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Gospel Centered
CHRIST EXALTING

The Lord's Day

March 14, 2021

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.

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.”
Romans 1:16

Prelude

During the prelude selection, prepare for worship by reflecting on Romans 1:16 printed above.

Life of the Church

Call to Worship

Hebrews 11:6

And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Invocation

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

“Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,
just to take Him at His word;
just to rest upon His promise;
just to know, “Thus saith the Lord.”

refrain: *Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him!
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
O for grace to trust Him more!*

O how sweet to trust in Jesus,
just to trust His cleansing blood;
just in simple faith to plunge me
'neath the healing, cleansing flood!

refrain

Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus,
just from sin and self to cease;
just from Jesus simply taking
life and rest, and joy and peace.

refrain

I'm so glad I learned to trust Thee,
Precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;
and I know that Thou art with me,
wilt be with me to the end.

refrain

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Scripture Reading

Genesis 22:1-19

Bill Scholl, Ruling Elder

- ¹ *After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!”
And he said, “Here I am.”*
- ² *He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go
to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one
of the mountains of which I shall tell you.”*
- ³ *So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took
two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood
for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God
had told him.*
- ⁴ *On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place
from afar.*
- ⁵ *Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey;
I and the boy^[a] will go over there and worship and come again to you.”*
- ⁶ *And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on
Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife.
So they went both of them together.*

- 7 And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"*
- 8 Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.*
- 9 When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood.*
- 10 Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son.*
- 11 But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."*
- 12 He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."*
- 13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son.*
- 14 So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide";^[b] as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."^[c]*
- 15 And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven*
- 16 and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son,*
- 17 I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his^[d] enemies,*
- 18 and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."*
- 19 So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beersheba. And Abraham lived at Beersheba.*

Congregational Prayer

Bill Scholl, Ruling Elder

Corporate Profession of Faith

This is the good news that we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved, if we hold fast: That Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day, and that He appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus is the first and the last, the beginning and the end; He is our Lord and our God.

Hymn

“Jesus, I Come”

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night, Jesus, I come; Jesus I come.
Into Thy freedom, gladness and light, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of my sickness into Thy health, out of my wanting and into Thy wealth,
out of my sin and into Thyself, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of earth’s sorrows into Thy balm, out of life’s storms and into Thy calm,
out of distress into jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of unrest and arrogant pride, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy blessed will to abide, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love, out of despair into raptures above,
upward forever on wings like a dove, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the joy and light of Thy home, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of the depths of ruin untold, into the peace of Thy sheltering fold,
ever Thy glorious face to behold, Jesus, I come to Thee.

words by William Sleeper/music by Greg Thompson/CCLI 209271

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 and Meditation (Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

Titus 2:11-14

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³ waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

Hymn

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

Rock of Ages, cleft for me
let me hide myself in Thee;
let the water and the blood,
from Thy riven side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure,
cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands
can fulfil thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know,
could my tears for ever flow,
all for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,
simply to Thy cross I cling;
naked, come to Thee for dress,
helpless, look to Thee for grace;
foul, I to the Fountain fly;
wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,
when mine eyelids close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown,
see Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in Thee.

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Scripture

John 1:12-13

¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

Romans 1:16-17

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, [a] as it is written, “The righteous shall live by faith.”

Ephesians 2:8-9

⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Sermon

“Saved to the Uttermost: Conversion, Faith”

Pastor Reed

Hymn

"In Christ Alone"

In Christ alone my hope is found;
He is my light, my strength, my song;
this cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All -
here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied;
for every sin on Him was laid -
here in the death of Christ I'll live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
for I am His and He is mine -
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death -
this is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
can ever pluck me from His hand;
till He returns or calls me home -
here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

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Scriptural Benediction

Postlude

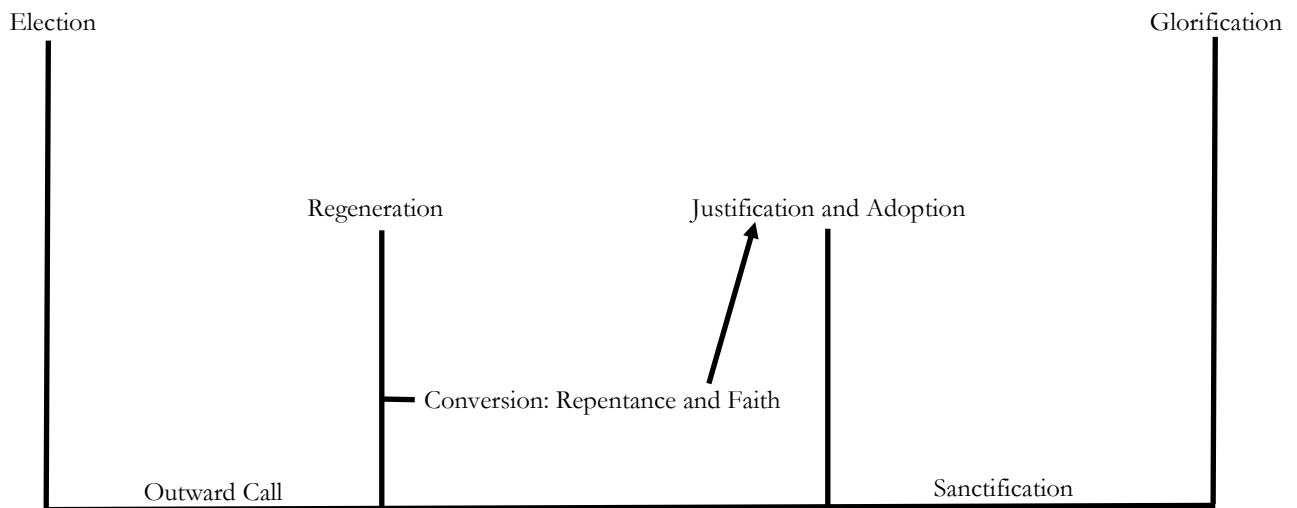
Sermon Outline
“Saved to the Uttermost: Conversion, Repentance”
John 1:12-13; Romans 1:16-17; Ephesians 2:8-9

I. The Meaning of Faith.

II. The Response of Faith.

III. The Life of Faith.

The Order of Salvation



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A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America