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*Gospel Centered*  
CHRIST EXALTING

*The Lord's Day*

July 26, 2020

*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.

*"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."  
2 Corinthians 12:9*

Prelude

**During the prelude, prepare for worship by  
reflecting on 2 Corinthians 12:9 printed above.**

Welcome

Recognition of Graduates

Emma Knecht, Gavin McGilvray,  
and Hannah Tomlinson

Call to Worship

Psalm 25:8-10

*<sup>8</sup> Good and upright is the LORD;  
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.*

*<sup>9</sup> He leads the humble in what is right,  
and teaches the humble his way.*

*<sup>10</sup> All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love  
and faithfulness, for those who keep his  
covenant and his testimonies.*

Invocation

Hymn

*"We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator"*

We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;  
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.  
We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You;  
we bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.

We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You;  
through life's storm and tempest our Guide You have been;  
when perils o'ertake us, escape You will make us,  
and with Your help, O Lord, our battles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer,  
to You, great Jehovah, glad anthems we raise.  
Your strong arm will guide us, our God is beside us;  
to You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise.

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O worship the King, all glorious above,  
O gratefully sing His power and His love;  
our shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,  
pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,  
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.  
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,  
and dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

Your bountiful care, what tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;  
it streams from the hills; it descends to the plain;  
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,  
In You do we trust, nor find You to fail;  
Your mercies how tender, how firm to the end,  
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

O measureless Might! Ineffable Love!  
While angels delight to hymn You above,  
the humbler creation, though feeble their lays,  
with true adoration shall lisp to Your praise.

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Corporate Profession of Faith

Psalm 23

*The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

*Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.*

*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.*

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Jason Van Goor, Deacon

- <sup>1</sup> *I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord.*
- <sup>2</sup> *I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven - whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows.*
- <sup>3</sup> *And I know that this man was caught up into paradise - whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows -*
- <sup>4</sup> *and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter.*
- <sup>5</sup> *On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses -*
- <sup>6</sup> *though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth; but I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me.*
- <sup>7</sup> *So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited.*
- <sup>8</sup> *Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me.*
- <sup>9</sup> *But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.*
- <sup>10</sup> *For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*

## Congregational Prayer

Jeff Nissen, Ruling Elder

## Hymn

*"Come, Ye Sinners"*

Come, ye sinners, poor and wretched, weak and wounded, sick and sore;  
 Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity joined with pow'r:  
 He is able, He is able, He is willing; doubt no more.

Come, ye needy, come and welcome, God's free bounty glorify;  
 true belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh,  
 without money, without money, come to Jesus Christ and buy.

Come, ye weary, heavy laden, bruised and broken by the fall;  
 if you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all:  
 not the righteous, not the righteous; sinners Jesus came to call.

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;  
 all the fitness He requireth is to feel your need of Him;  
 this He gives you, this He gives you; 'tis the Spirit's rising beam.

Lo! The Iincarnate God, ascended, pleads the merit of His blood;  
 venture on Him, venture wholly, let no other trust intrude:  
 none but Jesus, none but Jesus, can do helpless sinners good.

## Corporate Confession of Sin

Father of mercies, we confess that we have sinned against You.

By Your Holy Spirit, come and work repentance into our hearts.

Help us to see You as You are: with outstretched arms, a loving heart,  
and power to save.

Help us to see Jesus, the friend of sinners, and to follow Him more faithfully.

As we have received Him, so strengthen us to walk in Him, depend on Him,  
commune with Him, and be conformed to Him.

Give us an experience of Your grace that makes us bold for others, that we  
might joyfully tell our friends and neighbors of Your saving mercy. Amen.

