.

refrain

Corporate Confession of Sin

Almighty God, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed; we have not loved You with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone. Lord, You are full of compassion and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy; there is always forgiveness with You! Restore to us the joy of Your salvation; bind up that which is broken, give light to our minds, strength to our wills, and rest to our souls. Speak to each of us, and let Your word abide with us until it has wrought in us Your holy will. Amen.

Individual Prayer and Meditation (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

1 John 1:8-9

[8] If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. [9] If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Hymn

"King of Saints"

Jesus Christ, God's holy lamb, we will laud Thy lovely name;
we were saved by God's decree and all our debt was paid by Thee.
Thou has washed us in Thy blood, made us kings and priests to God;
take this tribute of the poor; less we can't, we can't give more.

refrain: *Souls redeemed, your voices raise,
sing your dear Redeemer's praise;
worthy Thou of love and laud,
King of saints, incarnate God.*

Righteous are Thy ways and true; endless honors are Thy due;
grace and glory in Thee shine; matchless mercy, love divine.
We for whom Thou once was slain, we Thy ransomed sinner train,
in this one request agree: "Spirit make us more like Thee."

refrain

May every time of worship see Your grace revealed more rich and free,
till we are raised to sing Your name at the great supper of the Lamb.

O that the months would roll away and bring the Coronation Day!
the King of saints shall fill the throne, with all His Father's glories on.

refrain

[13] He went out again beside the sea, and all the crowd was coming to him, and he was teaching them.

[14] And as he passed by, he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, "Follow me." And he rose and followed him.

[15] And as he reclined at table in his house, many tax collectors and sinners were reclining with Jesus and his disciples, for there were many who followed him.

[16] And the scribes of the Pharisees, when they saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

[17] And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

Sermon

"A Banquet for Sinners"

Pastor Reed

Hymn

"Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!"

Jesus! what a Friend for sinners! Jesus! Lover of my soul;
friends may fail me, foes assail me, He, my Savior, makes me whole.

refrain: *Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah, what a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end.*

Jesus! what a strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in Him;
tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, He, my strength, my vict'ry wins.

refrain

Jesus! what a help in sorrow! While the billows o'er me roll,
even when my heart is breaking, He, my comfort, helps my soul.

refrain

Jesus! what a guide and keeper! While the tempest still is high,
storms about me, night o'er-takes me, He, my pilot, hears my cry.

refrain

Jesus! I do now receive Him, more than all in Him I find,
He hath granted me forgiveness, I am His, and He is mine.

refrain

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Outline
“A Banquet for Sinners”
Mark 2:13-17

I. Called by Jesus.

II. Offended by Jesus.

III. Silenced by Jesus.

MEMBERS OF SESSION

RULING ELDERS

Class of 2023
Mr. Bruce Hurlbut
Mr. Carl Monroe
Mr. Jason Van Goor

Class of 2024
Mr. Jim Lewis
Mr. Josh Sanford
Dr. Brandon Walser

Class of 2025
Mr. Dan Butkowski
Dr. Bob Tramel

TEACHING ELDERS

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

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Mr. Scott Freydl
Dr. David Matlock
Mr. Jeff Rooker

Class of 2024
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Dr. Ken Knecht
Mr. Kurt Smith

Class of 2025
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Dr. Jonathan Goodwin
Mr. Jason Guenther

STAFF

Mr. Ben Russ, Bookkeeper
Mrs. Peggy Washburn, Administrative Assistant

MUSICIANS/VOCALISTS

Mrs. Liz Baker, Choir Director
Mr. David Beurman, Violinist
Mr. Jake Hilburn, Guitarist

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

COVENANT'S MISSIONARY FAMILIES

Paul & Connie Backstrom, Bentonville
Peter & Jenny Boling, Mexico
Dan & Nancy Butkowski, Little Rock
Scott & Kathy Craig, Mexico
Roger & Laura Dye, South Carolina
Del & Hazel Farris, MNA Ministry to State
Jamie & Jacki Gildard, France
Rob & Jenny Ilderton, England

Darlene Johnson, Japan
Tom & Karen Mirabella, Japan
Pete & Ruth Mitchell, France
Jim & Karan Romaine, New York City
Jim Wroughton, Peru (retired)
Will & Martha, International
Wes & Kim, Undisclosed

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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