## Individual Prayer of Confession (silent prayer)

### Assurance of Pardon

Micah 7:18-20

*<sup>18</sup> Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love.*

*<sup>19</sup> He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.*

*<sup>20</sup> You will show faithfulness to Jacob and steadfast love to Abraham, as you have sworn to our fathers from the days of old.*

### Hymn

*“He Will Hold Me Fast”*

(sheet music pgs. 8-10)

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;  
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.  
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;  
For my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

**chorus:** *He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;  
For my Saviour loves me so, He will hold me fast.*

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;  
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.  
He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last;  
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.

**chorus**

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;  
Justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.  
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast  
'Till our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last!

**chorus**

- 22 The same night he arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok.*
- 23 He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had.*
- 24 And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day.*
- 25 When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him.*
- 26 Then he said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."*
- 27 And he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob."*
- 28 Then he said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed."*
- 29 Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him.*
- 30 So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered."*
- 31 The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.*
- 32 Therefore to this day the people of Israel do not eat the sinew of the thigh that is on the hip socket, because he touched the socket of Jacob's hip on the sinew of the thigh.*

Sermon

*"Wrestling with a Good God"*

Pastor Coyle

Hymn

*"Be Thou My Vision"*

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that Thou art -  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word; I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son; Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Be Thou my battle shield, sword for the fight; be Thou my dignity, Thou my delight;  
Thou my soul's shelter, Thou my high tow'r: raise Thou me heav'nward, O pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise, Thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won, may I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'n's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

Sermon Notes  
*"Wrestling with a Good God"*  
Genesis 32:22-32

I. God reaches us in our loneliness and fear (v.7,22-24).

II. God removes our strength (v.25-27).

III. God renews us (v.28-31).

# He Will Hold Me Fast

*(When I Fear My Faith Will Fail)*

Intro from 'Finlandia' by Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)  
 Lyrics vv. 1-2 by Ada Habershon (1861-1918)  
 Alt words vv. 1-2, lyrics v.3, and Music by Matt Merker  
 Orchestrated by Paul Campbell

**Intro 1**

Freely

Violin: Solo / Piano: simple chords

N.C. D<sup>6</sup> A/C<sup>#</sup> Bm A Bm/D D/F<sup>#</sup> E/G<sup>#</sup> A D<sup>6</sup> A/C<sup>#</sup>

(optional cut to Intro 2 at b.24)

6 Bm A/C<sup>#</sup> D<sup>6</sup> D/F<sup>#</sup> E/G<sup>#</sup> A 10 A A/G<sup>#</sup> F<sup>#</sup>m C<sup>#</sup>m

12 Bm A/C<sup>#</sup> D<sup>6</sup> A/E D Bm<sup>6</sup> C<sup>#</sup> A A/G<sup>#</sup>

18 F<sup>#</sup>m C<sup>#</sup>m Bm A/C<sup>#</sup> D<sup>6</sup> A/E ESUS E

**Intro 2**

Full of Hope (♩ = 66)

Vln OUT / Piano SOLO

Ama<sup>7</sup> A/C<sup>#</sup> Dadd<sup>9</sup> Ama<sup>7</sup> A/C<sup>#</sup> Dadd<sup>9</sup>

28 V.1 Piano: cont. simple A A/C<sup>#</sup> D D E A A A/C<sup>#</sup> D

1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast; When the tempt-er would pre - vail,

34 D E A F<sup>#</sup>m E/G<sup>#</sup> A D D C<sup>#</sup> F<sup>#</sup>m

He will hold me fast. I could nev-er keep my hold Through life's fear - ful path;



Vocal/Rhythm

40 F#m E/G# A/C# D D E A

For my love is oft - en cold; He must hold me fast.

45 **Ch.1** S.A.T. + Synth (Warm Pad) sust. D E F#m F#m E/G# A A Bm7 A/C#

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast; For my Sa - vior loves me

50 **L.1** As Intro 2 D D E Ama7 A/C# Dadd9 Ama7 A/C#

so, He will hold me fast.

55 **V.2** Dadd9 A A/C# D D E A

2. Those He saves are His de - light, Christ will hold me fast;

60 **64** A A/C# D D E A F#m E/G# A/C#

Pre - cious in his ho - ly sight, He will hold me fast. He'll not let my soul be

65 D D C# F#m F#m E/G# A/C# D D E

lost; His Prom - is - es shall last; Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me

71 **Build to Ch.2** **+ Cymbal Roll** **Ch.2** + Gospel Choir: Oohs (or S.A.T.) A D E F#m F#m E/G#

fast. He will hold me fast, He will hold me

76 **Choir: lyrics (unis.)** **Choir OUT** A A Bm7 A/C# D D E

fast; For my Sa - vior loves me so, He will hold me

Vocal/Rhythm

**L.2** As before

80 A<sup>ma7</sup> A/C<sup>#</sup> D<sup>add9</sup> A<sup>ma7</sup> A/C<sup>#</sup> D<sup>add9</sup>

fast.

**V.3** SOLO Piano: simple and sparse

84 F<sup>#m9</sup> D D/F<sup>#</sup> E/G<sup>#</sup> A F<sup>#m9</sup> D

3. For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast; Just-ice has been sat-is - fied;

**92** + Bass

90 D E A F<sup>#m</sup> E/G<sup>#</sup> A/C<sup>#</sup> D D C<sup>#</sup> F<sup>#m</sup>

He will hold me fast. Raised with Him to end-less life, He will hold me fast

**96** F<sup>#m</sup> E/G<sup>#</sup> A/C<sup>#</sup> D D E A

'Till our faith is turned to sight, When He comes at last!

Build to Ch.3 Cymbal Roll

**Ch.3** + Choir with Lyrics (SAT)

101 D E F<sup>#m</sup> F<sup>#m</sup> E/G<sup>#</sup> A A Bm<sup>7</sup> A/C<sup>#</sup>

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast; For my Sa - vior loves me

**106** D D E A D E

so, He will hold me fast. He will hold me

Build to Ch.4 + Cymbal Roll Ch.4

**111** F<sup>#m</sup> F<sup>#m</sup> E/G<sup>#</sup> A A Bm<sup>7</sup> A/C<sup>#</sup>

fast, He will hold me fast; For my Sa - vior loves me

**115** D D E A Bm<sup>9</sup> A/C<sup>#</sup> D A/C<sup>#</sup> Bm<sup>7</sup> E<sup>7sus</sup> A

so, He will hold me fast.

rit. e dim. Band + Choir OUT / Piano + vocal only Slower End Violin: melody / Piano: simple chords

He Will Hold Me Fast (When I Fear My Faith Will Fail) (Key of A)

## **MEMBERS OF SESSION**

(PT - Partial Term)

### **Class of 2020**

Dan Butkowski

### **Class of 2021**

J. C. Baker (PT)  
Kevin Breniman  
Jerry Potts (sabbatical)

### **Class of 2022**

Jeff Nissen  
Tom Paulus  
Bill Scholl

## **TEACHING ELDER**

Tim J. Reed, Senior Pastor

## **BOARD OF DEACONS**

(PT - Partial Term)

### **Class of 2020**

John Dambaugh  
Ben Russ (PT)  
Jason Van Goor (PT), Chairman

### **Class of 2021**

William Fennell  
David Matlock  
Jeff Rooker

### **Class of 2022**

Bob Davis  
Tom Fox

## **STAFF**

Tim J. Reed, Senior Pastor  
Derek Coyle, Assistant Pastor  
Liz Baker, Choir Director

Mike Walsh, Pianist  
Ben Russ, Bookkeeper  
Peggy Washburn, Administrative Assistant

## **COVENANT'S MISSIONARY FAMILIES**

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

Darlene Johnson, Japan  
Tom & Karen Mirabella, Japan  
Pete & Ruth Mitchell, France  
Joel & Jessica Rinn, Italy  
Jim & Karan Romaine, New York City  
Jim Wroughton, Peru  
Will & Martha, International  
Wes & Kim, Undisclosed

## **COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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